

Academic Senate President's Report

February 1, 2017

AFA/Senate Dialogue

- Following up on collaboration, I attended the AFA Cabinet Meeting earlier today.

Responses to the Presidential Election

- **Town Hall February 8, 3:00-5:00 pm.** I will be the moderator for the event. There will be a panel of speakers and lots of time for questions, comments and discussion. It will be translated into Spanish, Interpreted in ASL, Teleconferenced to Petaluma, and streamed on You Tube. Please consider coming and telling your students, but be prepared to watch it on You Tube if we run out of seats. The speakers are
 - Mariana Martinez, Board of Trustees
 - Richard Coshnear, Immigration Attorney, VIDAS
 - Lorenzo Duenas, District Police
 - Rafael Vasquez, Classified Staff
 - Karen Furukawa-Schlereth, VP Human Resources
 - Maria Salcido, Student Government
 - Sean Martin, Faculty

The Bookstore

- Open Forums will be held tomorrow, Thursday, Feb 2. Barnes & Noble from 10:00 am til noon, Follett 1:00-3:00. So far I have received one question to bring forward. Please send more. Please attend if you are able. Ask constituents to attend.

Faculty Needed

There are many things coming up for that need faculty input. The Promise Grant is in the process of being submitted. If we get it, there will be work for faculty to do.

- A part of the proposal is communication with the community, with money allocated for Public Relations and Advertising. I have asked for faculty to participate in writing the copy.
- Money will be allocated for paying faculty in math and English to collaborate with High School faculty to study ways to reduce the number of students coming to us with below college level skills
- There are two examples and there are other potential ones. I will give more specifics if we are awarded the grant.
- **SIS RFP** Faculty input here, along with classified and administrative users, is crucial. Volunteers should be directed to me. The Senate Executive Committee will appoint faculty representatives to the committee, certainly in consultation with the

experts. If you have already volunteered to Scott directly, that's fine since we are sharing lists and collaborating. But let's be sure and follow procedure: the Senate appoints the faculty.

A side note about our home grown SIS in response to yesterday's email exchange: I have been a full time faculty member here since 2001 and I have heard very negative assessments of our SIS system every year of that tenure from many quarters. I have always thought that the dysfunction and unsustainability of our current SIS system was common knowledge and a well-established fact, and that long before Scott Conrad was employed here. I have heard this most often from Admissions and Records, and I have heard it from them regularly in the senate chambers since I became a senator in 2006. The idea that our current system may be just fine, and even better than available "off the shelf" systems provided by vendors is something I have only heard very recently, and exclusively from the Counseling Department. This contradicts what have I heard from counselling in the past. I have no expertise of my own to use to decide the issue. All I have is contradictory claims that I have no ability to verify. I do know that the overwhelming majority of voices, including those of almost all of the other colleges in our system, speak on the side of this divide that says the system is irredeemably flawed and must be replaced. The majority does not make the truth, of course, and we must have open and informed discourse about this. So I am acutely interested, as is Scott, in faculty participation in this.

Cool Opportunities for Faculty

- ***Faculty Fund for Advanced Study***
- To donate, put FFAS in the gift designation line at: <https://santarosajc.ejoinme.org/payrolldeduction>
- To apply go to: <https://pd.santarosa.edu/grants-and-funding#FFAS> - the deadline for 2017 is March 1st.

- ***Study Abroad***
- There will be an open house for our Study Abroad programs on **Thursday, Feb 9, 3:00-5:00** in the Bertolini Dining Room.