

Academic Senate Goals and Accomplishments for 2020-2021

Ratified by Academic Senate Council 2021-05-04

These are the final goals ranked by vote by senators, combining ideas gathered at the Academic Senate Planning Session on August 12, the Academic Senate General Meeting on August 14, and Senate Council on August 18 and September 1. Note that 90% of our time will be spent on the usual tasks of AP/BP's, initiatives and plans, faculty prioritization, and the like. We want to select a few things on which to focus for the 10% of our time that we hope we can dedicate to other tasks of our choosing.

These results from voting are below, listed in rank order from highest priority to lowest priority. The number in brackets is the sum of the ranks for that goal and recall the lower the number the higher the rank.

- 1) Create an environment and culture that is infused with social justice & anti-racism in every aspect of the institution, rooted in accountability, and reflected in its Mission, Vision, & Values statements [45]
 - a. Unanimous approval of a resolution in support of Black lives matter
 - b. Initiated development of a land acknowledgement statement
 - c. Unanimous approval of a resolution in solidarity with the AAPI community
 - d. Provided feedback on the update to the Mission Statement that reflects equity and social justice
 - e. Initiated review of Constitution & By-Laws with an equity lens
 - f. Standing committees to revisit charge and membership with an equity lens
 - g. Classified Prioritization criteria added an equity component as part of Fiscal
- 2) Increased access for students [62]
 - a. Increased adoption of Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) for disciplines for which this is a viable option that preserves academic standards and integrity
 - b. Recommended Low Textbook Cost (LTC) at \$40 to be designated on the schedule of classes
 - c. Discussion of uses of CARES/HEERF funds (also more formally in Fiscal)
 - i. Advocacy for computers, access points, etc.
 - ii. Investing in cleaning, air filters, PPE, etc. for a safe return to campus
 - iii. Considering long-term investments that benefit students for years to come
 - d. Dual enrollment presentation and open dialogue reflecting on where we are and how to improve
- 3) Diversify faculty: hiring and retention [74]
 - a. Active faculty participation in Social justice workgroup Theme on hiring
 - b. Update of AP 7120-D Full-time faculty hiring to lower barriers, enable more diverse committee membership, and provide a more consistent candidate experience
 - c. Practice of tenured preference in hiring committees revisited

- d. Reached out to new faculty and involve them in discussion of tenure review committee composition
- 4) Finalize normal (compressed) calendar discussions within the VCCCD [78]
 - a. Districtwide committee with significant faculty input explored pressure points for and concerns of adoption of a 16-week semester calendar
 - b. Collecting data on stakeholder interest by end of academic year via a districtwide survey and formal votes from the Associated Students, Classified Senates, and Academic Senates at all three colleges
 - c. Will determine level of stakeholder support by the beginning of summer and make a recommendation to the Chancellor
- 5) Ethnic studies requirement for all degrees [86]
 - a. Identified an Ethnic Studies coordinator to develop our Ethnic Studies program
 - b. Advocated for Title 5 language updates for an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement prompted by statewide resolutions; at initial draft stage
- 6) Continue building and practicing integrated processes for planning and budgets focused on increased transparency and input from all constituents [109]
 - a. Joint EdCAP/Fiscal meeting to more closely link planning and budgeting, performing a gap analysis using the Annual Work Plan
 - b. Recommended a pilot 1-year joint EdCAP/Fiscal committee to explore the wider view of the link between planning and budgeting provided by such a committee
 - c. Proposed new process for one-time fund budget discussions to be brought to Fiscal Planning Committee
 - d. Completion of first round of combined Classified, Management, and Faculty 25-year service awards (“brick”)
 - e. Increased classified presence and some voting student positions in Standing Committees
 - f. Reviewed and provided feedback on the VCCCD Strategic Plan and VCCCD Participatory Governance Handbook
- 7) Continued faculty leadership in the implementation of Guided Pathways, including success teams [111]
 - a. Faculty Guided Pathways Coordinator, Traci Allen
 - b. Guided Pathways Scale of Adoption Assessment toured governance groups and was submitted after receiving Senate approval
 - c. Counseling faculty and instructional faculty leads in each success team
 - d. Regular Guided Pathways meetings at both the college and district levels
- 8) Strengthen support of adjunct faculty within the Academic Senate’s academic and professional purview [115]
- 9) Utilizing the arts as a vehicle to facilitate college goals such as open, safe spaces, dialog, social justice and equity, student access, and student success [116]
- 10) Increase access to and be more welcoming to faculty at Academic Senate and Standing Committees [139]
 - a. FLEX training including an overview of participatory governance, Brown Act, and the role of senate representatives

- b. Introduced ourselves during training and when welcoming new senators
- c. Made concerted effort to explain technical words and acronyms every meeting
- d. Online format enabled additional access and attendance at meeting