

# HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

## Senate Chair's Report

September 1, 2015

Welcome back! This year we welcome several new Senators, including Jeffrey Dunk, Edward Vasquez, Kerri Malloy, Mark Wilson, and Elias Pence. Thank you all for agreeing to serve, and thank you to all Senators who continue to work on the Senate. We all face an impossible number of demands for our time, and we all are stretched beyond reasonable limits. Thank you for your service, particularly in light of these competing demands.

The University Senate really is an interesting creature. Of the 23 campuses in the CSU, the vast majority have Senates comprised only of faculty. Some have student senators. Only a handful bring together faculty, staff, students, and administrators from across campus to work together to address common issues. I think this is a strength of our model of shared governance. We are stronger because of the diversity of perspectives, backgrounds, and knowledge we bring to the table. We are stronger because we sit around the same table and discuss challenges we face together. We are stronger and more effective because we can articulate a common vision that transcends divisional and departmental silos.

We also have a special responsibility as Senators to represent the University communities, to work together as a deliberative, shared governance body and ensure that Humboldt State University lives up to its mission, vision, and values. I look forward to working with all of you this year to achieve these goals.

Over the summer the Senate Executive Committee approved revisions to the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle policy passed by the Senate last year. The revisions are noted as tracked changes in the revised policy in your agenda packet this week.

As a Senate, we have a busy year ahead of us. Implementation of the strategic plan will no doubt be the highest priority. Efforts have already begun to help the Implementation Committee begin its work. The University Resources and Planning Committee is reviewing ways to make the budget process more transparent, efficient, and effective. Both Faculty Affairs and Academic Policies have full agendas. And the campus must begin work on the WASC reaccreditation self-study. Working together, I have no doubt we will make great progress on these and other issues this year.