

# **Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) Faculty Co-Chair Candidate Statement**

Traci Allen

Thank you for taking the time to consider me for the SEA co-chair position, I appreciate the nomination and am happy to share my qualifications and desire to serve in this role. As far as my experience and qualifications most of you know, I have been serving in the faculty lead role to help with implementing our Guided Pathways (GP) work for the past few years. As far as my “day job” as they say, I am a Counselor. I work one on one with students in my Counseling role, and have served in the instructor role teaching COUN courses in the classroom. I have been at Moorpark for 14 years serving as full time Counselor with time spent assigned to such special populations as student athletes and CHESS students. I have served as Department Chair for Counseling as well as in the role of an Interim Dean. These varied experiences have provided me with the ability to see the student experience from many different angles which I am grateful for. It has also allowed me a greater depth of understanding of how campus and district decisions are made and the importance of the faculty role in shared governance and standing committees such as SEA. I have chosen to take on these many roles at MC as part of my mission to try to improve the student experience, and this can't be done without improving success and equity. I have been a committee member of SEA in the past representing my role as the liaison to the GP advisory committee. I would embrace serving in the faculty co-chair role as I believe the SEA committee and the GP work go hand in hand. The GP work is about success and equity. It is about redesigning our system to remove institutional barriers which can lead to improving success rates, especially for those students who have traditionally not succeeded at the same level as their peers. While the GP state grant goes away soon, the work will not, and I believe is centered in the work of the SEA committee. I would like us to continue to address success and equity at MC with a strong focus on understanding the student experience, both inside and outside of the classroom. Thank you for your time and consideration!