

AS President Report to Academic Senate
November 16, 2022
N. Persons

This week's report is brief – please see my ASCCC Fall Plenary Notes for further information

Enrollment Management Work Group 11/2/2022 and 11/16/2022

The group began reviewing Formstack submissions from domain group leaders and discussed adjustments to form being used to collect goals, activities, and measurements for them. We noted that those assigned to lead domains need to gather input from their respective areas.

College Council

Senator and At-large Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) member Laura Aspinall filled in for me as co-chair of College Council on November 3rd so that I could attend the ZTC Grant Breakout Session (see below) at the Plenary this year. At this meeting the council engaged in a committee mapping exercise to begin reviewing the current structure of our shared governance committees at SRJC. The council also finalized the committee and council survey that will soon be sent out to all SRJC standing committee and council chairs to fill out collaboratively with their respective groups. You should see an email coming out soon about this. The College Council hopes to have the shared governance reorganization completed by the end of the Spring 2023 semester so that it can be implemented in Fall 2023.

Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Fall 2022 Plenary:

Following our Academic Senate meeting November 2nd, I drove straight to Sacramento to participate in the ASCCC Plenary November 3-5th. There were a lot of resolutions this year and the Plenary concluded at 2:45 p.m. Saturday with the first-ever recollected tie vote that the ASCCC President had to break – quite exciting for Senate nerds! Please visit <https://academic senate.santarosa.edu/sites/academic senate.santarosa.edu/files/documents/ASCCC%20Fall%20Plenary%202022.pdf> to see all notes from the Fall 2022 Plenary. Here is the summary of Plenary significant issues which I reported to the SRJC Board of Trustees on Tuesday, November 8th: The Fall 2022 Plenary of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) concluded late Saturday. Several of the resolutions passed focused on the fallout from AB928, enacted legislation calling for the faculty of the 3 systems of CA public higher education to agree upon a single pattern of General Education, now referred to as CalGETC, by May 31, 2023. If these faculty groups do not reconcile, legislation directs the administrators of the 3 systems to determine this for us. While a single GE pattern is helpful to students, there are consequences. Most disconcerting is the likely removal of the Lifelong Learning and Self-Development requirement. This is currently an upper-division requirement at the CSU and is not required by the UC, which *will not* change their position. The ASCCC is working with the intersegmental group addressing the legislation to convince the CSU to make this a graduation requirement rather than maintain the upper division limitation. This aspect of the legislation has serious implications for the future demand for some of our Counseling and

Kinesiology/Athletics/Dance courses. In addition, only the UC will maintain a requirement for study of Language Other Than English that is limited to the upper division. CalGETC will be implemented in the Fall 2025 semester, and it will take time for the effects to be felt due to students having varying catalog rights, but this does signify a reduction in what we consider to be central to the mission of the California Community Colleges.

Academic freedom, affordable instructional materials, and the California Community College Mission were the other main themes of this plenary. The academic freedom of faculty has been challenged not only in other states but in parts of California as well. We will need to closely review our policies regarding academic freedom here at SRJC. In addition, the central mission of the CCCs is being eroded through various pieces of legislation such as AB928 which, while well-intended, work in conflict with our mission by “reducing student access and steering students away from courses that they would otherwise complete at the community colleges,” such that the ASCCC resolved to “call upon the Chancellor’s Office and the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates to recognize the benefits of the community colleges...” Legislation such as AB1705, opposed by the ASCCC, in addition to factors I’ve just noted about the CalGETC pathway, seem to run counter to who our students are, and most especially acknowledge neither the urgent necessity of their part-time enrollment nor the motivations of our community in seeking out our courses.

Another resolution calls for the ASCCC to work with our Chancellor’s office to see that the principles of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-racism, and Accessibility are explicitly written into Title 5. In addition, the ASCCC continues its equity work by supporting efforts to bring the cost of a community college education down through the support of Open Educational Resources (OER), clear definitions of costs for instructional materials associated with courses, and by educating faculty about the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) competitive grant now available to all CCCs.

President’s Consultation Council (PCC):

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Program Review (Procedure 3.6) Committee:

- Met on Monday, Nov. 7 and Monday, Nov. 14. At this meeting the committee concluded its work of reviewing all data submitted by programs up for review this year (a 6-year cycle). The list of programs comes to this faculty-driven committee from the Academic Affairs Council (AA) with a recommendation from AAC of Vital, in need of Revitalization, or Discontinuance. This is a good example of the type of program or activity that is not part of the District’s current “What we are not going to do anymore” exploration, as Program Review (3.6) falls squarely under Academic Senate Purview. The committee decides whether to agree with the AAC designation, and then if we want to conduct interviews to learn more about department plans. This is sometimes the case even when a program has been designated as “Vital” already by AAC. At this time the committee has identified among the 41 programs submitted 11 for which we will conduct interviews with department chairs and deans prior making a determination regarding

their status. We expect to hold 3 more meetings in the early part of the spring 2023 semester to wrap up this work.

Planning and Budget Council (PBC):

- PBC met on Monday, Nov. 14th. Topics discussed included an informational presentation from Dean Benjamin Goldstein on a possible FDA grant that would facilitate work to strengthen the pipeline of students in SRJC Agricultural programs to transfer to Cal Poly Humboldt (formerly known as CSU Humboldt). Cal Poly Humboldt is the entity applying for the grant, and SRJC is one of three California Community Colleges they've reached out to as partner in this grant. At PBC we also received an update on the work of the Enrollment Management Group, as well as from Executive Dean (Petaluma) Matthew Long regarding the Student Equity Plan. In addition, VP of Finance Kate Jolley provided an overview of the process for analyzing results of the "What We're Not Going to Do Anymore" survey that went out to all SRJC employees. The VPs are currently analyzing approximately 184 responses grouped thematically and will bring this list to PBC soon for further discussion. Finally, there was a presentation by Dean Mary-Catherine Oxford and Textbook and Instructional Materials Committee (TIMC) member Jen Carlin-Goldberg on the Chancellor's Office ZTC Grant, which you'll hear a bit more about at today's Academic Senate meeting.

Guided Pathways:

- Executive Secretary John Stove and I met with Executive Dean Matthew Long on Tuesday, Nov. 8th to prepare for discussion of the Academic Senate's recommendation passed at our last AS meeting, to form a multi-constituent work group to explore the possible proposal to form a multi-constituent Guided Pathways committee and office (see AS meeting minutes 11/2 for details), and then presented this information at the President's cabinet meeting Monday, Nov. 14th. We look forward to hearing the Cabinet's thoughts on this effort and taking next steps, which include meeting with ASCCC executive committee members again to strategize how to approach a possible standing committee proposal, and with area representative to the Guided Pathways initiative Katherine Bergman, a Guided Pathways Regional Coordinator with the Foundation for California Community Colleges.