

# SBVC Academic Senate Report



## Recognitions of the Board

Thank you for your openness to communication. It is not always easy to hear what is being shared at the podium or in reports, and we ask a lot of the board at times, but your willingness to hear us is appreciated. We are the ones in the field doing the work every day and can serve to provide insight into the realities of the work. The Academic Senate reports will continue to contain all parts of our experience and be transparent whether things are going well or are challenging.

## Information to Inform Policy

We appreciate the support provided to bring ASCCC and The Community College League of California to us this week for the Collegiality in Action presentation. We recognize the efforts surrounding the coordination of an event of this type and size and the funding required. The information shared was helpful for many and left others with more questions. There is a need for additional conversations around collegial consultation, shared and participatory governance, and how that is operationalized within our district. The Academic Senate looks forward to supporting and participating in such conversations. It may be helpful to have some communication to frame the purpose of the presentation and assure the campus and district communities of the intent to provide information and support. We hope the presentation creates a pathway for shared responsibility in collegial consultation and the 10+1 beyond that of the Academic Senates and their presidents. The Academic Senate at SBVC will engage in additional conversations on campus, and conduct a review of the policies and procedures related to implementation for 10+1 purview items. Additionally, we will continue to provide professional development for all faculty on the role of Academic Senate, the purview of the 10+1 and how they are operationalized, the responsibility of faculty when participating in collegial consultation and committees, and the resources available for faculty when questions and concerns arise.

The Academic Senate of SBVC motioned and supported the requirement of training for online instruction and recognized the Distance Education Committee as the recommending body for the design and development of such training. The need to allow for continual review and development of content within the training to maintain alignment with regulations was supported. This vote was brought to the Academic Senate to reaffirm and support the original motion and vote in 2017. The Distance Education Committee has expressed ongoing support of the training process, contents, and the refresh process. This support was recently reaffirmed by a vote of the Distance Education Committee. DE Committee recognized a need to update AP 4105 to have the faculty training requirement reflected and the need to review the AP for possible additional edits. The request to open this AP was presented to the Policies and Procedures Advisory Committee and forwarded to the chapter owner. Work and conversations on the AP are in progress but will require some time to complete due to the level of consultation that will be involved. We look forward to the support of the board when the revised AP 4105 is on the agenda.

## Actions and/or Updates Related to Goals

### • Eliminate Barriers to Student Access and Success

- SBVC Academic Senate has selected a recipient for our Academic Senate Scholarship for students who are involved in participatory governance and/or collegial consultation at SBVC. This is a \$250.00 scholarship based on the participatory and/or collegial consultation participation alone. There is no GPA requirement. The selection has been forwarded to the Foundation and Scholarship Committee Chair and will be announced accordingly. We are confident you will support our selection.

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- We continue to participate in the next phases of the Student Equity Plan. The Academic Senate continues to advocate for the establishment of standing meeting times to ensure ongoing active work and attention to the plan is occurring and the creation of a co- or tri-chair structure allowing for representation beyond student services.
- The Academic Senate passed a motion of support for the strategic directives and supporting actions contained within the new Educational Master Plan. We continue to engage with Institutional Research and Planning, and other related bodies on the next phases of this work, specifically looking at the alignment with other plans. This has been a major lift to carry over the past year and we look forward to the implementation phase.
- The work continues on becoming a Teaching College with the CVC Exchange. We are in the late stages of testing and continue to be on track for a launch in late April. Given our Board Policies on non-resident fees for students taking 6 units or less, and the recent news of no course fees for Summer 2023, we are likely to see a rise in enrollment to Valley and Crafton through the exchange by students wanting to take advantage of the great opportunity. It has come to our attention that the CVC Exchange is sometimes a subject of the news shared on platforms such as Reddit. The CVC team has let us know we should be prepared. Of course, this is not fully predictable, but we do look forward to sharing positive results from our participation on the CVC Exchange.
- The Common Application results and status was shared with Senate this past month. The faculty were asked to review the project and complete a survey to become aware of known barriers that remain, identify additional potential barriers, and provide input and recommendations on the next steps to address the barriers.

- **Be a Diverse, Equitable, Inclusive, and Anti-Racist Institution**

- **Be a Leader and Partner in Addressing Regional Issues**

- The use of AI is on our doorstep and has certainly made its way into our educational system. Faculty are acutely aware of the prevalence of AI, the possibilities on how it may be used by students, and the potential impact on instruction, negative or positive. We had two presentations on this topic during our in-service day on April 11, 2023. The titles were "Friend Not Foe: Using AI at Work and School" and "How Conversational AI (such as ChatGPT) is Changing Workspaces". These presentations are a proactive approach to addressing what is a very relevant issue in education today. We look forward to additional PD on the subject and developing ways to adapt to this new frontier.

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- **Ensure Fiscal Accountability/Stability**

- We want to begin by recognizing the representation of faculty on the local and district budget committees. Access to what is intended to be shared governance is acknowledged and appreciated. However, how the shared governance is operationalized is being questioned by the faculty representative members of the committees, and the Senate. We understand the Senate does not have the final say on budget decisions for the campus, nor do we expect to have, but the Senate does have purview over processes and procedures related to budget and should have input and the opportunity to make recommendations. The budget committees currently operate from a report-out approach rather than an advisement approach. There are several areas where faculty work directly intersects with and impacts the budget and fiscal accountability/sustainability. We will continue to express our desire and expectations for input into the decision-making process within the committee structure. We will also work on identifying more clearly the faculty areas that are related to budget and provide professional development in support of faculty to better understand the connections with Senate and faculty-related work. This is an opportunity for growth across the district.

## Noteworthy Accomplishments/Activities

The Music Department, led by Margaret Worsley, hosted the San Bernardino City USD Band and Orchestra Festival 28 Middle and High School Bands on March 10th and 11th. This was a huge undertaking and required a team of faculty and classified staff to make this happen. The event was a great success, despite the torrential rain. There are already plans being made for next year.

Under the direction of Lucas Cuny, the FTVM Department and the Arts & Humanities Division hosted another successful Wolverine Con and International Film Festival in March. Faculty member, Mandi Batalo, from the Art Department supported the design of the images for posters, flyers and the website. The Film Club organized a concert and volunteers for the event. The Theatre Department provided tech support for events hosted in the Performing Arts Center. The festival occurred over several days and included a Zine Fest put on by the Art Department, an Expo allowing community member to meet local artists, companies, colleges and universities specializing in the arts, and more. This could not have happened without the support of the faculty, classified staff, and of course the Dean of Arts & Humanities, Leticia Hector. A special thank you to all of the students who participated in submissions, the expo, and just by attending. A shout out and thank you to Trustee Reyes for taking the time to attend and see first hand what the event offered to our students and community.

April 27, 2023 through May 4, 2023 we will have our Arts & Humanities Showcase. This is a week filled with a variety of presentations, events, panels, and activities showcasing the various areas and disciplines within Arts & Humanities. The purpose is to provide exposure for the student body and increase awareness of opportunities related to degrees and education in the Arts & Humanities. This is a great opportunity for students to see in action and hear about ways they can use a degree in Spanish, Art, Music, English, Communication, or other Arts & Humanities degrees. The flyer of all the events can be shared with the board once ready for distribution.

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## Request

The decision to provide free tuition and textbooks for Summer 2023 is a tremendous opportunity for our students and potential students from the surrounding communities. With registration for summer at our doorstep, this news needs to be spread far and wide! We have had some social media presence on this item, but we need more. We ask that there be as many opportunities as possible taken to get this information out to the community. Let's go beyond an announcement or two. Boilerplate templates, graphics and language that can be easily shared on department and division social media sites, within Canvas shells or on faculty and staff personal sites may be a way to encourage more grassroots efforts in getting the word out. This is an opportunity that should not be missed and offering such without an intensive marketing effort behind it will not allow the district to realize the full potential.



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