

**GROSSMONT COLLEGE**  
**Classified Senate**  
**Friday, October 7, 2022**  
**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**  
**Griffin Gate/Zoom**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85697124708>

**Meeting Summary**

**VISION:** Provide classified staff a voice to participate in the initiation, development, and evaluation of all District policies and procedures that support educational programs and services for students at Grossmont College.

**MISSION:** Grossmont Classified Senate promotes the valuable contributions made by classified professionals in creating an environment that will lead to the greatest level of student success. The Senate encourages the exchange of ideas, understanding and, cooperation between classified staff, faculty, administrators and students, in the best interest of enriching the educational environment.

**2021-2023 Classified Senate e-Board**

<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICERS</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michele Martens-President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rochelle Weiser-Vice President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bernadette Black-Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Graylin Clavell – Interim Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Emerson-Past President

**2022-2024 Classified Senate**

<b>SENATORS</b>	<b>SENATORS</b>	<b>SENATORS</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Hellier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janet Shipstead	<input type="checkbox"/> Ondrea Mesquita
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryan Lam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janice Fischer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pat Murray
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Deitchman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juliana Bertin	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Cline
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Feliciano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karla Garcia	<input type="checkbox"/> Shardai Zaragoza
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Heuft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Jackson	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Miller
<input type="checkbox"/> Debora Curry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Brlas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theresa Apodaca

**Routine Business**

<b>Routine Business</b>	
1. Welcome	Michele welcomed everyone and President Whisenhunt to the meeting.
2. Public Comments	There were no public comments.
3. Approval of 9/16/22 Meeting Minutes	The meeting notes from 9/16 were approved.

<p>4. President's Report</p>	<p>Michele reminded everyone to participate in the NACCC survey that was recently sent out. The deadline to respond is October 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be random drawings to win a gift card for those who participate. The survey is confidential and Grossmont College will not have access to any identifying information.</p> <p>There is a brown bag lunch and learn with CAPS on October 26<sup>th</sup>. They will be addressing earthquakes during this session.</p> <p>Michele shared the Professional Development newsletter noting there are several good opportunities for staff to participate in.</p>
<p><b>For Discussion</b></p>	
<p>5. Getting Real with President Whisenhunt</p>	<p>President Whisenhunt thanked Senate for the invitation to meet and respond to questions from the last "Getting Real" on May 6<sup>th</sup>. She took those items discussed to President's Cabinet to get feedback. President's Cabinet consists of the vice presidents, sr. dean of CPIE, director of college and community relations, and the executive assistant to the president. They meet weekly to discuss items that need immediate attention and what we can do to serve our campus community.</p> <p><u>President Whisenhunt addressed the following items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellness: We are reconvening our wellness efforts by looking into getting access to the gym for staff. They are working with risk management on implications and feasibility.</li> <li>• Administrative support: All VPs currently have administrative support. They are working on filling the permanent position for the VPAA administrative assistant.</li> <li>• Student orientation: There's interest in having orientations for students. They are looking into offering a convocation for students and having students physically present. They are also working on the culture and softening the student experience.</li> <li>• Paperwork: We are working on operational excellence as part of our IEPI. We secured funds from IEPI to have experts come to our campus and help us figure out how to solve our problems; operational excellence is the focus for that visit. We will be thinking about our processes and how to approach change so that we are more efficient. The team will be visiting this month and addressing items we want to focus on for improvement (e.g., NANCE, strategic hires, etc.).</li> <li>• Enrollment: We are down to about 13,000 students. We initiated a CCAP program (dual enrollment) to help increase the capacity.</li> <li>• Remote: Denise does not have answers yet on what are we doing with remote work days.</li> <li>• Custodial issues: There have been challenges with facilities and issues with the supply chain management. Denise also noted we are working on the initiative for "Respect the Griffin" to ensure we are doing our part to</li> </ul>

respect the campus as well as each other.

- COVID heroes: The executive team is working on recognizing our COVID heroes (those who worked full time during COVID).

Follow up questions/comments from Senate:

- It was asked if we can offer a credit course (1 unit) that provides the tools for online students to learn how to take an online class in Canvas. Faculty would like to make it a credit course so students are more willing to take the class. It was also suggested making it a requirement for online courses.
- An in person convocation for students is great. It was suggested providing the same opportunity for online students to participate.

President Whisenhunt's questions for classified – highlights:

What motivates you to come to work?

- Students, my team and watching them grow.
- Helping students.
- Love the action on campus.
- Interaction.
- Likes having influence on making the campus function smoothly and helping people get their work done.
- Inspired to match students' dedication and work ethic every day. Watching their trajectories change and seeing them successfully complete the nursing program and progress into life changing careers never gets old.
- People are seeking community; it's exciting to see that energy on campus and seeing students on campus.
- Nice to see co-workers on campus and getting to know the new people working around me.

What can I do to make it better for work?

- Wellness – Offer employee classes during times they can attend and having a mentor there for assistance; not necessarily a full blown class.
- Continue to support community building and bringing people together.
- Music in the quad during lunch.
- Perhaps offer time for staff to be the audience when performing arts are practicing for their shows.

Ideas how to get out in the community building?

- Presidential forums.
- BBQ during the summer.
- Partner with exercise science and create classes specific for classified (yoga, Zumba); too difficult to get away from the desk and take regular classes.
- Dodgeball tournament. Teams paid to get in and the funds went to support students.

- Soul train; conga line (used to be one for the Chancellor/Classified Senate award).

What motivates you-- Plants? People? Pets?

Classified shared their motivations.

How can we foster and increase communication between administrators, faculty and staff?

- Forums, emails, daily blasts
- Take an admin to work day and have them shadow classified. Classified would sign up if interested. It was added that Classified Senate came up with a program called Campus Connect in the past where people would sign up to host and shadow other classified staff. Faculty were interested in participating in this program so Classified Senate was going to evaluate that but then COVID hit.
- There used to be a Student Services Friday meetings where staff and administrators got together to chat; a water cooler atmosphere.

How might we recognize classified professionals for their contributions?

- Kudos: Nominate a classified employee for a kudos award and have the president deliver a certificate. One liked this idea as it also acknowledges those classified who work behind the scenes.
- Have administrators show up in various offices just to say hi
- Do a walk about around campus

What professional development efforts do you want to see on campus for classified?

- Cross training.
- How to advance, or even make a lateral move within an institution for those who want to explore opportunities.
- Classified professionals presenting professional development workshops to other classified professionals and receiving a stipend.
- Would like to see classified professionals receive a certificate after completing a workshop.
- Professional development workshops were offered during spring break which gave more time for classified professionals to participate. It would also be nice to have help with planning classified professionals week as this was done by classified professionals.
- Community outreach events.
- Be more visible on high school campuses.

What would you tell yourself when you first came here?

- Stay true to yourself.
- Yes you can; common is uncommon; share what you

	<p>know.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect with everyone that comes in the door.</li> <li>• Do not be afraid; you're good enough.</li> <li>• You can do this.</li> <li>• Transfer to Grossmont.</li> </ul> <p><u>What can we do for our enrollment?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach.</li> <li>• Bring back open houses.</li> <li>• Family events on campus.</li> <li>• Offer more credit/no credit, especially in exercise science; it will foster a community for the college.</li> <li>• TikTok is a useful marketing tool.</li> <li>• Bring back Got Plans? to campus. It used to alternate between colleges.</li> </ul>
<b>For Information</b>	
6. Getting Real with Chancellor Neault – TBD	Item not discussed.
<p><b>Next Classified Senate Meeting: Friday, October 21, 2022 @ 1:30-3:00, Griffin Gate / Zoom</b></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Visit the Classified Senate Website Here</u></a></p> <p><b>The next book selection is coming soon!</b></p>	