

Dr. Heather Craig  
Academic Senate Report  
Aug. 23, 2017

The Academic Senate will have its first business meeting on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September at 2:30 here in Sam Karas. As always, the AS executive committee will meet one week prior to approve the agenda.

I am very fortunate to be working with terrific colleagues on the Senate and I am thrilled that our executive committee this year will again include Mr. Tozier as vice president and Ms LaMoine as ASCCC delegate. In addition, we have recruited Jacque Evans as secretary and Susanne Muszala as Committee on Committee Chair. Kathleen Clark will continue as our CTE liason and James Lawrence as our chair of the equivalency committee.

While we have yet to have a business meeting, the AS did have a retreat during our flex day last Thursday where we once again reaffirmed the role of the Senate and we engaged in some brainstorming in regard to Senate goals for the coming year. These will be further developed by the exec committee and then up for approval by the Senate at our first meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Senate would like to publically thank our flex day speakers and subcommittee who under the guidance of Anthony Villarreal put together what seemed to be an engaging flex day for the campus last Wednesday.

You will, no doubt be hearing from the office of Academic Affairs, the status of learning assessments. There is still yet work to be done but I am hopeful that we will be seeing progress this semester. I would like to impart just one thought regarding assessemnts. It is important to understand that there are varied and difficult hurdles to assessing courses. Some of these will need discussion of curriculum and program redesign. On example that I offer is geometry. This is a course that is historically primarily attended by HS students but with the change to CA Common Core Stndrds, this course is no longer well attended. But how can you cut a core curriculum like geometry/ The solution to this will require redesigning multiple courses, and curriculum so it aligns with common core. I am certain that our excellent DCs and our excellent deans are or will be solving these problems. My point however is that is must be understood that if u care for your college you will understand that the LA problem cannot be satisfactorily solved from afar but will requires getting in the weeds and custom designed solutions to difficult curricular issues. So, the LAC continues its work in this regard now with Katherine Webb co-chairing. A faculty co-chair is still being recruited. So, stay tuned for more on that subject.

Finally, at your June meeting, the Board rejected the recommendation of the AS to change the wording of a number of BPs. We would like to have discussion about this at our first meeting but we have yet to receive written explanation as to why these recommendations were not accepted.

I thank you for the progress that you have made on Posting the BPs and I hope that, as a campus, we will be seeing our current processes being acknowledged as we revise and agreed upon and post unambiguous, detailed and transparent administrative procedures to go with these BPs.

Thank you for your time.