

Jessica Bush, statement, candidate for Adjunct seat

While in many ways I am the “new kid on the block” as an adjunct faculty member at Santa Rosa Junior College, and on the Academic Senate as well, my personal experiences with SRJC and Sonoma County span decades. As a student at SRJC I quickly found myself in the position of helping other students. I heard stories, both positive and negative, from my fellow students in regards to their experiences as a student in Sonoma County and specifically at SRJC. It took only one semester for me to realize that I wanted to guide students on their educational journeys, and I wanted to change the narrative for students that felt overlooked.

My desire to encourage and support students of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and walks of life ultimately led me to pursue my Master’s Degree in Social Work. The main goals of social work are to advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice; engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice; engage in policy practice; and engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social work’s core values are service, social justice, focus on the dignity and worth of the person, the importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. These goals and values are the cornerstone of how I interact with students, faculty and the community, and I believe that they are also what makes me a fitting candidate for the Adjunct Faculty position on the Academic Senate Executive Committee.