Academic Senate Spring 2025 Officer Elections: Candidate Statement

Jessica Bush, Associate Faculty Representative

Candidate Statement for Associate Faculty Seat on the Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) Santa Rosa Junior College



Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to submit my candidacy for the Associate Faculty seat on the Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) at Santa Rosa Junior College. As a dedicated counselor and educator with a deep commitment to shared governance, I am eager to once again represent the associate faculty perspective at the Executive Committee level. Having previously served in this

role, I understand both the importance and the responsibility of serving as a liaison between associate faculty and the broader Senate body.

In my prior term on the ASEC, I worked to amplify the concerns of associate faculty across academic and student services disciplines. My goal has always been to ensure that associate faculty voices are not only heard—but respected and valued in the Senate's deliberative processes.

At SRJC, I serve as an Associate Faculty Counselor, supporting students with academic, transfer, and career planning. My work includes counseling students one-on-one and in group settings, teaching courses in career exploration and student success, and collaborating with programs such as dual enrollment, transfer, and Student Equity & Achievement. This range of experience enables me to understand and advocate for associate faculty who serve in both instructional and counseling roles.

Associate faculty are a critical component of SRJC's teaching and support infrastructure. We serve students across disciplines and campuses, often while juggling multiple assignments with limited institutional support. At the same time, we bring a wealth of knowledge, innovation, and community connection to our work. As your representative on the ASEC, I will continue to advocate for equitable treatment, increased opportunities for participation in governance, and recognition of the essential role we play in advancing the college's mission.

Throughout my career, I have supported initiatives related to guided pathways, equity, and student success, and I bring an informed, collaborative, and student-centered lens to all

governance work. My previous service on the ASEC has given me the familiarity, experience, and relationships necessary to re-engage with this role effectively and immediately.

I believe strongly in the value of shared governance and the importance of associate faculty having a seat at the table where decisions are made. If given the opportunity, I will continue to advocate with integrity, humility, and a deep respect for the diverse experiences of my colleagues.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the possibility of continuing to serve on your behalf.

With appreciation, Jessica Bush, MSW Associate Faculty Counselor Santa Rosa Junior College