



# Academic Senate

## President's Report to YCCD BOT (A.K.A "Howerton Highlights")

Date: October 11, 2018

### Handout for Trustees:

- Senate Norms/Annual Goals &
- ASCCC Breakout descriptions

**Good Evening, and welcome to our campus tonight** It has been a long week for all of us in the district with the accreditation site visits so I will keep my report as brief as possible.

**First, Accreditation site visit -** *I would like to start by all of us taking a big cleansing breath. Take a big breath in ... breathe out. AHHHH!*

The past few weeks have been busy as we prepared for the accreditation site visits that concluded just a few hours ago. Although this week has been busy and hosting a visiting team can disrupt many of our day-to-day processes and feel very invasive, I appreciate the flexibility that faculty demonstrated as multiple interview invitations were being arranged with the team. I also would like to express thanks to our staff (especially the administrative support team) for their endless efforts to coordinate and support many last minute requests. The ASTs' organizational skills and unending positive attitudes are inspiring.

Now we have to wait with baited breath for the official report from our teams.

Tonight I would like to share some additional updates from the WCC Senate as part of my "Howerton Highlights."

**WCC Senate adopted community norms** – As I mentioned in my last report, the WCC Senate was in the process of finalizing and adopting official norms. I am sharing these norms with you tonight. The state Academic Senate's executive committee developed many of these original norms and we used these as a foundation for our own expectations for each other on the Senate. This created a lively discussion and helped us as a group establish explicit understandings for how we would like to interact as leaders for our campus. As you can see, there are four norm categories. The four categories include:

- 1) Authenticity
- 2) Practice Self-Awareness, Presence, and Patience
- 3) Collegiality, Criticism, and Feedback
- 4) Honor the Space and the Dedication of the Committee

*I invite you to read all the norms when you have some additional time. I would also like to thank WCC administration for allowing us to frame these norms and have them on permanent display in our meeting room as a visible reminder of our expectations.*

**Senate Annual Goals:** The WCC Senate finalized our **annual goals**. (*Our official goals for the year are on the back of the community norms for your reference*). As a senate, we assigned various senators to serve as “leads” and “seconds” for each goal to ensure that we move forward on all. During future senate meetings, I will request updates from these workgroups so that the senate as a whole can monitor progress. In our senate discussion, we also recognized various objectives and complimentary components that we need to consider in our work.

**Fall Plenary:** Tomorrow, in preparation for the state academic senate Fall Plenary scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, our area (AREA A) will be meeting to discuss draft proposed resolutions. During this year’s Fall Plenary, I will be participating as a lead for the following two breakout sessions (I have provided the breakout descriptions for you):

- 1) **Accreditation 101:** This session will provide a basic overview of the accreditation process for colleges, as well as updates to accreditation standards including information about disaggregation of SLO data. Also discussed will be changes made to ACCJC to provide consistency in how recommendations are handed down, and how the accreditation process works in multi-college districts.
- 2) **Representing All Faculty: Role of the Senate President:** Senate presidents must work collaboratively with administrators, boards, and other constituencies as they manage the work of the senate and assure faculty primacy in all issues involving the 10 + 1. One of the challenges in this role is to make sure that they are representing all faculty, not just their own department or division. This session will explore strategies that have helped senate presidents to broaden their perspective to help balance the needs of faculty from disparate areas to the campus to make sure that the voices of all faculty are respected when decisions are made.

Finally, I am going to take a moment of personal privilege. This weekend I am heading to Chico for a number of alumni events for the CSUC Communication Studies department. The department notified me a few weeks ago that I was chosen to be induction into their "Forensics' Hall of Fame" during the alumni events. I am humbled for the consideration and the selection.

Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
***Christopher J. Howerton, M.A, Ed.S.***  
*WCC Academic Senate President*