

Academic Senate President Report to Senate  
August 16, 2023  
N. Persons

**Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Committee Appointments:**

Congratulations go to Jessica Bush for appointment to the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Transfer, Articulation, and Student Success committee, and to Jessy Paisley for appointment to the ASCCC Rising Scholars Faculty Advisory Committee. In addition, I have been appointed to the ASCCC Standards and Practices committee. Serving at the statewide level is an excellent way to gain a solid understanding of how local academic senates function within the broader context of the California Community College system. Please consider volunteering to serve in the future. You don't need deep experience in order to serve, the ASCCC is a wonderful organization that supports faculty professional development and newcomers are always warmly welcomed.

**ASEC Professional Development:**

I am happy to announce I successfully completed a course in Parliamentary training in June. It was a lot of hard work, but I have a much firmer grasp of all things Roberts Rules now. President-elect Stover and I both attended the Faculty Leadership Institute in June and the Curriculum Institute in July. Several senators and other faculty and I participated in the intensive 4-day Enrollment Management Academy together with several other SRJC colleagues. This academy afforded us ample opportunities for group work as a college and we were able to share many ideas ...

**Academic Senate Administrative Assistant II Update:**

Due to the heavy agenda and complexities of our last spring meeting I was regretfully unable to inform you all that our wonderful, beloved administrative assistant Natalia Haworth was going to be leaving us. Natalia's husband was promoted and this necessitated a move for the family to the state of Washington. We will sorely miss her and wish her well. *On a very sad note, Natalia's daughter has since been diagnosed with cancer.* The ASEC has reached out to her with a monetary gift of support for a gas card to help cover the expense of driving to and from the hospital. Cards will be circulated for you to sign at our meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in contributing to an additional monetary gift for Natalia and family, please email me and I will be in contact with you.

**Welcome, Trevor! New STNC AAI for the Academic Senate:**

Please give a warm welcome to Trevor Acebo, our brand-new STNC Administrative Assistant II to the Academic Senate. Trevor has already worked for SRJC as a professional expert – he is a musician. Trevor will be at our August 16 meeting to observe our practices and start getting up to speed on all things Academic Senate.

**New Faculty Mentor Program:**

Thank you to all faculty who have volunteered to serve as a mentor to new contract faculty. I have just sent out the survey to all new faculty to gather input from them so that we can match them up with a great mentor. Thank you for your patience as I work my way through this process without an administrative assistant! Please be on the lookout for an email coming from the Academic Senate email

address at the end of the week or beginning of next week (of August 21<sup>st</sup>) with an update or information regarding the new faculty member you have been paired with. We have twice as many mentors as we do new faculty, so I beg your understanding if you are not chosen this time around. Please keep in mind that occasionally we need to recalibrate and new mentors are needed later in the academic year, so we may call on you later if not now.

### **Liaisons Needed!**

The Academic Senate has, in the past, had a senator serve as liaison to the Student Government Assembly (SGA). Last year I attempted to do this myself, but do not have the time to give this the attention it deserves. The SGA meets weekly on Mondays from 3:00-5:00. This is not a paid (negotiated) position. Please email the Academic Senate ("Academic Senate" or [guser556@santarosa.edu](mailto:guser556@santarosa.edu)) if interested.

**We also have need** of a senator to serve as **ASCCC Legislative Liaison**. This is again not a paid position. This person commits to checking in on current and upcoming legislative activity that is of concern to the California Community College system. This is not a time-consuming activity – there are no meetings, just a need to regularly review Faculty Association for California Community Colleges (FACCC), the chancellor's office (CCCCO), and ASCCC sites and agree to receive email from ASCCC from their legislative exec committee members, and to periodically communicate that information to the SRJC Academic Senate via a report. Please email me, or the Academic Senate email address if interested.

### **Faculty Hiring Procedure:**

I have delivered the senate's recommended full revision of this procedure to our new Superintendent/President, Dr. Garcia. She, I, and the ASEC team have engaged in a brief discussion of this and we look forward to an update on the District's full review of our recommendations in the near future.

### **Recommendation for New 10+1 "rely primarily upon" items:**

I am preparing a formal email to Dr. Garcia to bring to the Board of Trustees regarding our recommendation to add items 4 (define) and 8 (define) to the group of items for which the District will rely primarily upon the recommendation of the Academic Senate ...

### **Accreditation/SLO Assessment Training:**

Once again, I would like to offer deep appreciation to Smita Avasthi, Emily Schmidt, Lisa Beach, and the rest of the SLO Assessment implementation team for a fine training on the use of SLO Assessment in Canvas. It was great to see faculty collaborating together on site and remotely via chat as we all learn this together. It is gratifying to see how we are upping our game in terms of attending to our students' learning needs and determining new ways to respond.

Academic Senate and Superintendent/President Dr. Garcia:

I have had an initial meeting with Dr. Garcia, and the full Academic Senate Exec Committee (ASEC) has also had an initial meeting with her. We are very encouraged by Dr. Garcia's level of engagement with the college community and very excited to move forward in collaboration with her in service to our

students. Early conversations included discussion of our Faculty Hiring Procedure work, the planned Coaching Program, and various exploratory conversations about how things work at SRJC.