

**Academic Senates' Reports to the LRCCD Board of Trustees  
October 2023**

## **District Academic Senate (DAS) President, Alisa Shubb, Reports:**

- DAS voted to "Support and honor our Tribal Nations' request to the *Moratorium on the Use of Human Remains, Native American Cultural Items, Images, and Reproductions of Native American Human Remains and Cultural Items* under the condition that LRCCD engage Academic Senate appointed faculty from each college in any policy or procedure impacting curriculum and further, that LRCCD commit necessary resources in an expedited manner to provide teaching materials that ensure curriculum can be honored."
  - Adoption of the moratorium as written by the Tribal Leaders was scheduled to be approved at the September 18, 2023 Chancellor's Cabinet to go into effect on Sept 28th, without consultation with Academic Senate. At the Chancellor's Cabinet, DAS leadership requested the opportunity to expedite our processes in order to be able to bring back a recommendation.
  - The DAS President would like to acknowledge and thank faculty and Senate colleagues for engaging in the thoughtful and difficult discussions necessary to support the moratorium language which requires, in some cases, prioritizing doing right by our Tribal Nations over Academic Freedom.
  - A district-level Moratorium on Use of Human Remains Advisory Task Force charter is being worked on at DAS to ensure the recommendations of faculty discipline experts and the DAS are being relied upon in the implementation of the moratorium and drafting of new policy/regulations related to the use of such items and instructional materials.
- DAS is responding to the District Education Technology Committee (DETC) recommendation that implementation of student Multifactor Authentication (MFA) begin in Jan 2024 with 1) a request that Student Senate be consulted, and 2) concerns about the barriers MFA is likely to create for students, particularly when accessing their courses and course materials on Canvas. DAS has yet to hear a compelling argument for why MFA is needed to access Canvas.
- DAS is currently soliciting faculty feedback on proposed revisions to Policy & Regulation 2222 (attendance).
  - [District Academic Senate \(DAS\)](#)
  - [ARC Academic Senate](#)
  - [CRC Academic Senate](#)
  - [FLC Academic Senate](#)
  - [SCC Academic Senate](#)
  - [Academic Senate of California Community Colleges \(ASCCC\)](#)

### **ARC Academic Senate President, Brian Knirk, Reports:**

- ARC would like to thank Dr. King for participating in the Town Hall hosted at ARC on Monday 2nd. We recognize the closure of Davies Hall has been emotionally trying on faculty and students with impacts on teaching, learning, and student success. The Chancellor's responses were appreciated and enlightening.
- The ARC Senate has approved new questions for Program Review, with a deeper equity focus and intended lens on student success of our DI populations.

### **CRC Academic Senate President, Jacob Velasquez, Reports:**

- Film and Television Professor Lauren Wagner has been appointed as CRC Academic Senate Vice President. We are fortunate to have her in this leadership role.
- The CRC Academic Senate is regularly holding discussions regarding course success rates, with the intent of identifying and understanding factors that contribute to differences in course success rates between sections of the same course taught by different instructors.

### **FLC Academic Senate President, Eric Wada, Reports:**

- The FLC Academic Senate first acknowledges the success stories we heard from the speakers who completed Utility Line Clearance Arborist Training (ULCAT) and pre-inspector training. We also acknowledge that the development of these programs predates the hiring of our current president and the dean who presented the program today. We wish to alert the Board that none of the participatory governance committees: the FLC academic senate, curriculum committee, or the district program placement council was aware of the ULCAT program's development. ULCAT is an administratively-developed and maintained educational program associated with FLC and the LRCCD. We have been told that as a not-for-credit course/program, there is no need for faculty involvement; however, we respectfully disagree. Collegial consultation on academic and professional matters should have occurred in the program's development, maintenance, and review. Specifically, faculty must be involved in curriculum development, degree/certificate requirements, and program review. In addition, faculty hiring and evaluation processes are in the purview of the academic senate. We raise this lapse in collegial consultation with the Board because this episode challenges both the law and accreditation standards. Senate-led processes exist to attest to the quality and currency of curriculum, pedagogical practices, and program requirements. They also exist to ensure that curriculum, pedagogy, and programs are relevant to student goals and are rooted in equity. While we are now past the point to authentically engage faculty in the development of the ULCAT program, we want to point out that this program exemplifies a pattern of bypassing collegial consultation in the district and we want to emphasize the need for collegial consultation in future educational program development at FLC.

### **SCC Academic Senate President, Sandra Guzmán, Reports:**

- SCC Senate is piloting a new hiring prioritization process with a focus on equity, impact to students and demand for courses. We hope the needs of our student community will be reflected in our hiring allocation.
- SCC Senate supported the LRCCD Moratorium and honors the requests of Tribal Nations. We look forward to working with LRCCD and DAS appointed Faculty on a task force to establish process and priorities.
- We reviewed the demographics of the seventy-seven Long Term Temporary Faculty hired between 2020-2023 and are alarmed at the clear lack of diversity and representation. SCC has an interest in reviewing the LTT Faculty guidelines and/or processes that yield such results and working to intentionally disrupt the Institutional bias/racism embedded in the existing process.