

Department Chair Council (DCC) Request for Academic Senate Discussion Regarding Online Special Expertise

DCC (Department Chair Council) asks administration, AFA, and/or Academic Senate to prioritize addressing concerns for online teaching and learning:

Context:

Our DCC meeting included a presentation by Behavioral Sciences faculty on their newly proposed Department Specific Procedure for Online Special Expertise. Post-COVID, many departments are revisiting Online Expertise expectations to improve the quality of online teaching and learning in their areas. It is our understanding that this is the correct process for identifying skills needed for online teaching; however, we also understand from AFA that Special Expertise policies apply only to hourly assignments and not to contract faculty, because they are encoded in Article 16 of the contract. This preempts the effectiveness of having these guidelines.

SRJC is currently out of alignment with much of the community college system, which has institutional guidelines for online teacher training and expertise.

Request:

Department Chairs urge the administration, AFA, and Academic Senate to move towards a college-wide policy that would apply to all faculty and set guidelines for online teaching excellence.