**Hi All,**

**Look! It’s a** [**dumpster fire**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QFPdGiD8EE)**! No, it’s a** [**rubber stamp**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmZx4j93VPM)**! No, it’s** [**DAS**](https://youtu.be/SlIb2oRbCaU?t=10)**!**

[**DAS Meeting Tuesday, February 5th**](https://youtu.be/XB7R0ZxNgC4?t=66)

[DAS](https://youtu.be/SlIb2oRbCaU?t=10) spent the first hour of the meeting having a [robust discussion](https://youtu.be/l1dnqKGuezo) about nothing directly relevant [to Laney](https://youtu.be/YmKvSHkquho), our [faculty](https://youtu.be/Wzr12gBrXA8?t=60), or, especially [our students](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5jsUavVPjI).

The second hour I offended a few of [my fellow “DisDASters”](https://youtu.be/RedqjMy62HQ?t=5) by stating that [DAS](https://youtu.be/SlIb2oRbCaU?t=10) is ineffective and in need of drastic changes and that led to the latest [robust discussion](https://youtu.be/l1dnqKGuezo) to do nothing to change. The highlight there was a [Faculty Senate President](https://youtu.be/bOtMizMQ6oM?t=6) being shocked(!) I talk to [faculty](https://youtu.be/Wzr12gBrXA8?t=60) at that College because apparently they hadn’t heard that in today’s world [no College is an island](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUgRSmo50gE). Or something. Anyway, [DAS Doing Nothing: 1,374[[1]](#footnote-1)\* vs. DAS Doing Something Other Than ROBUST DISCSUSSION: 0](https://youtu.be/sLm3Khusq_8?t=26)

The last bit involved [robust discussion](https://youtu.be/l1dnqKGuezo) about doing as little as possible regarding the [vote of no confidence](https://youtu.be/jl17CYYSzUw?t=93). [I think that was a success](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag1o3koTLWM).

[**Peralta: Bless This Mess!**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQkehHoptsc)

With the [clock ticking down on the March 1 deadline](https://youtu.be/9jK-NcRmVcw?t=12) to report “[progress](https://youtu.be/i4iQfJftmOU?t=48)” to the [ACCJC](https://youtu.be/awY1MRlMKMc?t=180), [Peralta](https://youtu.be/awY1MRlMKMc?t=221) is in the [normal crisis mode](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmW-ScmGRMA) where the [District Office](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56RsdDNjGI4) makes up some stuff, the [Presidents at the Colleges](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EcjWd-O4jI) are aggrieved but unwilling/unable to fight it, and [faculty](https://youtu.be/Wzr12gBrXA8?t=60) are like that kid in [Kramer vs. Kramer](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNLcfJ06y34): [we just want to be loved but, really, are kind of worthless and probably the reason that Dustin Hoffman’s character and Meryl Streep’s character broke up](https://youtu.be/8kIsYLV8bE8?t=50). The [faculty](https://youtu.be/Wzr12gBrXA8?t=60) are “Billy.”

Specifically:

1. [Finance Group (aka Romaneir Johnson and the Third Wheels)](https://youtu.be/VVxYOQS6ggk?t=41): is, surprise, repeating the [basic plan it had in December but with an $8 million dollar target to gut the Colleges rather than $12 million](https://youtu.be/eyNAlLO1KlE?t=5). The suspense is whether [“shared (mis)governance”](https://youtu.be/HaoySOGlZ_U?t=58) will rubberstamp it this time or continue to play coy. (For those who remember that [DAS](https://youtu.be/SlIb2oRbCaU?t=10) passed its own set of recommendations and are wondering what happened to those all I can say is [Welcome to Peralta](https://youtu.be/awY1MRlMKMc?t=60)!)
2. [Enrollment Management Group (aka Siri Brown and the Invisibles)](https://youtu.be/gO8N3L_aERg?t=15): is certainly coming up with something and I’m sure it will be a [robust and well-integrated plan](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1EHZW4oFGg&t=46s) because…it has to happen eventually, right? On the plus side we’re remaining impressively committed to our “[hear no evil, see no evil, and speak no evi](https://youtu.be/0xJz9dLyRI8?t=16)l” approach to [enrollment](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23cSs1rvbUQ).

Meanwhile [FCMAT](https://youtu.be/owI7DOeO_yg?t=15) is no doubt [FCMATing](https://youtu.be/wM6exo00T5I?t=320) and our [Chancellor](https://youtu.be/siwpn14IE7E) is [brimming with the confidence of a thousand suns](https://youtu.be/nbMBXUVaaHw) while [our Trustees are working on their trust falls](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2numPQ-wkgU).

“[This is fine](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKcAYMb5uk4).” [It’s fine](https://youtu.be/g3qkbc28R_I?t=8).

**What Else?**

Some other things are going on that might as well be thrown in to the Karl Munch’s *Scream* made text that are my …-DAS-…Reports:

The Past/Present/Future is Non-Credit! DAS will likely be rubberstamping a District Report Peralta (“DisRePer!”) regarding expanding non-credit classes now that there’s potentially more revenue available via non-credit classes <cough> I mean now that there’s a robust set of research suggesting that non-credit classes improve <cough, cough> I mean now that we realized that non-credit has a hyphen and not a comma. I think we all feel foolish for having thought it was “non (Fred for ‘no’), credit!” A crucial reminder for why we offer all those English classes…

The part of the expansion of non-credit that’s worth thinking more about is that it’s not at all integrated into any broader enrollment management plan at a District level, we don’t have one which is part of the problem there, and that it seems to be following a pattern that’s emerged with both our Dual Enrollment and Distance Education “plans” (the DE2+NC=Yu for those who remember the strange trip that was 2016 at Laney) whereby there are newish initiatives that could be great that we’d really like to try out so we…have the District lead the initiatives with relatively little integration with the Colleges and then see what happens!

So far this has meant that, for example, our Distance Education courses remain a fairly random hodgepodge in which some faculty have adequate training and support to teach Distance Education classes and some don’t. The outcomes for students are, unfortunately immaterial to offering the classes because for the most part we seem to be throwing a lot of online classes out there because they tend to be popular and are seen as low-effort/low-cost by admin and faculty. A byproduct of this though is that we can also graph, for example, a decline in evening and “non-standard” class time enrollments and our increases in Distance Education.

Likewise we are pushing out Dual Enrollment classes without a coherent plan or strategy for either students OR allocations of FTEF (faculty teaching) and at this point the process is essentially a “portfolio” whereby local schools list what classes they’re looking for and the Colleges can “swipe right” if they too like piña coladas and getting caught in the rain.

All the above is to note that between distance education, dual enrollment, non-credit, and other projects such as our spending on international education we seem to have an expectation of being able to devote additional resources to these things at a time when we’re also being told we need to make deep cuts to our existing programs at the Colleges and I’m wondering how exactly is this expansion of certain programs coupled with severe contractions of other programs going to occur via processes that to date are largely District-driven and not attached to any broader integrated plan? I don’t see how this all adds up, but then neither does our finances so…[who want’s a piña colada](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fsj2wdFDmLk)?

1. \* That number is like much of our finances—it has no basis in reality. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)