

Academic Senates' Reports to the LRCCD Board of Trustees
April 8, 2026

District Academic Senate (DAS) President, Paula Cardwell, Reports:

- Our senate leaders will be representing Los Rios at the Academic Senates of California Community Colleges statewide plenary session tomorrow through Saturday in Santa Rosa.
- We received Sacramento City College's appointment of our next District Academic Senate President, Professor Lori Petite, who will take office in May.
- The Artificial Intelligence task force recommended guidelines to the District Equity and Student Success Committee; those guidelines have been affirmed by DESSC and have gone through first reading at the District Academic Senate.
- At yesterday's District Academic Senate meeting, we voted on the Resolution in Support of the Pan-African Virtual College. (Report outcome).
- We reviewed a proposal to affirm the DESSC Committee recommendation to amend Board Policy P-7241 to waive GE for local degrees for returning students who have earned an AA/AS degree in Los Rios (Report outcome).
- We reviewed a proposal to affirm the recommendation from DCCC to approve changes to P-7141: Instructional Programs/Curriculum Development; change to allow unit increments for 0.25 to be used for some courses.
- A task force has also recommended changes to Attendance regulation R-2151 to address attendance procedures and to equitize our attendance policy across the online and in-person modalities.

American River College Senate President, Veronica Lopez, Reports:

- ARC Senate Accepting nominations for our 2026 Ken Diebert Award for Outstanding ARC Part-Timer. The finalist will be announced during Fall 2026 Convocation.
- Our faculty hiring committees are working diligently to identify the best candidates for our students and college, and that makes timely access to applicant pools essential. Delays in application releases from District HR are adding to committee workload and raising concerns about our ability to compete with districts that move more quickly through this process. We believe this is solvable, and we look forward to partnering with District HR to streamline the timeline and keep Los Rios competitive as a destination for top talent.
- Several systemic issues with District HR are creating significant challenges for faculty hiring, including: improperly eliminating candidates; purging adjunct pools with little to no departmental notice; insufficient advertising and inadequate open windows for new pools; minimum qualifications concerns and the burden placed on current adjunct applicants to provide their own equivalency documentation

(P38); and new hires not being placed correctly on the salary schedule based on their adjunct experience, education, or equivalency determination.

- **Impact in Practice:** One ARC department needing 7–8 adjuncts for Fall was informed, after months of waiting that their existing pool had been purged. A new pool opened March 13th and closes April 22nd, leaving an inadequate window to build a sufficient candidate pool. The department is now facing the possibility of cancelling Fall classes, with serious consequences for students.
- ARC Senate Approved our ACCJC Midterm Report. We are very thankful for the transparent approach and thoughtful discussion that helped to inform this document.
- ARC Senate discussed the transition to our new bookstore Barnes and Noble Education on July 1st.
- UDAC Lori Hokerson presented to ARC Senate on ACMM results highlighting some key points, including some brief ACMM background highlighting some key points, indicating the ARC was not compliant (as well as the other three sibling colleges) that is just not focused on instructional.

Cosumnes River College Senate President, Lauren Wagner, Reports:

- CRC's Senate Exec team is looking forward to this week's Plenary.
- The March 27 meeting had a discussion about the culture around Performance Review Teams, including the thought, if we're 'hiring the best' why are we later firing a few?
- Robust discussions continue around the revision of our Senate's Bylaws.
- We are looking ahead to next year's participatory governance, including elections for senators and preparing a survey to place faculty onto committees for next year.

Folsom Lake College Senate President, Wayne Jensen, Reports:

- Many FLC faculty are working hard as members of hiring committees seeking to identify and hire the best candidates for our open positions.
- FLC is concerned with the upcoming semester and the timely release of adjunct pools from District HR. Access to hiring pools has been a consistent issue making the timely hire of adjuncts an issue.
- FLC was recently notified by the Umoja Program that we will be part of the New Program Readiness Cycle, aligning with a Fall 2027 program launch. FLC will move through application and screening in 2026 with implementation milestones and the site visit taking place in Spring 2027. Affiliation decisions will be issued by the end of May 2027, and approved campuses move into the next phase beginning in Fall 2027.

- FLC's Senate Exec is looking forward to attending the ASCCC Spring 26 Plenary this weekend where we can unite with other Senate leaders from across the State and get valuable training on a variety of important topics.
- FLC's longtime Senate Secretary Lisa Danner will be stepping down at the end of the academic year. We have appreciated so much the diligent work Lisa has done in preparing agendas and minutes, and most importantly her great advocacy on DAS as well as in meetings with FLC administration. I am happy to announce that a Special Election took place and Psychology Professor, Dr. Danielle Beck, has been elected as FLC's Academic Senate Secretary for the upcoming 2026-27 academic year. Dr. Beck is a former Senate Vice President and we look forward to the strength and advocacy she will bring to our local senate and to DAS.

Sacramento City College President, Amy Strimling, reports:

- We have completed our election process for our Senate Officers and new senators for the next two years. We are excited that all of our Senate Officers will be continuing for another two-year term.
- Our Senate Exec team will all be attending Plenary this week.
- Several department chairs at SCC have reported challenges in our faculty hiring processes, particularly adjunct hiring processes, including delays in access to pools, large numbers of faculty EQs that must be completed, and short application periods that do not allow time to effectively recruit applicants.
- SCC Academic Senate is excited to collaborate with Student Services on our new Black-Serving Institution workgroup to better support our Black student success.
- We are continuing our work in areas such as hiring of faculty coordinators, updating our curriculum committee composition and handbook, learning more about Credit for Prior Learning, improving our SLO assessment and reporting, preparing to launch noncredit coursework and so much more!