

# SBVC Academic Senate President's Report

Welcome to the 2020-21 Academic Year

The Senate passed the [Resolution SU20.01 Infusion of Anti-Racism/ No-Hate Education](#) over the summer following the procedures in our bylaws. What has occurred across both country and the world has resonated with many of us that change is long overdue. Silence is indeed complicity to maintaining the status quo. The Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges (ASCCC) published a summer rostrum. The [July 2020 Rostrum](#) publication included one of colleague's essay, "In the Wake of George Floyd: An Open Letter to College Educators Across the Nation" by Nadiya Herron, our colleague in Communication Studies. The essays, including Nadiya's, are insightful and illustrate with honesty and openness the realities of what many of our own colleagues, students, and communities face every day.

It. Is. Time. To. Care. -Herron

I believe we are here because we do care.

Our Senate had its virtual retreat on August 11. The topic of focus was reviewing the potential Academic Senate 2020-2021 Goals, which include our work on the Infusion of Anti-Racism/ No-Hate Education. Our break out groups reported back ideas on what we can do now and what we can do in the future as a Senate and the campus. We know this is a campus-wide effort and inclusivity, openness, and honesty are all components to effect change. The goals will be part of our Action Agenda next week, Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup>. Other major goals, that are all interconnected, include Accreditation, and Guided Pathways, among others.

Continuing education is key. A record number of faculty of attended and participated in the virtual Faculty Leadership Institute from June 17-19. There was also a record number of personnel including faculty, staff, and management who attended the virtual Curriculum Institute from July 7-10.

We are also all living through a pandemic and the safety of all is of top priority. The move to online instruction during this pandemic has been an enormous undertaking that is still in progress. Faculty have done significant work in the transition and continue that progress. Our DE Leads have trained a record number of faculty. From my own firsthand experience, the training is done with explicit equity mindfulness and actionable steps. For faculty that have not been able to take Distance Education Level 1 Training (it is a 5-week commitment) or faculty just want additional support, our Professional Development faculty has stepped in with resources, webinars, and online meetings. The Curriculum committee reviewed a record number of 409 DE addendums. To make this happen, the curriculum committee met outside of academic year to do this important work. Besides the 2 official meetings outside the academic year, committee members worked independently to review the DE addendums that were submitted. This work is to be commended. The DE addendums have allowed for courses normally face-to-face to be converted to the online platform.

The Academic Senate is also adjusting to completing its work in a virtual world. Senators will continue to vote electronically with the official voting record. That and other materials will be available on the new Senate SharePoint. I want to share some of my time with our Senate Secretary, Bethany so she can share how to access the Academic Senate SharePoint.

Thank you for all you do!