

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
Senate Chair's Report
Senate Meeting, December 10, 2019

This is our last Senate meeting of the calendar year and it is Provost Alex Enyedi's last Senate meeting at Humboldt State University. I thank him for his hard work on behalf of HSU and wish him the best in his new role as president of SUNY-Plattsburgh. In January, CAHSS Dean Lisa Bond-Maupin will be stepping up to the role of interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs. The current plan is to conduct a search for a permanent provost during the Spring semester. The composition of the search committee is outlined in section 710 of the Faculty Handbook, and includes the election of a faculty representative from each of the colleges plus the library. A call for nominations to serve on this search committee should be coming soon.

The President Jackson investiture events will take place on January 15, the first day of the Spring semester, prior to the first Senate meeting (January 28). I will take part in these events, including contributing some remarks during the ceremony, and I encourage senators to support this important campus event by attending.

Also prior to the first Spring Senate meeting, the AVP for Institutional Effectiveness, Lisa Castellino, will offer separate forums for staff and faculty regarding the results of the Great Colleges to Work For survey taken by faculty, staff and administrators during Spring, 2019, semester. The forum for faculty will take place on Friday, January 24, 2020, 1:00-3:00pm, in Goodwin Forum, and the forum for staff will take place on Tuesday, February 4, 9:00-11:00am (location TBD).

Based on the feedback I received during and after the November 12 Senate meeting, I conveyed some concern to President Jackson and his team about how the presidential Cabinet will function in relation to the Senate. Specifically, based on the draft document I provided accompanying my Chair report, some folks thought that the committees of the Cabinet might be generating and implementing policy without consultation with the Senate. The Cabinet as a committee of stakeholders is evolving, and I have been assured that it has never been the plan for it to be a policy-making body. Rather, the group provides feedback to the President on issues that he and his executive team have identified as campus priorities. If a policy recommendation comes from these conversations, then it will be referred to the appropriate Senate committee. Sherie Gordon, the Chief of Staff in the Office of the President, has offered to provide additional information about the structure, composition, and duties of the Cabinet to address any questions or concerns about its work.

At the invitation of Council of American Indian Faculty and Staff (CAIFS) and President Jackson, on November 14, I attended the Tribal Nations Welcome for President Jackson organized by members of CAIFS. This event honored the university's ongoing relationships with tribal nations and helped representatives of the university to build deeper connections with local indigenous people. It was generally agreed among attendees that the event was a success and that representatives of HSU and the tribal nations of our region should hold more events like it.

Thank you to the URPC for organizing a very successful participatory budget forum, which took place on Tuesday, December 3. Due to the presidential transition, the URPC's budget recommendation will be presented to President Jackson by the end of this calendar year. The Senate will likely review this recommendation at its first meeting of the Spring semester. Information from the forums and the work product of the URPC can be found on the University Budget Office's [site](#). This week the Student Success Alliance (SSA), of which I am co-chair, issued its first request for proposals for AY 20-21 GI2025 funds;

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the RFP along with FAQ's about it also will be linked on the University Budget Office site. Thanks to Budget Director Amber Blakeslee for all the hard work she contributes to support the URPC and the SSA and for making so much information about the budget accessible to the campus community.

On December 6, 2019, I received an email from Provost Enyedi detailing why he is recommending that President Jackson not sign 02-19/20-FAC – Resolution on Excess Enrollment Policy passed by the Senate on November 12. The policy change that the resolution seeks to address is currently the subject of a grievance brought by the California Faculty Association, with arbitration set for February 2020. CFA President Renee Byrd confirmed that the grievance is ongoing, with efforts being made by both parties to avoid arbitration; nevertheless, arbitration seems likely and the outcome of that process will provide guidance for an excess enrollment policy moving forward. Specific reasons that Provost Enyedi suggested make the proposed policy “problematic in its current form” are:

1. The proposed policy allows the instructor of a class to determine which option, assigned time or a student assistant, they should obtain. This decision can have budget implications and has been an administrative decision under the old policy and practice.
2. The proposed policy also lowers the number of enrolled students that would be needed to consider a course to have excess enrollment.
3. The proposed policy allows for a faculty member to be granted assigned WTU for more than one class with an excess enrollment.

On December 12, I will be participating via zoom in the CSU Senate Chairs meeting. Campus responses to the ASCSU ethnic studies requirement proposal will be on agenda, among other items currently facing Campus Senates.