

## Brian Page

My name is Brian Page, and I am asking for your vote to continue serving on the Academic Senate. My main interest for serving on the Senate is that I want to contribute to maintaining the positive and beneficial aspects of the environment that I have experienced since I started teaching here. While I recognize the issues that we as Associate Faculty still do face, I also value the positive aspects of the campus environment that I have experienced, and want to work to maintain them. This was why I made my first foray into campus governance when I joined the Professional Development Committee eight years ago, to directly contribute to one aspect of MiraCosta that I have found especially impactful. During my five years on Senate thus far, I have done my best to learn from many of my colleagues who advocate passionately for Associate Faculty needs and parity, while also bringing our unique and diverse perspectives into campus discussions.

One issue where Senate must continue to play an important role is the debate over the scope and impacts of the new pending Director of Professional Development and Training position. As I mentioned, my first participation in campus governance was inspired by the massive positive impact that our faculty professional development program had for me. Thus, I'm well aware of the importance of our primacy over faculty professional development, and how much we value being able to tailor our professional growth to our individual needs. Academic Senate, along with our PDP subcommittee, must continue to provide a strong faculty voice to ensure that our primacy is maintained.

As we face ongoing changes within the education system at the state and national levels, Academic Senate must continue to help lead the way as we pursue MiraCosta's mission and institutional values, focused on students success. In particular, we must strongly support and advocate for programs that we know provide a positive impact on student success, especially for our most marginalized student populations. This means hearing faculty concerns, and working to ensure that the necessary institutional policies are in place to protect faculty's intellectual freedom and teaching safety against external pressures.

Another important issue for the Senate to continue working on is the ongoing push to help more Associate Faculty serve on campus governance committees. I think we have taken a significant step forward by incorporating Associate Faculty into the formal Committee Call process in recent years, instead of the ad hoc process we've seen in the past. Nonetheless, there is far more work to be done in order to ensure that service on governance committees is open to more associate faculty in practical terms. These committees are where so much of the day-to-day work of campus governance takes place, so it is vital that we continue to push for more Associate Faculty representation in all of those conversations. These committees are where we can make our experiences and our voices heard, and where we can continue to build the ranks of our leadership.

I would deeply appreciate the opportunity to continue serving as one of your Senate representatives, and I ask for your vote in order to do so. Thank you.

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