

MCAS President's Report to the Senate

February 18, 2021

Summary of College and District Meetings

These are my personal notes of meetings I attend on behalf of the Senate. Rather than attempt to document fully what transpired, I aim to highlight items of particular interest to faculty and the Senate. If you would like additional information, please ask me or consult the official minutes of each meeting.

Board of Trustees: February 16

- Presentation on West Valley's cool new app for students, WVC GO
- Faculty contract negotiation openers approved by the Trustees; this is a required first step in the negotiation process.
- Faculty and community members offered public comments emphasizing the district's strong financial position and the need to support full and part-time faculty.

Fiscal Work Group: February 16

- Review of revisions to Resource Allocation Model (RAM)
 - Some changes to the model but they won't result in major funding shifts between the colleges; calculations are simplified.
 - Generally positive feedback reported from the academic and classified senates.
 - Revisions will be taken to District Council in March for approval.

College Council: February 17

- Stimulus Funding
 - CARES Funding
 - has been spent/allocated
 - student aid
 - food assistance
 - computers, laptops, software licensing
 - CARES MSI
 - Used to cover lost revenue
 - HEERF II
 - Nearly \$1 million for student grants
 - Additional \$4 million
 - May be used to cover lost revenue
 - CBAC will have discussions on spending
- GP Updates/ SOAA
 - SOAA draft shared, March 1 submission deadline [to be reviewed at MCAS 2/18 and 2/25]

- Early College High School 9th Grade Expansion
 - Same presentation given to MCAS on 2/11
 - Discussion on ways to support faculty and provide clear guidelines for 9th graders
 - Student government representatives spoke about mental health challenges that they see as increasing during COVID and the need for more support; noted students feel the need for human interaction with instructors and flexibility

Upcoming Events and Dates of Note

- Faculty Tenure Reception: 4:30-6:00, Tuesday, March 16
- ASCCC Spring Plenary April 15-17
 - Online; early registration deadline is March 15
 - Senators and interested faculty are encouraged to attend. MCAS has funds to pay for registration.