

Academic Senate President's Report
Wednesday, 16 October 2024 / John A Stover III, PhD

I want to first congratulate the Senate on our productive start to the semester. [At our last meeting on October 2nd](#) we moved all actionable items on our agenda, all of which you will hear more about below. We have also been able to receive [updates on the Guided Pathways work](#) being implemented now and going forward, and Senator Nick Perrone has proven to be an effective, inspiring liaison between the workgroup and the Senate. You all inspire me to remain action-oriented in our agenda building, and I am honored to be doing this work alongside you all. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I also want to thank AFA leaders President Anne Donegan and Chief Negotiator and Senator K. Frindell Teuscher. They, along with Senate Vice President Monica Ohkubo and I have met twice this semester; and at our most recent meeting we discussed the reintroduction of Senate Discussions of Online Teaching Certification, standard Academic Calendar length, and determinations of the number of online versus in person classes offered each semester by the District and Departments. I am honored to be doing this organizing work between our collective bargaining colleagues and the Academic Senate, and we are building, step by step, initiative by initiative, new practices for consultation before negotiation, which upholds and strengthens both Senate and AFA purview and roles. It is an exciting, rewarding time for us all.

The official kick off to the New Faculty Mentoring Program was October 11th, and we had a successful launch to this year's program. We will be following up with faculty who have been matched later this semester as well as twice in Spring 2024. I am very grateful to District partners Rooted in Love for their resources and contributions to our suggested best practices for mentors and mentees, and want to thank those faculty who stepped up to serve and were matched and also not matched. We had more current than new faculty available, and I appreciate everyone's interest in supporting the newest discipline experts in our community!

Speaking of Rooted in Love (RIL), their workshop on Culturally Sustaining Communication was earlier today, and I hope you will consider joining us in the remaining workshops as we learn to more deeply reflect IDEAA principles in all areas of our college. Here is the information on the remaining workshops: *Part 3: Equity-Minded Syllabus* on Friday, November 8th from 12:00-2:00 pm, and; *Part 4: Radically Humanizing Pedagogy* on Tuesday, December 3rd from 3:00-5:00 pm [Location for both: Bertolini Student Activities Center (SAC)].

I also want to encourage you all to sign up to [make monthly contributions to our Academic Senate voluntary fund](#), which supports coffee and snacks at the meetings and retreats. ***If every faculty member contributed just \$1 a month, we would ALSO be able to support and broaden ASCCC conference attendance and other opportunities for building a strong Senate leadership team now and going forward.*** [Consider contributing today.](#)

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Updates on Recent / Ongoing Actions of the Senate (non-exhaustive)

- We were launching our Senate Task Forces on Generative AI (all faculty) and Senate Reapportionment (Senators). Work is beginning on these important initiatives.
- There is considerable interest in the Senate-led Communities of Practice (CoPs), which provide faculty with 12.5 hours in each CoP to explore discipline specific topics through a DEIAA lens. CoPs will take place in Spring 2025, and the call for faculty proposals is coming soon this Fall 2024 (*stay tuned!*).
- The coordination of BP / AP review work continues, and we have had robust responses – *and no responses* – to our calls for faculty leads. Our contribution [to AP 2410](#) is important to fill on an ongoing basis, and I seek your help as faculty in carrying out our charge. Please consider stepping up as calls are made. Remember, too, you can write directly to me and ASEC [[@DL.SENATE.ACAD.EXEC](#)] to initiate a BP/AP review process not already underway. Keep us updated on your progress, too, if you initiate a review.
- At our last two Senate meetings, we passed all recommendations from the Waitlist Workgroup; and at the last Educational Planning & Coordinating Council (EPCC) meeting (10/10/2024) we discussed implementing pre-Banner Recommendations 1a and 1b...
 - *1a. Don't charge students tuition and fees until registered for the class instead of when on waitlist (current practice charges when on waitlist)*
 - *1b. Stop auto-rolling waitlist into class (inflates class cap) after official start date (opt in instead of opt out) as forwarded by the Senate to the District and as discussed in EPCC yesterday.*
- In that meeting, administrators indicated it might be difficult to implement immediately given the programming involved and the impact that Banner implementation is having on associated staff. There was also a Canvas-related “snafu” raised that has to be addressed. It is my understanding that it is not possible for students to have access to Canvas without paying, so I am doing some additional reading and research based on work Past President N. Persons did before my current service (which Lisa Beach shared with me on 10/11/2024). Also, I have asked our administrator partners to update the Senate with a status report at our next meeting.
- At the Oct. 10th EPCC meeting we also conferred on Waitlist Recommendation 3a. *Keep waitlist practices as Board Procedure (current situation) or post elsewhere on college website (CCLC recommended practice)?*

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- We had a productive discussion, and we all agreed waitlist practices belonged in Administrative Procedures (APs) and not Board Policies (BPs), as also supports the work of the District in moving all APs out of BPs.
- In addition, Counselor Vince Hamilton pointed out the importance of easy and widespread access to these policies based on daily use amongst counselors.
- To that end, we will ensure through EPCC these policies and practices are made widely available to counselors, students, and all of the SRJC community.
- Last Spring (6 March 2024), the Senate passed a Resolution on [Annual Professional Development Funding for Faculty Disciplinary Expertise](#), which was forwarded by Past-President N. Persons to the District. Last week we held our first Program and Resource Planning Process ([PRPP](#)) meeting, and we discussed updating the PRPP form to account for professional development. Sarah Lesson (Philosophy Department Chair and fellow faculty on the committee) and I will be working with Jeremy Smotherman (Senior Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning) to make sure the faculty portion of that form is clear, accessible, and easy to navigate. The Senate is also in the process of reestablishing our Faculty Professional Development Senate Subcommittee, which will also, eventually, be able to contribute to this effort; and I am continuing to consult with Dr. Garcia and VPAA Holcomb, too. All of this takes additional time and I appreciate everyone's patience and support as we work through the implementation details.
- Our public education and community building on [10+1 governance training](#) continues, and Laura Aspinall and I met with VPSS Dr. Molly Senecal to create a follow up survey and do some planning for future events as based on the Sept 26th training with David Morse for Student Services faculty, staff, and administrators. I am so grateful for these partnerships and the spirit of cooperation and community building they involve.

When we take all of the above into account, it speaks volumes to the willingness to grow and learn across constituencies that motivates me every day to do more, and I remain grateful for this opportunity to be of service to our faculty, students, and community. Thank you for your attention and I welcome any questions.