

Academic Senate Executive Committee
Officer Elections
Candidate Statement: Dr. Wayne C. Downey
Position: Equity Advocate



Hello, my name is Dr. Wayne C. Downey, and I have been an Associate Faculty member in the Behavioral Science Dept. teaching Psychology for the last 19 years, and I have been recognized as someone who is low-key, a consensus builder, and someone who actively participates in rational reasoning. As a man of color and disability who has experience serving the Academic Senate as Senator for Area 13, an FEC Representative, as well as a member of the AS Elections Committee, I also work with the AFA as Executive Council Associate Councilor and Associate Cabinet Representative; I also have

previously worked as a member of the Ethnic Studies Advisory Group during the formation of the new Ethnic Studies Department. I feel that with all of this experience, I have the academic and institutional knowledge to contribute to conversations as the Equity Advocate for Academic Senate as well.

Moving forward, I would like to continue to become more involved as an Advocate and supporter for the Academic Senate and implement DEIA as a way of becoming more representative and responsive to affinity groups working on our campuses. I feel I would be the best choice for this position based upon feedback and reactions from other colleagues. This opportunity would allow me to problem-solve through the lens of someone who is perceived to be limited based upon both physical and mental ability. I also have the acumen to pay attention to our changing campus structure, while remaining accessible, student-centered, and colleague-centered (which brought me to this district in the first place). As change can be anxiety producing, this is also an opportunity to activate more anti-racism and decolonization, which will enable us to become more attractive to new students, new faculty, and elevate our responsiveness to the community.