

Academic Senate Report



Highlights

- Elections for Senate Officers is underway. Will have new officers in place by May.
- New Peer Online Course Review (POCR) Lead selected. Congratulations to Dr. Jeannette Calo, Media Communications faculty member.
- New resolution introduced by Sharon Sampson focused on effective communication from an equity perspective. Will be voted on in Senate on 3/20/23.
- New resolution will be introduced on 3/20/23 by June Yang called "Students thrive at 35." - Calls for a cap of 35 students in each classroom. Would support faculty with having more time and energy to focus on each of their students, and better able to fulfill Grossmont's vision and mission supporting equity.
- Hosted a presentation from the CFT Legislative team highlighting recent and upcoming legislation that is impacting instruction and counseling.
- Working diligently to fill hiring committees with faculty representatives. Struggling to identify volunteers.
- Continuing to inform faculty of several initiatives in progress aimed at increasing enrollment such as CVC Exchange, compressed calendar, Hyflex trainings, Self-Service transition and so on. These changes continue to add work to all staff at the college, causing burn out and low morale. Still on a bumpy airplane flying through clouds. We will eventually hit clear skies, just not sure when.
- Creating community is important to make it through these difficult times, both on and off the campus. Numerous colleagues participated in the clean up of our Library/Technology center and it was great to see the college community coming together!
- Reminder shared with faculty at first Senate meeting to continue self-care. Shared YouTube video explaining [4-7-8 Breathing Technique](#).

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Academic Senate President's Message



As I am heading towards the end of my first 2-year term as Academic Senate President, I am shifting more of my time and energy towards diversity, equity, social justice and accessibility. In order to do this, I have to educate myself because I am a product of the educational system that I am trying to dismantle; an educational system that was built on white supremacy and does not produce equitable outcomes for all students. I am currently facilitating a book study with the amazing Julio Soto and Dr. Victoria Rodriguez. The book titled, "From Equity Talk to Equity Walk" by McNair, Bensimon & Malcolm-Piquex, has opened my eyes even more by reminding me of the importance of seeing our students from an asset perspective versus a deficit

mindedness one. We often see our students as the problem rather than ourselves and our institution. The group discussions have been full of self-reflection and "aha" moments from participants. I look forward to many more lessons. After all, if we don't educate ourselves, we will not know how to create a more equitable and welcoming college environment for our students.

-Dr. Pearl Lopez

"In higher education, the power to bring about change is mostly in the hands of white leaders, trustees, and faculty. They may embrace the ideals of diversity, inclusiveness, and equity and commit to new initiatives to help 'disadvantaged minorities.' However, their good intentions and benevolence have not led to the dismantling of the structures and policies from which they benefit." From Equity Talk to Equity Walk