



ACADEMIC SENATE NEWS

ELAC's Academic Senate is the voice of faculty in academic and professional matters.

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Fall 2017 Meeting Dates

The Academic Senate meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from **12:10-1:30pm in G1-301A/B.**

All faculty are encouraged to attend the meetings.

Sept. 12

Sept. 26

Oct. 10

Oct. 24

Nov. 14

Nov. 28

Dec. 12

Senate President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

This will be my last installment in our budding Senate Newsletter. When I first came to ELAC twenty-eight years ago, I was in awe. Having taught in junior and senior high school, I had finally landed a coveted teaching position at a community college. I didn't know it then, but I had also found a position at one of the best

community colleges in the state, if not the country. Of course, the campus looked much different then. Most of us taught in old buildings or "temporary" bungalows, as they were called. We had no air conditioning, no white boards or electronic devices, no smart classrooms, no individual offices, and, yes, no computers.

While all of the external conditions have radically changed for the better—we now have a campus that is warm and inviting and simply stunning—I have also seen a positive change in faculty. Quite frankly, in those days, one was chided for serving on a committee. I was reminded on several occasions that committees were for administrators. Faculty simply did not trust you if you chose to be active outside the classroom. But with the passage of AB1725, faculty would have even more responsibility regarding academic and professional matters, and the old view about faculty serving on committees dissolved. I have enjoyed being a part of this transformation, of being active in our senate, of helping to shape policies and protecting faculty rights, and, perhaps most importantly, of seeing new faculty eager to participate, eager to get involved in clubs and on campus committees.

What I find even more exciting is where ELAC is now—poised to undergo yet another transformation with Guided Pathways that will unite all areas and programs of the campus so our students can readily navigate through college toward their future goals. It will be an ambitious project, but it will be led by enthusiastic faculty and staff. This project, along with continuing professional development efforts to assist faculty in effective teaching and learning practices, makes leaving ELAC at this time very difficult for me.

I will certainly miss being a part of this college. Nothing can replace the sense of accomplishment and good will that working with you has given me. Thank you all for your support all these years, for allowing me to be part of a team of dedicated, resilient, compassionate, and good-humored colleagues.

I look forward to hearing about your successes and wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Alex



New Senate Officers

Jeffrey Hernandez, Senate President



I joined the faculty ranks of East Los Angeles College 20 years ago because I love teaching politics! It's something I've wanted to do since I left ELAC as a student in 1987. That's why I consider myself fortunate to have joined the Social Science Department as a Professor of Political Science. While still a "prob," I was an active guest at Senate meetings, which led me to serve on the Budget Committee and to chair the Senate's Committee on Academic Integrity. Ten years ago, I became my department's Senator and was elected Senate Vice-President, resulting in my serving as co-chair of the ELAC Shared Governance Council, the college Budget Committee, and the Program Review and Viability Committee. Additionally, I serve on the District Budget Committee and countless other committees. Now, as Senate President, I look forward to helping every Senator advance as a faculty advocate.

J. Edward Stevenson, First Vice-President

At the heart of education are the students and their deep desires to transform themselves and their community. Faculty are central to the students' learning and development processes. I've been a faculty member in Communication Studies, Student Services, and now the Office of Professional Development. Elected in 2013, I've consistently served as a member of the Senate, first as a Senator for Speech & Theater, then Communication Studies, and today, Professional Development. I've represented the Senate on administrator hiring and tenure committees as well as served on the Senate Executive Board. The ELAC Academic Senate cultivates strong faculty leadership, active faculty involvement, and academic policies that drive student and organizational success. As the First Vice-President of the ELAC Academic Senate, I expect to effectively advocate for policies that bolster student success and to contribute to the college's long-term planning and sustainability.



Kevin M. Booth, Second Vice-President



I have been part of Life Science and then the Allied Health Department for 11 years. During that time, I have admired the Senate's focus on faculty rights, responsibilities, and role in guiding the academic future and growth of this campus, which is why I am beginning my third term on the Academic Senate. As Second Vice-President, I hope to garner increased faculty awareness and participation in Senate concerns, issues, and functions, as they are the same that face EVERY instructor on this campus, but the Senate needs the support of EVERY faculty member in order to be most effective. We are the faculty voice for change on this campus, and I hope to make that voice more accessible to our colleagues.

Julie Bernard, Secretary

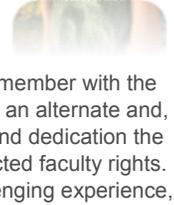
I joined the department of Anthropology, Geography, and Geology in 2008 and began serving as a Senator shortly thereafter. I volunteered for the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee and then was invited to join the Senate Executive Committee as Parliamentarian. In that capacity, I chaired that committee and also served on the Elections Committee. I am very proud to be part of the ELAC faculty leadership body. I hope to use my role to support faculty rights and promote new actions on campus and at the district level to best enrich student learning and address the unique challenges of our student population during these difficult times.



Marcia P. Cagigas, Treasurer



I have been a full-time faculty member in the Child Development Center since 1992, and an adjunct faculty member with the Child, Family, and Education Studies Department since 2007. I began my term on the Academic Senate as an alternate and, four years ago, became an Academic Senate representative. At the time, I was intrigued by the hard work and dedication the Senate Executive Committee and the Academic Senate devoted to policy making and processes that protected faculty rights. I was later encouraged to run for secretary on the Senate Executive Committee, and, although it was a challenging experience, I enjoyed participating on a committee with dedicated faculty. I am excited to continue my work in a new role as treasurer. My goals are to continue protecting faculty rights, including the 10+1, and to encourage more faculty participation on the Senate.



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