

Censure of Interim Vice Chancellor of District General Services Atheria Smith
May 16, 2023

Whereas, the purview of the Laney College Faculty Senate is to assert the faculty role in the 10+1; which includes institutional planning and budget, along with faculty roles in college and district shared governance structures;

Whereas, the senate passed a resolution on March 7 that was forwarded to Interim Vice Chancellor of District General Services on March 15 after the board meeting, requesting a project management timeline, listed by work order, that clearly outlined how all projects at Laney College, emergency and otherwise, will be handled by DGS by April 15, 2023;

Whereas, although the Interim Vice Chancellor acknowledged receipt of the senate's resolution, no project management timeline has been made available, and no communication about the process of the 90-day plan has been offered to the senate, as requested, in writing;

Whereas, some of District General Services' "90-Day Projects" were presented and approved by the Board of Trustees at March 28 consent calendar;

Whereas, at the District Facilities meeting on May 5, a presentation of projects with master service agreements in process was given, and although senate leadership requested this list on May 5, District General Services has not sent this information;

Whereas, Peralta Community College District Board Policy 2510¹ outlines that the Board or its designees will consult collegially with the Academic Senate, by relying primarily upon the advice and recommendations of the senate;

Whereas, Peralta Community College District Board Policy 3250 calls for the chancellor to create a "systematic and integrated system of planning that involves appropriate segments of the college community and is supported by institutional effectiveness research" for institutional planning²;

¹ Education Code Sections 70902(b)(7), 87360, 87458, 87610, 87663; Title 5 Sections 53200 et. seq.(Academic Senate), 51023.5 (Staff), and 51023.73 (Students); ACCJC Accreditation Standards IV.A and IV.D.7 Administrative Procedure 2410, 2511

² Accreditation Standard I.B.9, III.B.4, III.C.2, III.D.2, IV.B.3, and IV.D.5 Title 5, Sections 51008, 51010, 51027, 53003, 54220, 55080, 55190, 55250, 55510, 56270 et seq.

Whereas, regardless of what district leaders deem the “chain of command” to disseminate information, when the senate requests responses and information, as a primarily relied upon body of the district, a collegial response is not only appropriate, but required by law;

Whereas, requests for information from district leadership are consistently incorrectly deemed as adversarial criticisms;

Whereas, requests for information are not only an assertion of the Senate’s rights as a primarily relied upon body, but a collegial opportunity for district leadership to transparently convey necessary information;

Be it Resolved the Senate censures Interim Vice Chancellor of General Services Atheria Smith for a lack of consultation, collaboration, and communication.