

**From:** [David Williams](#)  
**To:** [\\$SCC\\_CAMPUS](#)  
**Subject:** Senate Hot Topics Newsletter - 2/13  
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Please see this update from the Academic Senate.

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## SCC ACADEMIC SENATE

### HOT TOPICS

*from the*

## February 13, 2023 MEETING

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#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Rachel Purdie:

This spring, T4E academy has shifted from a semester long experience to month-long “academies” with themes (February’s theme is student engagement) and gatherings to discuss pedagogy, best practices, etc. All faculty are welcome to join in for any [month’s events](#).

Rebecca LaCount provided a recap of available mental health services on campus.

- In person (wellness counseling): counselors are student interns (from JFK University); referrals can be made online via the counseling section on our website.
- Timely Care (app/virtual services): TalkNow (24/7) and/or prescheduled therapy sessions are available

#### **SENATE PRESIDENT’S UPDATE**

##### **DE Support**

The Senate’s job description task force for the new Director of Distance Education and a new DE Technologist positions will meet this month to finalize.

##### **Upcoming flex sessions for March 15/16**

- Grading: best practices, methods/innovations, policy development, etc.
- Academic freedom: presentation from ASCCC, equity issues, inter-disciplinary impacts, textbook selection, and other related statewide issues. We have no formal Board administrative procedure or protocol related to AF. We do have a Board policy that may need revision.

##### **Scheduling Taskforce**

A taskforce will be established to explore the possibility of creating schedules that ensure students can complete their degrees/certificates via a fully in person or online suite of classes, available at all campus locations (and online). Side notes will include block scheduling, college hour, etc. VPAA Williams reported that the summer scheduling timeline has been extended which will allow more time to develop a variety of options for summer classes.

##### **Welcome Nathan Rexford (Dean of Institutional Research and Planning)**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT-PRESIDENT REPORT**

n/a

**VP OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT**

None

**VP OF STUDENT SERVICES REPORT**

n/a

**CONSENT AGENDA (passed unanimously)**

- Appointed peer reviewers for the Rising Scholars Program
- Appointed members to the Search Committee for VP of Technology

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Academic Program Review Process modification – *LaNae Jaimez*  
(passed unanimously)**

The committee’s goal is to move reviews along more efficiently, to eliminate stagnancy in the response/review process. This is especially important for reviews to benefit from budgeting efforts in March. Chair Jaimez presented a timeline modification: Dean and VP reviews will have 2-4 weeks response time dependent upon the number of program reviews forwarded for their review. The Dean and VP will receive reviews simultaneously.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

***Student and faculty support on the VACA campus - what is working? What is needed?***

Vacaville Center Director Flor de Maria Cruz presented a “then/now” view with student survey data and Senate discussed what next steps to take. Students reported wanting a wider selection of general courses, mostly in mornings (70%) and afternoons (62%), then online (42%) , then evening (31%). Student responses also indicated strong desire for more Library, ASTC, and Counseling services. Additionally, students indicated desire for more “ enhanced student experience ” options at VACA: study groups, clubs, events (movie nights, etc.), food accessibility, gym/health/wellness options, etc.

ASSC Student rep Karissa Brown noted that the Fairfield campus has more appeal due to the volume of class offerings and the overall student services/experience offerings and that some students drive from VACA to FF as a result.

Genele Rhoads presented information on an upcoming Math & Science Family Fun Night (May 11, 5:30-8:00) that will be held at the VACA Multipurpose Room. Please contact Genele for more info. This is a fun way to integrate family and community into the VACA center and to experience some of the interesting diversity of disciplines that M&S offers.

Note: The Senate will meet in Vallejo on March 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss how best to support in-person instruction on that campus. Please come if you are interested in participating in that conversation

**Other**

Visit the [Senate website](#) for minutes & agendas, etc.