August Academic Senate Board Report

The Academic Senate leadership wishes to acknowledge and thank both the administration and CRFO leadership for their tireless work in completing and getting a ratified collective bargaining agreement. Although the concessions of all district employees do not come easily, it validates that employees from all groups recognize the importance of re-establishing a fiscally healthy institution moving forward.

With the fall semester fast approaching, the Academic Senate leadership is rapidly receiving and prioritizing a list of goals for the senate and faculty to work on and work with the administration in accomplishing throughout the school year. Some of the early goals include:

- Supporting the new organizational structure and working closely with the new associate deans to ensure faculty in each new division are supported through the transitional period and the phasing out of area coordination work.
- Fully staffing all standing senate committees and the newly revised administrative committee groups.
- Taking an active role in the interim AP4021 (Program Revitalization, Suspension & Discontinuance) procedure and subsequent task force work for the identified programs up for review and recommendations.
- Working closely with faculty and administration to collectively develop a program initialization policy and procedure.
- Working with faculty and the curriculum committee to support and encourage all necessary course outline revisions that are due to take place within the upcoming year.
- Working closely with administration and the DE committee to resolve current deficiencies.
- Supporting faculty by addressing any academic concerns that may arise during the transition to the new academic buildings.
- Encouraging faculty to continue increasing their proficiency with all aspects of assessment dialogue, work and reporting.
- Welcoming new faculty and making them feel a part of the team right away by assigning them some appropriate committee work.
- The Senate/CRFO are planning a joint district wide faculty meeting for the first Friday of the fall semester to review and remind faculty of all their duties & responsibilities within the contract and in maintaining all standards of accreditation. In addition, to exercise patience, support and the proper professional lines of communication if and when issues arise with the transition to the new organizational structure, physical transition to new buildings and offices and other faculty concerns.
This list as well as many others topics will be discussed at our initial Senate retreat on Saturday August 24th. We look forward to a very productive school year, with a resolve to shift most of our discussions internally and with the administration towards the support for faculty in maintaining academic opportunities, quality and standards along with student retention & success that will continually lead to a steady and sustainable growth for all.