

AS President Report to Academic Senate

October 19, 2022

N. Persons

- **Study Session Reminder:** This Friday from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. I will be hosting a study session on the Fall 2022 Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Plenary Resolutions. These resolutions, many of which originate at the local academic senate level (including 3 this year from Area B colleges), are what drive the ASCCC to take action, either by assigning work to its committees, or to adopt a certain position on various issues when working with the California legislature, Board of Governors, and Chancellor's office. The purpose of the study session is to understand the Resolutions process and to explore each of the current resolutions set to come to the Plenary. At any California Community College, various individuals across constituent groups may possess knowledge that can inform the meaning and potential impact of resolutions for our students. It is important to note that we will not discuss making recommendations for taking positions on any of these resolutions, nor will any decisions be made. For that to occur, discussion of the Resolutions would need to take place within an official Academic Senate meeting. We were not able to find time on our agenda today given the pressing issues we are dealing with that are time sensitive.
- **Communities of Practice (CoP) Update:** A call for participants to join CoPs will be coming out very soon. I am pleased to announce that we received fourteen proposals for CoPs for the current academic year, and thirteen of these were approved. Members of the Academic Senate Exec Committee (ASEC) who were not CoP proposal authors met together with Dean Victor Tam (office administering funds) and Darci Rosales (H.S.I. STEM grant steering committee member) to determine approval of these CoPs. The H.S.I. STEM *Avanzando* grant will be funding 3 of the CoPs. I can say that all 13 approved proposals look very inspiring and offer my gratitude to the facilitators.
- **Screening and Interviewing Committee** – Dean of Instruction, Petaluma: I am pleased to update you with the information that Dr. John Stover and Petaluma Faculty Forum (PFF) Chair Matthew Martin, both assigned at our Petaluma Campus, have been appointed to serve on the Screening and Interviewing committee for this important position. Many thanks go to John and Matthew for their service.
- **Academic Senate Constitution and Bylaws Workgroup:** In past years the Academic Senate (AS) had a workgroup that began addressing inconsistencies and items needing updating within our Constitution and Bylaws. Some changes are quite simple, e.g. changing “adjunct” to “associate,” while others are more complex. It will be important to convene a workgroup again soon to take up this work anew. The Bylaws amendment item on today's meeting agenda related to the permanent expansion of the ASEC identifies some of the issues needing to be updated.
- **Educational Planning & Coordinating Council (EPCC):** EPCC met on October 13th. We reviewed 4 programs, and all were approved, one of them with minor edits. We also briefly reviewed the Community College League of California (CCLC) Crosswalk document that matches existing SRJC policies and procedures to the new CCLC templates for board policies and administrative procedures. This document concerned only those policies and procedures related to educational programs. These will resume being brought to the AS for approval primarily via the Consent Calendar as they were last year.

- **College Council:** On October 6th the College Council resumed discussion about the Council's charge utilizing analysis by some council members and reviewing of the Council's core duties. That conversation will continue at our next meeting on October 20th. We also discussed the survey we are about to send out to all committees and councils to assess their current status and understanding of their work – that survey is almost ready to go. Finally, the group discussed the current 8.2.9P which has been crosswalked to BP5040. After some discussion of this procedure it was agreed that VP Robert Ethington and DRD Specialist and Council member Laura Aspinall would review the procedure and bring it back to College Council with suggestions for next steps.
- **The Integrated Student Services Committee (ISSC)** met on October 7th. The committee has been reviewing their charge, committee name, and other elements. The committee is chaired by Executive Dean Matthew Long and the President of the Academic Senate or designee. Byron Reaves has been serving as co-chair and my designee, but he has taken an interim assignment as Interim Senior Dean of Students (congratulations Byron!). I am pleased to announce that Michael Hale has agreed to take on the work of committee co-chair as my designee. Many thanks go to Michael for agreeing to co-chair this committee. Now that we have a new co-chair in place, we will soon be hearing a report from ISSC.
- **The Planning and Budget Council (PBC)** met on October 10th, when we heard an update on the Enrollment Management Plan workgroup by Robert Holcomb, an overview of Public Relations work from Erin Bricker, discussed the need for committee norms, received an update on our Accreditation efforts, and talked about next steps for the Strategi Plan Coordinating Committee. It has proven very difficult to get this large group together for a synchronous meeting, and our next one will be held on Friday, November 18th at 8:00 a.m. That subcommittee will discuss next steps for Town Halls on developing Goals, Objectives, and Key Performance Indicators for our Strategic Plan.
- **Guided Pathways Work:** On October 11th, some members of the ASEC met together with Curriculum office staff to review work to date on the course mapping software that presents visually the sequence of coursework for various programs at SRJC. While not the robust program members of the Scheduling and Mapping workgroup hoped for, this program does offer an improved method of viewing our programs and associated coursework requirements. I want to acknowledge the hard work Chas Crocker in particular put into this program. This particular situation illustrates the need for ongoing Guided Pathways work that is coordinated in some manner and for which strong lines of communication are systematized. In addition to this work, at the request of the First Year Experience (FYE) Course workgroup, members of the ASEC have been conducting research and communicating with the workgroup as well as with relevant constituent groups. My deep appreciation goes to Drs. John Stover and Monica Ohkubo for their tireless efforts in pulling together all kinds of helpful information to assist in moving this Guided Pathways project forward. Work is still in progress on this research and consultation and more conversation will occur with the workgroup as this progresses. More information on this is coming to the Academic Senate soon.
- **Board Listening Session:** On Tuesday, October 11th, I attended the publicly accessible Board of Trustees Special Listening Session on the annual Faculty and Staff Ethnic Diversity Report, presented by VP Gene Durand and with Sarah Hopkins. This longitudinal study reflects data on hiring and employee demographics for the previous three academic years. Ultimately, this report will become an annual five-year longitudinal study. During the Q&A I asked if the District was conducting exit interviews with faculty who left our institution by choice and prior to obtaining tenure in some

cases. I expressed concern that I was aware of at least two faculty colleagues of color who chose to leave and that it would be helpful for the District to understand why this was happening.

- **On October 12 the Enrollment Management Workgroup** met, and we met again this morning. The workgroup is in the finishing stages of developing an Enrollment Management Plan outline and identifying personnel to work on each area of the plan. This plan will be coming to the Academic Senate soon for input.
- **Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Area B Meeting:** on 10/14 I attended part of the ASCCC Area B meeting. The ASCCC Area Meetings typically occur a few weeks prior to Plenary. At these meetings local academic senates can bring forth resolutions for inclusion at the ASCCC Plenaries. Three resolutions were brought forth to our Area B meeting. We received an update from ASCCC Vice President Cheryl Aschenbach on happenings at the statewide level. The group went on to review fall resolutions but I had to leave prior to that time to chair the Faculty Equivalency Committee meeting. The Fall 2022 Resolutions will be posted to our Academic Senate website once the resolutions have been voted on. To see the resolutions currently in the pipeline, please go to the [Resolutions page on the ASCCC website](#).
- **The Faculty Equivalency Committee** met synchronously for the first time this semester on Friday, October 14th. To date we have had only 2 cases to review. One of these was resolved via asynchronous communication, the other was the basis for our discussion at this meeting. There are typically not many cases to review during the fall semester. This meeting provided an excellent opportunity for members to meet each other, as there are several new members including myself as chair. We were able to effectively use the case under review to orient ourselves to the new MS Teams site set up for confidential communication among committee members. We have added relevant resources as well as individual case information to the site to facilitate easy access and a closed communication site for use by members after consulting with Human Resources.
- **ASCCC Coffee Chats:** The ASCCC has begun a new program of offering informal, online coffee chats. I participated in one on October 18th. These new event formats offer a great way to get quick consultation from ASCCC that are especially helpful for new local senate presidents. I was able, for example, to explain about offering a study session on the Fall 2022 Resolutions and confirm that we are conducting this session appropriately and not violating the Brown Act regarding public meeting access for bodies reporting to governing agencies such as our Academic Senate is. I was also able to ask for advice on how local senates get involved (or not) with grant programs such as the upcoming [ZTC Grant Program](#). Several other local academic senate presidents were present, along with 2 members of the ASCCC Executive Committee to provide guidance and advice. It was instructive to learn about issues of concern to other local academic senates, for example one which has no executive committee at all, and which was very interested in the recent expansion of our own ASEC.