

Academic Senate Plenary Report

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Fall session November 3-5, 2016

Honoring the past, Navigating the present, Imagining the Future

Each year the CA Community College Academic Senate has a Fall Plenary Conference in Southern California. The 3 day sessions include workshops about current issues in Community College teaching and the "10+1" issues under the purview of Faculty, such as Faculty Equity & Educational Policies, Professional Learning Network, Role of AS Liaisons, Guided Pathways, Integrating Plans, and Strong Workforce. In addition, I am a voting delegate on Senate resolutions, which included over 100 issues regarding categories such as Accreditation, Discipline lists, Curriculum, Library & Learning Resources, and Career Technical Education.

My goals were:

1. To gain perspective on current issues, both in policy and in college matters on all of the 10+1 areas.
2. To acquire an understanding of how these issues affect our College, District, and Region.
3. To have information to bring back to Academic Senate and College Governing Council on state resolutions and Chancellor's office matters.

I attended both Panel Discussions and Breakout sessions. These were sessions that I believe best matched my goals, with my ideas in italics.

1. **State of the State Academic Senate.** *Legislation around the College Promise & AP credit should both be looked at by the Ed Policy Committee and others at our campus.*
2. **Pathways to Community College teaching.** *This idea prompted many to suggest considering having an Education Department that offers a college course about college teaching pedagogy and opportunities for students to do some practice teaching sessions.*
3. **Strong Workforce.** Initiatives such as Basic Skills, Transfer degrees, SSSP, Student Equity were discussed along with the Board of Governor's Task Force with some 25 recommendations and the Pilot project. *Local Plans are due in January, so we should connect our Director of Workforce & Career Development on campus with our ASenate CTE Liaisons, both to increase communication and to work together on Skyline's plan.*
4. **Faculty Equity & Educational Policies.** Faculty screening and Equal Employment Opportunity [EEO] policies & substantial training were discussed along with post-hiring look at administration policies and "beyond boot camp." *I see the District EEO trainings being strengthened, concerted efforts to increase faculty diversity and mindset as a campus/district priority. ASenate Ed Policy, Faculty Selection and Faculty Evaluation are all areas to get involvement & review, as well as consideration*

of Diversity/Equity Internship, a District Plenary on Diversity & Equity, “Hire Me” workshop for current adjuncts interested in applying for full-time positions and for completing equivalency.

5. **Professional Learning Network [PLN].** An extension of the Institutional Effectiveness Initiative, the PLN has established a website with a calendar, speakers bureau, and a Learn Academy that includes opportunities for online courses through Lynda.com, Grovo, and @ One. All faculty can become a member of PLN, using their college email, and can register and get most for free [or affordable cost]. <https://prolearningnetwork.cccco.edu>. *For Skyline/District, could it work for Flex obligations? Could the @One trainings ‘count’ for faculty Canvas preparation &/or ongoing PD?*
6. **Guided Pathways.** The CA Guided Pathways Project will be announced for applications December 6. 15-20 Colleges will be selected as Demonstration Projects [application Jan-March] and will follow a 6-Institute model, then present at a state conference. *Implications for Skyline are about participation to further our re-design work. Steps might include AS Forum for questions/concerns/ideas, then getting data, generate reasonable ways to address, make workplan with timeline. Have a Pathways/Re-design group who goes to Institutes, drives the process, convene a Pathways Summit. Does this repeat what we’ve done, or add resources & momentum?*
7. **State Senate resolutions.** There are always dozens of resolutions discussed and debated at the Plenary session; please see the website in our November 17 agenda materials for the entire list. *Five that have implications for Skyline at this time are [1] including English Language Learners in Equity and Scorecard Categories, [2] supporting a Statewide Integrated Library System, [3]including the PLN resources to satisfy Flex Requirements, [4]consulting with local Curr/Senates about the CSU Quantitative Reasoning Task Force Report and several about CTE, such as exploring a more flexible discipline for emerging Career and Technical Education Fields, providing an institute for counselors & developing a PLN module on these issues.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Williams Browne