

BOT Report September 2016

Faculty are happy to be back and we are off to a good start this academic year. Convocation was a lot of fun, and the various sessions offered something for everyone – training, information and updates. The lunch sessions and ice cream social were especially welcome as an opportunity to get to know each other better. For the first time, Associate Faculty were acknowledged for their years of teaching; a small but important step in recognizing the essential and dedicated service of Associate Faculty.

Todd Olsen, our incoming Academic Senate Co-President, invited Jonathan Lightman, the Executive Director of FACCC, (Faculty Association of California Community Colleges) to our campus. Jonathan gave three presentations, two at convocation and one at the Senate retreat, as well as meeting with CRFO and faculty during dinner Thursday and Friday evenings. He provided legislative updates from multiple perspectives to each group. He strongly supports the District's efforts to increase the legislature's awareness of the unique needs of rural community colleges and suggested ways to raise the visibility of College of the Redwoods state-wide. Thank you, Todd, for making Jonathan's visit possible and for serving as host. He went away with a clear view of the importance of the whole College to our region and the beauty of the Eureka campus (maybe next time we can arrange a visit to Del Norte and KT, too). The Academic Senate thanks CRFO for their financial support, making Jonathan's visit possible by paying his travel expenses.

The Senate retreat and the first Senate meeting were dedicated to updates and beginning the work of determining our goals and objectives for the year with the ACCJC self-study, the preparation for the accreditation team visit in Fall 2017, and the search for a permanent President being the highest priorities. The retreat went off without a hitch due to Debbie's capable planning and implementation.

Everyone enjoyed Babe's pizza for lunch thanks to the support of Dr. Snow-Flamer. And now Todd and I are focused on appointing faculty to the various Senate and District Committees, so necessary for shared governance of the District.

Last, but not least: In any and every way you can, please support propositions 51 and 55. These propositions provide absolutely necessary funding for K-12 and Community Colleges. Our funding situation will be dire without their passage.