

Dear Fellow Moorpark College Faculty Members,

My name is Jamie Whittington-Studer and I am incredibly honored to have been nominated to serve as Secretary of Moorpark College Academic Senate. As a Communication Studies scholar and full-time faculty member, supporting our campus dialogue as a means of creating progressive change is something I am very passionate about.

As an alumna of Moorpark College, our campus community is such an integral part of my story as an educator and scholar. I discovered my passion for Communication and education when I was a student at Moorpark College. Through the support and guidance of faculty and mentors within our community, I was able to turn that passion into a career in education. I view my service to Moorpark College as a means of giving back to the community that inspired and supported my success.

I currently serve on three campus committees: Academic Senate, Student Learning Outcomes, and Student Equity and Achievement. For the past two years I have worked in collaboration with Department of Institutional Effectiveness as a Communication consultant and researcher, evaluating our communication with students and leading initiatives to improve our communication practices. I also serve as a Communication consultant for the Guided Pathways Area of Interest Student Success Teams, providing guidance on how best to connect with students and support their journey here at Moorpark and beyond.

I view the role of Secretary as someone who helps facilitate dialogue by documenting our discussions, coordinating our efforts, and making the process of participating in senate as accessible and engaging as possible. I recently served as the secretary of a CCC and CSU workgroup of over 200 Communication Studies Faculty Members across the state of California to support their advocacy efforts in the adoption of a new GE pathway following the passage of AB 928. My biggest take-away from this experience was that clear and effective communication was essential to creating a space for meaningful participation and coordination between faculty members who share diverse perspectives. Diverse representation is essential to the charge of Academic Senate; through intentional and transparent communication designed to support our senators, I believe the Academic Senate Secretary can help increase the accessibility of participation on Academic Senate, which would allow for more diverse representation.

Academic Senate is a space where we collaborate in the spirit of realizing our goals to support the Moorpark College community. I would be overjoyed to serve as Secretary of this endeavor, and I greatly appreciate your consideration for this position.

- *Jamie Whittington-Studer*