



FRESH BEGINNINGS: WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO GREATNESS?

From the Academic Senate President...

What inspires you to greatness? As ordinary as you may think you are, you possess a unique set of gifts, which you can, if you choose, use to do wonderful things in your life. If you don't do those things, then who will? And if now is not the time to begin, then when? Just imagine the ways you might touch, enrich, and inspire the lives of others by honoring your own greatness from this day on. The possibilities are endless!

As we consider the implications of beginning a new calendar year, consider your resolutions for the year. As academicians, we get lots of chances to make a fresh start. We're talking about New Year's Resolutions, but each September we start a new academic year and each semester we get a "do over". Don't like the way the last semester went? Make some changes, tweak the syllabus a bit, and try again. See if you can reach a few more students with a slightly different approach. Given our chances to make fresh starts, think about what inspires you to greatness. This quote—often inaccurately attributed to Nelson Mandela—makes the point that we are all destined for greatness:

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world. There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We are born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

Let's resolve to liberate as many students as we can in 2010. Happy Holidays and have a safe and wonderful New Year. See you at Spring Flex Day on February 4, 2010.

Message From Dr. Daniels

We have had a very good semester. Our total enrollment has exceeded 8,500, and we are at the highest enrollment ever for LASC. The building program under Proposition J has taken off. The user groups for both the Career-Technical Center and the Visual, Communications, and Performing Arts Complex is well under way. The latter part of this week, the user groups will be in a charette with the three final Design/Build candidates that will be presenting their proposals in mid-February. The preliminary programming has been completed. I believe that the college will finalize its final projects by the beginning of Spring and we will be on schedule to have our college "built-out" by 2012. The college, under Dean Duenas, is churning out grants. By the end of January 2010, we will have submitted close to 10 grants to local, state, and federal agencies. With all the good work you are doing in the classrooms, we must also be continually mindful of accreditation standards and the absolute necessity to improve upon our students' success. The Spring Flex Day will focus on basic skills and student success. The presentations/activities planned for that day will strengthen our foundation in enhancing student success at LASC. As we look forward to the new year, please accept my wishes for a Great Holiday Season!

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ *Spring Flex Day will be held February 4, 2010 from 8 am—2 pm. Specific details will be sent out in January*
- ◆ *The next Senate meeting will be held Tuesday, December 8th at 12:30 p.m. in room SSC 315 (the old Student Services building) Lunch is served at 12:30, meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. Trustee Sylvia Scott-Hayes will be our special guest.*

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

What does the Academic Senate do? What is the Academic Senate responsible for?

Academic Senate means an organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to *academic and professional matters*.

In the spirit of AB 1725 and in accordance with Title 5 and the Education Code, the College President, as the designated representative of the Board of Trustees, and the Academic Senate of LASC have agreed to consult collegially in formulating, changing, and/or improving policies in those areas referred to as “Academic and Professional Matters” (commonly referred to as 10 + 1) as cited in Title 5, Article 2, Section 53200(c). Consult collegially means that policies have been or will be developed on academic and professional matters through either of the following:

1. **Rely primarily** upon the advice and judgment of the *Academic Senate*, **OR**
2. The College President and the *Academic Senate* shall reach **mutual agreement** by written resolution, regulation, or policy of the governing board effectuating such recommendations.

In the event of initial non-agreement, the Academic Senate and the College President will continue to consult collegially. If agreement cannot be reached, the Academic Senate reserves the right to seek redress elsewhere in the event the College President fails to rely primarily on or reach mutual consent with the Academic Senate on academic and professional matters under this agreement.

1. In those areas where the Shared Governance Agreement states that the President will rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the *Academic Senate*, the recommendation of the Senate will normally be accepted, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations not be accepted.

2. In those areas where the Shared Governance Agreement states that the President will reach mutual agreement with the *Academic Senate*, and an agreement has not been reached, existing policy shall remain in effect unless such policy exposes the College or district to legal liability or substantial fiscal hardship. In cases where there is no existing policy, or when legal liability or substantial fiscal hardship requires existing policy to be changed, the board may act, after a good faith effort to reach agreement, only for compelling legal, fiscal, or organizational reasons.

(Source: LASC Shared Governance Agreement)

| 10 + 1 ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MATTERS | LASC SHARED GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT |
|--|---|
| 1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites. | Rely Primarily |
| 2. Degree and certificate requirements. | Rely Primarily |
| 3. Grading policies. | Rely Primarily |
| 4. Educational program development. | Rely Primarily |
| 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success. | Mutual Agreement |
| 6. College governance structures, as related to faculty roles. | Mutual Agreement |
| 7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes. | Mutual Agreement |
| 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities. | Rely Primarily |
| 9. Processes for program review. | Mutual Agreement |
| 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development. | Mutual Agreement |
| 11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon. | Mutual Agreement |

A Message to Adjunct Faculty

As the fall semester nears its conclusion and as we get ready for 2010, we continue to endure a very tough budget situation that is impacting everyone and not just the adjunct faculty. However, this might be an opportune time for us adjuncts, as an essential component in the education of our students, to keep our heads up high and to reflect on our performance and on our contribution to helping our students succeed. After all, the success of our students is, and should always be, our number one job and we always have to strive very hard to achieve that goal.

The LASC Academic Senate is addressing the issues that are of importance to adjunct faculty members in order to help them succeed in their mission. Some of those issues deal with classroom management and administrative procedures such as grade changes, 'in-lieu-of', and 'incomplete' requests. Another issue deals with the encouragement of adjuncts to use district-provided e-mail addresses to show connection to the campus: this will go along way to show our students that we are an integral part of this college community and that we belong. Finally, the Senate is in the process of developing an adjunct survey to figure out our concerns, needs, and suggestions on how the college can help us succeed in our mission.

Again, thank you for your hard work and dedication, have a nice Holidays and winter break and see you all on Flex Day February 4th.

Hassan Elfarissi
LASC Academic Senate Adjunct Representative
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"Encourage someone today. Be an Angel to somebody today. Be a Blessing to those who deserve it and those who do not, because you may never know whose life you are turning around. Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."
— Author Unknown

NEWS FROM THE STATE ACADEMIC SENATE

Leadership, Empowerment, Voice

What is the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC)?

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges fosters the effective participation by community college faculty in all statewide and local academic and professional matters; develops, promotes, and acts upon policies responding to statewide concerns; and serves as the official voice of the faculty of California Community Colleges in academic and professional matters. The Academic Senate strengthens and supports the local senates of all California community colleges.

The fall 2009 Plenary Session was held November 12th – 14th. Because faculty leadership is so critical at this time, the ASCCC adopted new value statements at the Plenary Session: **Leadership, Empowerment, Voice**. The ASCCC prides itself on providing **leadership** development opportunities through all of its events. The resolutions, publications, website and presentations help to **empower** faculty statewide as they participate in policy development and governance activities. And the result of all the ASCCC does is to ensure the faculty **voice** in academic and professional matters---locally and at the state level. Because of the LASC Academic Senate's firm commitment to supporting the work of the ASCCC and our firm commitment to these values, look for these value statements to be incorporated into the work that is done by your local senate.

Get involved! Get involved! Get involved! The ASCCC is always on the lookout for faculty participation and is accepting applications for committee membership. The application and a listing of the available committees is posted on the ASCCC website (www.asccc.org/ExecCom/Nomin.htm).



**LOS ANGELES SOUTHWEST COLLEGE
ACADEMIC SENATE**

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Next Meeting:
December 8, 2009 at 12:30 in SSC 315

**Check Us Out Online at www.lasc.edu
From the "For Faculty and Staff" page,
click on "Academic Senate"**

**Join The
Community:**

Senate membership dues now due
See Joan Ann Mrava: x5332

The Academic Senate of Los Angeles Southwest College is the representative body for LASC faculty consisting primarily of elected representatives. As the official voice of the faculty in matters of campus-wide concern, LASC's Academic Senate provides the means for faculty to participate in the shared governance of the college. It strives to further the academic mission and integrity of the college as a community of scholars and professionals dedicated to providing an environment for quality learning. The Senate acts as a whole, or in committees and task forces, to address a wide range of academic, professional and administrative issues. These include the primary concerns of representing the faculty of LASC in all academic and professional matters, and seeking to support the mission, vision, and values of Los Angeles Southwest College.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

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|------------------------------------|--|
| President—Dr. Allison Moore | District Academic Senate |
| Vice President—Sabrena Turner-Odom | Representatives: Kathi Cliff and Linda Larson-Singer |
| Secretary—Darren Cifarelli | Part Time Representative — Hassan Elfarrisi |
| Treasurer—Joan Ann Mrava | Chair of Chairs—Reggie Morris |
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Greg Sandoval, *Interim Vice President, Student Services*
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