

Academic Senate Board Report
September 9, 2026

American River College

AS President Dr. Veronica Lopez

- ARC hosted a robust Flex Week, offering sessions that ranged widely in scope, from topics like "Getting to Know Your Gasoline or Electric/Hybrid Vehicle" and "Flying Drones at ARC" to essential institutional work like Annual Unit Planning and Program Review
- ARC also welcomed a large group of new faculty members, who are excited to participate in the New Faculty Learning Community (NFLC) this year
- ARC held its Senate retreat on Flex Wednesday, focusing our discussion on issues important to faculty
- Our Senate has already started to meet and continue to welcome new Senators to our roster
- We continue working to make our Senate meetings fully accessible to all faculty
- We continue to appoint faculty to various District Committees and ARC Project Charters, which include Distance Education, Dual Enrollment, and Homebases

Cosumnes River College

AS President Lauren Wagner

- CRC's Academic Senate had our retreat on September 4 and will have our first regularly scheduled meeting on September 11, 2026.
- The semester is underway with committees beginning to meet and events on campus welcoming both students and faculty to the new semester.
- FLEX week featured many excellent workshops, including a discussion about performance review that was jointly led by the leaders of the Academic Senate, LRCFT, Department Chairs Council, and our Vice President of Instruction.
- CRC's Convocation presentation by leadership from Hawk Cares, the home for basic needs services at Cosumnes River College gave everyone in attendance a chance to learn about the wide variety of basic needs resources provided at CRC.

Folsom Lake College

AS President Wayne Jensen

- FLC has a wonderful FLEX week full of great professional development opportunities for faculty. Special thank you to our Faculty Professional Development Coordinator, Diane Carlson, and to the many who lead the different workshops and presentations.
- Our New Faculty Academy is off and running providing a network of support for all of our great new hires.
- As with our sister colleges, we are working hard to staff committees and workgroups, both at the college and district level, to ensure that valuable faculty insights are able to be provided.

Sacramento City College

AS President Amy Strimling

- We had a productive Flex Week schedule with many wonderful professional development opportunities. Our Academic Senate participated in Professional Development alongside our Department Chairs and Deans in a joint meeting.
- We held our first meeting of the year on September 1st and welcomed many new Senators.
- We are looking forward to our first Conversations with the Chancellor on our campus tomorrow afternoon.

District Academic Senate

DAS President Lori Petite

- Professional Development Week and New Faculty Welcome Events: It's been an honor to welcome a new cohort of faculty who have joined us this year. Vice Chancellor Carrie Bray, LRCFT President Jason Newman, and I worked together to facilitate the training at CRC, which was well attended, and supported by College and District leaders. It was also a pleasure to meet and greet so many of our new hires at the reception at the Viscaya as well. The hiring of new faculty is an exciting time across all of our colleges. Each hire is a generational commitment by our district and signifies the Board's long term investment in educating the students and future students of our region. Thank you.
- Our District Academic Senate Retreat was Friday, August 28th. We used the time for professional development and teambuilding. We discussed the role of the senate and facilitated a presentation and workshop activity on small group communication. Many thanks to our District, District administrators, and Trustees for your support of and participation in these various events.
- Our District Academic Senate (DAS), its committees, and various task forces are back in session now. At our first DAS meeting this year, we have approved a recommendation

from the District Instructional Accessibility Committee (DIAC) to request that the District Educational Technology Committee initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to identify a comprehensive accessibility technology suite that meets the current and emerging needs of Los Rios faculty. The full text of the recommendation is included at the end of this report.

- We have a number of decision items that are making their way through our local college senates including the two NAGPRA policies, Artificial Intelligence Guidelines, and a proposal to revise R-2222 on Attendance. When the local processes are complete and in some cases are reviewed by LRCFT, we look forward to bringing our recommendations to you. Thank you.



April 2, 2026

To: Los Rios District Academic Senate (DAS)

From: District Instructional Accessibility Committee (DIAC)

Recommendation to Initiate an RFP Process for a Comprehensive Accessibility Technology Suite

The District Instructional Accessibility Committee (DIAC) recommends that the District Academic Senate formally request that the District Educational Technology Committee initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to identify a comprehensive accessibility technology suite that meets the current and emerging needs of Los Rios faculty. Recent committee discussions have highlighted gaps in our existing accessibility infrastructure and tools, as identified in the ACMM evaluation. Faculty require more robust, reliable, and user-friendly tools to create and remediate instructional materials that meet WCAG 2.1 AA standards, especially as accessibility expectations and universal design for learning and instructional modalities evolve.

DIAC emphasizes the importance of exploring solutions that include both general instructional accessibility support and STEM-specific accessibility tools. Accessibility needs in math and science courses—such as accessible equation creation, remediation of legacy documents, and support for complex graphical or symbolic content—are not adequately addressed by our

current toolset. Tools such as MathPix may be strong candidates for addressing STEM-specific remediation challenges. Still, a formal RFP process is needed to compare options, vet accessibility claims, and ensure cost-effective districtwide adoption. A structured evaluation, led jointly by subject-matter experts, instructional designers, faculty, and Educational Technology representatives, will ensure that the district selects tools that meaningfully improve instructional accessibility and support faculty across disciplines.

DIAC therefore requests that DAS endorse and forward this recommendation to District Ed Tech to launch an RFP process to identify STEM support tools as well as an integrated accessibility technology suite. This effort will help Los Rios in meeting accessibility standards and laws, enhance equitable access for students, and align with ACMM-driven districtwide goals for sustainable, scalable accessibility practices.