

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

University Senate

Dear University Senators,

Welcome to the 20-21 University Senate.

This year the Senate Executive Committee will center our May 2020 [Statement in Support of Black Lives](#). As we generate and prioritize our shared governance actions this year, we will regularly revisit the goals therein that focus on Black lives and our collective struggles for racial justice. As part of this process, we also embrace our responsibility as an Hispanic Serving Institution.

To that end, in your leadership and service on the Senate and other shared governance committees at all levels, I ask that you (continue to) adopt an equity and racial justice lens in developing new and assessing existing policy and practices.

The USC Center for Urban Education offers one "[Protocol...](#)" including a one-page overview that summarizes six equity-minded policy indicators including language, disproportionate impact, and framing (p. 31). This protocol will soon be linked to our Senate website governance resources.

Your work this year communicating with your constituents is perhaps more important than ever. As we continue telework from home with few opportunities for informal interaction and relationship building, consider leveraging our technology platforms to foster opportunities for engagement:

- (Co) write an email introducing yourself to your constituents. Invite them to "tune in" to University Senate meetings on Tuesdays and provide information on connecting with you directly;
- (Co) write a few brief "highlights" emails to constituents on chosen University Senate work or upcoming actions;
- (Co) convene in Zoom a constituent town hall gathering; and
- Share with other senators your own creative ways for engaging.

Finally, consider contributing to the new photo library in development and rotation on the University Senate homepage. Send a screen capture of your zoom committee meeting or other creative image ideas around shared governance to Mary.Watson@humboldt.edu.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership,

Mary Virnoche
Professor of Sociology
General Faculty President and
University Senate Chair