

Christopher Howerton's WCC Academic Senate President's Report*

(May 8, 2020)

**Some reports may be given orally during the 5/8 meeting*

Personal note to all faculty: As the spring 2020 semester comes to an end, I wanted to take a moment to share some end-of-the academic year thoughts with you. I am so proud of the work and effort that all faculty have made to continue to serve our students during such an unusual time with the abrupt move to remote instruction. Although these have been very stressful times, our shared desire to support students and the extra efforts to continue our instruction while providing various support services to students is admirable. We truly are all in this together. We still have a lot of transition ahead of us. Over the next few months we will be: welcoming new faculty members and new administrators to our family; continuing with implementing new strategic enrollment strategies; continuing our Guided Pathways work; and adapting to this "new normal" coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though there is a lot of uncertainty ahead of us, I am thankful and honored for your continued support and endorsement allowing me to serve another 2-year term as your senate president. Like many of you I am really missing the rituals of our spring semester as we acknowledge the work of our students and celebrate their accomplishments. The energy on campus in the spring is exciting and I really miss seeing everyone in person instead of the current reality of multiple ZOOM meetings. I look forward to a time where I can greet you in person. I hope you and your loved ones are safe. Stay Well.

COVID-19 Resources:

1. YCCD Coronavirus resource page – [LINK HERE](#)
2. Link to Dr. Houston's Coronavirus update – [LINK HERE](#)

Off Campus Stuff:

1. ASCCC – Election of Executive Committee Members - As the WCC Senate voting delegate I have now submitted votes for 2 rounds of the ASCCC virtual elections. Current results for the 2020-2021 ASCCC Executive Committee: President- Dolores Davison; Vice-President Virginia "Ginni" May; Secretary – Cheryl Aschenback; Treasurer Mayra Cruz; At-Large – Michelle Bean. Current round of voting for North & South Representatives, then the area elections will follow.

On Campus/District Meetings Stuff:

1. 4/27 - **YCCD Town Hall Mtg.** COVID-19 4-5pm – recording available on the YCCD Coronavirus resource page linked above.
2. 4/29 – **Follow-up Meeting on DE Addendums** – We discussed the timeline and the mechanisms for which we will employ to meet the required deadlines to submit our Emergency Temporary DE addendums to the state. May 20 deadline for Summer, and July 1 for our Fall. We also discussed the professional development and trainings that are going on, as well as accreditation reporting that might be necessary.
3. 4/30 – **WCC Senate leadership meeting with Admin** (standing meeting) -Topics included update on hiring processes, virtual graduation
4. 5/1 – **PIE** – We discussed the CARES act allocation, strong workforce and local process of aligning projects to the guidelines of this allocation, we started to discuss the needed process of new program validation prior to curriculum development, update on the timeline for our Land Based Learning grant, and an update on the new VC with our district budget process. We agreed to stick to a once-a-month meeting schedule for 20-21. We will meet first Fridays from 10-11:45, and 3rd Fridays maybe used for taskforce/workgroups as needed. We have prioritized catalog, PR with staffing integration, scheduling/SEM, and new program vetting process.
5. 5/1 - **College Council** – We discussed the benefit of joint meetings with academic senate. We have tentatively scheduled our first full senate meeting (8/28) as a joint meeting during our first

hour of senate, and the 5th Friday in January as a joint session. I will work with Dr. Pimentel and College Council co-chair to draft the agendas for these joint planning sessions. There was an update provided about the management team structure. The new dean of arts and sciences will start in June. The name of the successful candidate is in the YCCD Board Packet for May. The WCC VPSS selection is still in progress. Hopefully, there will be a successful candidate that will go to the board in June with a July 1st start date. The LCC dean is on the same timeline as the VPSS. The WCC fiscal analyst position closes soon. Faculty search committees are completing their work and selecting final candidates for second round interviews. We also had an update about: the new building and other construction projects on the campus; commencement; the CARES Act; possible student forum for feedback and answers to concerns with our transition to remote instruction. There is also some early discussion about our process of “opening” back up the campus and the necessary steps and precautions.

6. 5/4 – **CLASS – Guided Pathways Meeting** – CANCELED, the group will hold a pre-fall 2020 retreat.
7. 5/4 - **YCCD Town Hall Mtg. COVID-19 4-5pm** – recording available on the YCCD Coronavirus resource page linked above.
8. 5/5 – **DC3 – [AGENDA HERE](#)** an oral update maybe provided during the senate meeting on 5/8
9. 5/7 – **DCAS** – an oral update maybe provided during the senate meeting on 5/8
10. 5/7 – **WCC Student Virtual Forum** 12-1pm – I will be attending with Dr. Pimentel and others – an oral update maybe provided during the senate meeting on 5/8
11. 5/7 – Scheduled to record my message as Senate President for Virtual Commencement
12. 5/7 **WCC Senate leadership meeting with Admin** (standing meeting) – an oral update maybe provided during the senate meeting on 5/8
13. 5/14 – **YCCD BOT Regular Meeting** – This is Zoom Meeting. Agenda can be found on BoardDocs. I will be presenting the newly tenured WCC faculty to the BOT. My presentation and my monthly report to the BOT can be found on the YCCD BOT May 14 Agenda

Other Stuff

1. **This year WCC will have a virtual commencement on May15th.** Dr. Pimentel, Dr. Houston, myself and others are scheduled to record our messages for the event. Trustee Alves will serve at the YCCD BOT representative for our commencement

Performing Arts/Culinary Arts Building Updates

1. There have been several “Deep Dive” meeting with discipline faculty, administration, and the architects to fine tune official detailed drawings for state approval.