

## University Senate Chair Report

### August 30, 2022

Welcome to the 2022/2023 edition of the University Senate!

I hope everyone had a rejuvenating summer and a great first week of the fall term. Much has happened over the summer and over the next few Senate meetings we will ask several of our fellow Senators and invited guests to provide updates on the many initiatives and personnel changes taking place across the University. We will also begin our standing committee meetings, where the real work of shared governance takes place. Please note that the [University Senate homepage](#) has a live calendar where all of our meetings and all of the Senate's standing committee meetings are listed. Likewise, if there is something that you would like to have come before the Senate, there is a [button](#) on our homepage that allows you to suggest a future agenda item.

One point of pride from last year's Senate was that the overall tone and atmosphere of the Senate was remarkably collegial. Though far from perfect, as a body we did a pretty good job of speaking with one another with the respect each of us deserves (most of the time!). As such, I would once again make the same requests that I made in last year's first Senate Chair's report:

1. *I ask all of us to offer a little grace to each other (and ourselves) as we often have no idea the burden that our colleagues and students carry daily.*
2. *I ask that we reset our expectations of each other, know that each member of our HSU/CAI Poly Humboldt community is deeply invested in the success of our University and is working to provide students with an exceptional education, that we always assume our colleague's intentions to be good and true, and that we treat each other with the respect each of us deserves.*

As part of this second request, I implore all of us to heed the wisdom of our CFA President Loren Cannon who wrote the following as part of a discussion on our CFA Interruption Statement that we read at the beginning of each Senate meeting:

*"It is our intent to foster a community of 'calling in' and not 'calling out,' a community built on the foundations of respect and compassion as we engage with each other across differences in positionality and privilege. We attempt to both assume the best intentions of our colleagues and recognize that we all have much to learn from each other. We commit to listen to each other and craft any disagreements so that the focus remains on the important issues at hand and refrain from personal character attacks."*

Ultimately the Senate should be a place where each of us can be comfortable as our whole selves, (sometimes passionately) discuss issues, represent our constituents and work together to improve Cal Poly Humboldt. A measure of (cultural, intellectual, etc.) humility can go a long way.

I look forward to working with each of you!

Thanks,  
Monty