Dear :

In consultation with the DE Leadership, I want to offer suggested changes (underlined/strikeout) to the current Contract Standards for DE Faculty Certification.

**Contract (2016-19) 3.16.1** Prior to teaching an online course for College of the Redwoods, faculty and associate faculty must do at least ONE of the following:

1. Complete the College of the Redwoods Online Teaching and Learning Training sponsored by the CR DE Planning Committee in consultation with the Academic Senate which consists of approximately 40 hours of training in regular and effective contact, digital accessibility, best practices in online course design, instructor-prepared materials, assessment and federal, state and local policies with a passing score of at least 70%.
2. Earn a Certificate of Completion in Online Teaching from an accredited college or university~~, such as the UCLA Online Teaching Program, Cerro Coso Online Educators Certificate Program~~ that is comparable with CR’s Online Teaching and Learning Training, or an @One Teaching Certification Program, such as Online Education Standards & Practices (OESP).
3. ~~Provide documentation of prior successful experience in teaching online courses at College of the Redwoods.~~

A critical part of this revision needs to reflect the importance of ***training and preparation in online instruction.*** Current language by the ACCJC regarding online faculty reads: *Evidence of* ***faculty training*** *on best practices for “regular and substantive” interaction in distance education* (Appendix H Recommended Protocol for Peer Review of Distance Education ACCJC 2018).

Additionally, proposed language for Title 5 (2018) includes: **§ 55208. Faculty Selection and Workload.** (b) Instructors of distance education **shall be prepared** to teach the in specific distance education delivery method in alignment with local district policies and negotiated agreements.

Moreover, in the Spring 2018, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supported changes to Title 5 §§ 55200-55210 specific to distance education in Resolution 06.08.

The current contract language is problematic in that “prior successful experience” is difficult to assess for non-District faculty recruited for online instruction. Moreover, the current contract language will continue the practice of certifying faculty to teach online without any demonstrated **training or preparation**. Implementing the above language will be in compliance with the ACCJC and Title 5, and improve the quality of the District’s online education.