Foothill College Academic Senate
Academic Year: 2020-21
Monthly Committee Reports
7th Report May 13, 2021

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Academic Senate Sub-Committees

College Curriculum Committee
Co-Chaired with Office of Instruction
See CCC Communiques

Committee on Online Learning (COOL)
Co-Chaired with Office of Online Learning
Reported by Faculty Co-Chair, Kerri Ryer
The COOL committee working group on online proctoring software presented their findings and a resolution against funding Proctorio and calling for institutional support for professional development opportunities to help faculty transition to authentic assessments. After an in-depth discussion of both the benefits and drawbacks of Proctorio use, the committee voted to adopted the resolution and forward it to the Academic Senate. COOL also formed a simple syllabus tool working group to develop a simple syllabus template and pilot the new tool. Election of the COOL Co-Chair position was also discussed, and the committee was informed of the possibility of release time for the position. The next COOL meeting will be held May 21st from 11am-12pm on Zoom. Please join COOL on our open Canvas shell and consider attending our meetings. At our next meeting we will be brainstorming ways to better employ Lottery Funds to serve online students, discuss funding and the budget for the Online Learning Office, and present a draft of the Equity Affirmation. The COOL committee is actively recruiting for members from the divisions of: Apprenticeship, Language Arts, and the Student Resource Center.

Ethnic Studies Steering Committee & Advisory Committee
Reported by faculty co-chair David Marasco
The Steering Committee meets as needed to address operational issues. As the FT hire is currently in process, and the preliminary CORs have been written, there has been no need for a recent meeting.
The Advisory Committee met on April 30. Dates for the remainder of the year were determined. The committee will meet on May 28 from 3-4 and June 11 from 2-3, with a possible May 14 meeting, time TBD. Contact David Marasco at marascodavid@foothill.edu for more information.
The main topic of discussion for the April 30 meeting was the eventual divisional home for Ethnic Studies. This was viewed from two different perspectives. In the short term, the priority needs to be the establishment of the department, and support of the new faculty member. This argues for Ethnic Studies to remain in the Language Arts division for at least two years. However, this should not preclude discussion of the eventual home of Ethnic Studies in the mean time. Consideration needs to be given to what structures will best support the long-term growth and development of the program.

COVID Scheduling Taskforce
Co-Chaired with Office of Instruction, Kristy Lisle
Reported by Mary Thomas
Summary of notes from mid-March through early May 2021:

- For 2021/22 Judy Miner has announced that no one will be required to return to campus, nor will vaccination be required.
- All requests for faculty and staff who want to work on campus in the spring have been granted. Everyone will be required to sign a *Return to Campus Guidelines Agreement*, and PPE kits will be available for each person in their office or classroom. Faculty who didn't make a request but would still like to come to campus this quarter should email Kristy Lisle.
- Athletes have returned to campus for conditioning classes.
- Faculty requested 40-50 classes to return to campus in the summer and 100-110 for the fall and filled out the templates detailing schedule and needs.
- Some student services will be brought back in the fall, and the library plans to re-open in a limited way.
- Some faculty are concerned that the District has different contact-tracing apps for students (Modo) and for faculty/staff (Optimum HQ).
- Some faculty would like to meet in small groups with their students this spring; Kristy will take this request to the EOC, and it may go to the RTC Council as well. Requests would need to meet the prioritization guidelines and funding be determined.
- FA is recommending mandatory vaccination for all employees and students with exemptions as needed. If that were to happen, could more classes return in the fall?

Senate Constitution Workgroup

Reported by co-chair Kathryn Maurer

The Constitution Workgroup wrapped up their work for proposed amendments to be made this year the academic senate constitution & by-laws on April 5th so have time for discussion/action at senate and then to be ratified by general election (all faculty) before the end of the academic year. The group still has work to do to address its full charter, so it will continue once the changes are made for this year. In addition to a number of minor updates in nearly every article of the constitution, the major proposed amendments for this year include:

1. adding an additional officer, Executive Vice President, and changing the name of the Vice President to the Vice President of Curriculum, and detailing the duties of both;
2. revising the division list for faculty representation on the Executive Committee
3. adding new voting members to the Executive Committee: ASFC President, Classified Senate President, Faculty Professional Development Coordinator, Faculty Chair of COOL, FA representative and SLO Coordinator(s) (if/when we appoint them).

The Exec Committee is slated to approve the amendments (new full draft of the constitution) at its May 24th meeting, which will be followed by a general election so all faculty can ratify the amendments and also vote on candidates from May 26 – June 4th.

Program Discontinuance Workgroup

Reported by co-chair Kathryn Maurer

This workgroup is on hold for now, given the priority of working on the Program Creation process, and these two workgroups being comprised of many of the same members.

Program Creation Workgroup

Reported by co-chair Kathryn Maurer

Still awaiting CCC appointments to begin work.

Governance Councils & Study Groups

Advisory Council (Council)

Reported by Faculty Tri-Chair, Kathryn Maurer

AC met on April 9th and received a budget update from Bret Watson. He said that a Budget Request Review Study Group has been formed under R&R to review program requests. He also said that the budget panorama is much more optimistic now. We have quite a bit of money to spend.

Kristy Lisle gave us an update on the status of the 2020-21 Program Reviews. All are going well, and are slated to give presentations to Advisory Council – dates are May 7th and May 12th.

Ram Subramaniam, and other members of the faculty prioritization committee, presented a second list of ranked faculty positions to consider hiring this year, given the release of SRP funds allowing for more hires. After discussion, Advisory Council voted to move the trauma-informed counselor position to the third rank.

AC dedicated the May 7th and 12th meetings to hearing the program review presentations.

Community & Communication Council (C&C)

Reported by Faculty Tri-Chair, Laura Gamez

C&C met on 4.23.21

Students presented a resolution for a Student Quad Chair position. C&C voted in favor to support the Student Quad Chair resolution, and asked Resource and Revenue Council to explore options for compensation.

The preliminary findings of the governance evaluation were discussed, the RP group will be joining the May 21st meeting, with a focus on clarification regarding process and/or findings. The full report will be delivered to the college by the end of May.

The Governance Memo from President Nguyen and the Academic Senate Letter to President Nguyen were discussed with an emphasis on what is C&C's role, and what the next steps should be. A motion was put forward in support of the governance task force requested by Academic Senate, but there lacked quorum for a vote. The special vote took place on 5.3.21.

The Participatory Governance Accreditation Writing team presented their first draft, with their first draft due by April 30. Many of the tasks fall under C&C's purview, however with the uncertainty of the governance system functioning the same next year, it was unclear if the tasks will be charged to C&C or to the "governance task force" if formed.

C&C met for a special vote on 5.3.21

C&C voted in favor of the creation of the "governance task force" with the request the council postpone any work on Governance that has been included in C&C's charge until the completion of the Taskforce work and the adoption of any changes to the Governance Structure, with the express request that the Taskforce prioritize planning for transitions between the 20-21 councils and the incoming 21-22 councils. C&C Council will continue to work towards improved Communication and Community as we return to campus.

Equity & Education Council (E&E)

Reported by Faculty Tri-Chair, Patrick Morriss

No report.

Reported by Faculty Tri-Chair, Cara Miyasaki
April 9th Meeting:

1. Student update
    a. ASFC upcoming elections
    b. Town Hall Tuesday 11-12:30 Disability awareness
    c. Club Day is 1 pm-3:15 pm next Wed, April 14
    d. Campus safety - student focus groups will meet with District consultant
2. President's update
    a. New land acknowledgement
    b. Muslim Heritage Month
    c. Board of Trustees - discussions about student housing - May Board meeting may have more solidified info
    d. Budget development regards to SRP (Program retirement enabling faculty/staff to retire early)
        i. in 3 years the program can re-hire for SRP retirements - now early savings from SRP will enable college to get funding a year early to hire full-time tenure track faculty but exact number is not known until Board approves the budget (out of 8.4 who retired) - maybe announce at June meeting
3. College Promise (Elias) - [see Elias's attached ppt](#)
    a. 448K budget deficit for 2020-21 - carryover and lottery funding will cover this deficit
    b. Changes must be made for 2021-22 academic year
    c. Recommendations
        i. Maintain fee waiver benefit for all qualifying students
        ii. Significantly limit textbook benefit for qualifying Puente, Umoja, Foster Youth and EOPS students including PT students in other than EOPS program
            1. other funding sources for low-income students will be used for textbook purchases
        iii. Motion: Maintain the fee waiver benefit for all qualifying students with current eligibility criteria. Provide textbook support for a limited subset of students for qualifying Puente, Umoja, Foster Youth and EOPS students including PT students in other than the EOPS program
4. Carryover B budget equity investment continuation
    a. Previous motion: Fund equity initiatives using one time carry over B budget und for a minimum of 3 years (to reassess at that amount, amount to be determined). No move will be made until funding and process have been determined.
    b. Discussion about additional recommendation: Motion approved: **Recommend that E&E Council work with the equity office to identify and prioritize a list of equity initiatives with a dollar amount that could be funded by one-time carryover B budget funds and present that list to R&R council at a future meeting**
    c. Also recommend that if determined that position(s) be funded with this money, that they also identify an ongoing funding source.
5. Facilities process for items below the $175 million line for Measure G (includes JCC, Observatory and Dental Assisting/Hygiene and other projects
    a. Motion approved: **Convene the Facilities Master Plan Study Group to prioritize projects that fall below the 175 million to use measure C and capital funds or other sources - present at the R&R May meeting a prioritized list**

6. Other finance and administrative services update
   a. Facilities Master Plan attachment: https://foothill.edu/gov/revenue-and-resources/2020-21/apr9/FMP%203-5-21%20presentation%20DRAFT%20for%20review.pdf
   b. Bookstore RFP- request for proposal submitted
      i. Vendor proposals being scored and presentations by the vendors
         1. Board has to approve vendor
      ii. A task force will be formed - to make the transition as smooth as possible
   c. Khan lab school rental agreement
      i. 5th council approved list of groups returning to campus
         1. Facility rental agreements on the list
      ii. Khan lab school already has an agreement for at least 2-3 years - interested in renting some of the facilities for high school students (60-70 current number of students). Dual enrollment.
         1. Working on draft for 1 year rental agreement
            a. vacant classrooms and small offices
      iii. faculty return to campus is a priority - emphasized
   d. Vaccine educational series - STEM
7. May meeting - notes from conversation with Bret
   a. Bret - FMP 5 year approved document from the board, he can go more through the slide deck, update for the program review budget request process - doing PSME and BioHealth now. There's an operational component of this process, then R&R approves then to Thuy to review with Cabinet (if funded yes/no, then source of funds provided). Will include faculty requests with faculty prioritization list. Maybe go to June for the final? Would have to approve it - last meeting scheduled is May 6. Will try to get a first read and second read.

==Note: R&R met with E&E and discussed E&E kicking back R&Rs carryover request and asking for a process prior to identifying equity initiatives==

May 7th Meeting:

1. Student update
   a. ASFC submitted budget report to Board of Trustees
   b. http://go.boarddocs.com/ca/fhda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C2BVME8166EE

2. Facility Master Plan (Bret Watson)
   a. FMP presentation to Board of Trustees
   b. Goals:
      i. Knit the campus together
      ii. Celebrate open areas
      iii. Enhance arrival experience
3. R&R and E&E meeting update
   a. R&R motion to spend carry over fund for equity initiatives and recommended that E&E work with equity office for a list of equity initiatives and cost
   b. E&E not have the bandwidth to accomplish this list - the timing is not right
   c. Suggested carry over fund not spent until a process is established

      d. Need more intentionality and time and have a clear action plan - center on race and equity

      e. Wait until Equity dean hired? Ask Equity office to formulate a plan to spend the carry over? Equity office create an action plan?

      f. Student letter - has requests

      g. motion to request the dean of equity to formulate a process though which a portion of the B budget carry-over is used to fund equity initiatives following the Equity Strategic Plan 2.0 and the October 2020 Student letter

4. Program Review Budget Requests (Elias Regalado)

      a. Some are extensive - PSME/BioHealth

      b. 294 requests 18.3 million - some for new space and facilities need those may be referred to Facilities Study Group

      c. Identifying potential funding sources at Measure G, Lottery, etc with B budget as last resort

      d. 80-90% through the list

      e. Will return to last meeting of R&R will fully approved list for informational item for R&R

      f. Process going faster compared to last year

      g. No prioritizing

      h. Some things beyond the scope of this particular budget project

5. Tech Master Plan (Chris Chavez and Joe Moreau)

      a. Support guided pathways team

      b. Role of Tech Team: Facilitate tech needs of guided pathways team

      c. Revise college plan and district revising the district tech plan

      d. R&R needs to weigh in on resource allocation

      e. Timeline for planned revision is early Fall

      f. https://foothill.edu/accreditation/pdf/technology-master-plan-2016-2019.pdf

2016-2019 Foothill College Technology Master Plan

2016 – 2019 Foothill College Technology Master Plan
Technology Committee Co-Chairs, Plan Contributors, and Plan
Reviewers Judy Baker, Technology Committee Co-chair; Dean of
foothill.edu

6. Review decisions/ recommendations made since January – which will require a governance memo? - tabled to next meeting

Joint AC/R&R
Reported by Faculty Tri-Chair of AC, Kathryn Maurer
No meetings since the March report.

Facilities Master Plan (Measure G) Study Group
Chaired by Bret Watson

Reported by Faculty Rep, Sam Connell
No report

Guided Pathways

Reported by Lead Facilitator, Isaac Escoto

Data and Tech Team
- Working with Communication GP team to administer focus groups meant to gather student feedback on our campus website.
- Working with Program Mapping GP team to create a survey to gauge student readability of the program map templates. This will help inform focus groups after the survey. The survey will be administered Spring quarter (mid may), to credit first time students.
- Working with a consultant to develop a technology landscape analysis of the various platforms we use on campus.
- The Tech Advisor working group will next meet mid-May.
- Identified the need for a new/updated Tech Master Plan. Will engage R&R Council.

Onboarding Team
- Working on an AB 705 video project, meant to guide students through the course placement process.
- Ongoing efforts re: updating/creating student orientation course content.
- Ongoing efforts re: a Banner communication management project along with ETS and Admissions and Records. The goal is to allow more functionality in design and template set up for email messaging to students, tried to when they apply to the college.
- Planning a campus wide Onboarding retreat. Still sorting out the scheduling details. Will be either June 3rd or June 4th. Specific day and time soon to come.

Program Mapping
- Held a program mapping event on Friday, April 23rd. There were two separate sessions where department faculty and counselors came together to work on program maps.
- Program mapping efforts are ongoing.

Labor Market Info
- Looking at was to incorporate national, state, and/or local labor market information into program maps/information for students in general.
- Looking into EMSI and WestEd Opportunity Map Builder as ways to show California/Regional career options and field information.
- Always welcome departmental collaboration!

Communication Team
- Beginning efforts to best inform a potential redesign of our college website.
- Working on strategies to hear from campus students and employees regarding website needs/priorities.

PDL (Professional Development Leave) Committee

Reported by Brian Tapia
No report

Conference Fund Committee

Reported by Carolyn Holcroft

No report

District Committees

DDEAC/HRAC (District Diversity and Equity Advisory Committee + HR Advisory Committee)

Chaired by Pat Hyland
Reported by Faculty Rep to DDEAC, David Marasco
DDEAC/HRAC met on April 27. Polling suggested that moving forwards, Thursdays may work better for the scheduling of this meeting.
Many items were discussed. On policing, it was both acknowledged that some members of the committee have been working a long time on these issues, and that there is now a larger district-wide conversation on campus safety.
In terms of retention of faculty, and concerns of bias in the evaluation process, it was noted that FA is currently looking at both the J1 and J2. A faculty member from DDEAC/HRAC volunteered to join this process.
Discussion on working with Joy DeGruy and her team on district-wide professional development was extensive. There is a lot of work remaining to be done.
Finally, the structure/role/goals of DDEAC/HRAC were examined, and it was proposed that the committee set aside more time in the form of a retreat so we could speak to these issues in greater depth.

ETAC (Education Technology Advisory Committee)

Chaired by Joe Moreau
Reported by Faculty Rep Kate Jordahl
ETAC meeting was on Wednesday, April 14, from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The main topic was a Demo for the Student Mobile App COVID Safety Features presented by Joe Moreau and Modolabs. Modolabs is a maker of mobile apps. They are working on apps for the colleges for Student usages with full integration into single sign-on and Banner. Their Foothill application has approx. 15,000 downloads. They are working to add a health registration for students and space reservation for capacity/safety. Push notifications are possible; will allow a virtual tour of campus. Messaging will be guided by colleges' Marketing and Public Relations Departments.

For COVID safety, the app gives a "Cleared to enter" message if a student takes the "Today's required health self-assessment" Only one person at the college will have access to this result; students will use the application to show they have been cleared. (They get a green check or a red 'X' depending on how they answer the questions.) Vanessa Smith is working with Leticia Maldonado and Health Center on updating the questions based on the current local situation and recommendations. Then they will then work with the marketing team on activation and messaging. The student mobile will have a geo-fencing GPS build-in. It will know if the student is approaching or on campus and send out the information accordingly.
The Space Reservations app is in development and is planned for Summer 2021 This will be key in controlling the number of people entering the space. Can reserve spots (used for dining, library, gyms). The goal is capacity flow management. Example from Joe Moreau: We have a computer station lab in the library - perhaps we have 50 seats; for safety 20 seats might be available; students can resave one of these spaces. Based on the seat, time, number and the student would show the door monitor their Health status and then their reservation spot to gain access.
Some Discussion around student privacy and compliance and that this is a separate tool from the staff/faculty OptimumHQ app.

Project reports from ETS were briefly presented also.

ETAC meeting was on Wednesday, May 12, from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
District Technology Plan
Marisa Spatafore shared the **DeAnza Draft Tech Plan**. Alex Harrell and Lorrie Ranck also
contributed to the discussion with commentary from Joe Moreau

- 1. Increase Overall Student Access to Technology for Learning and Services
    - o Needs of students (Laptops and devices for students; Software and/or SAAS as
      needed)
    - o Classroom Upgrades -
        - ▪ Potential of need for hyflex opportunities
        - ▪ Student devices used in classroom
        - ▪ Room reconfigurable for different purposes
        - ▪ Aligned to program review
- 2. Increase and Enhance Faculty and Staff Professional Development and Training
- 3. Work to Ensure Accessibility
    - o Faculty feel that they are trained, but this must be enhanced
    - o Also supported by technology (Sensus Access is a cloud based solution for making
      materials accessible that FHDA District will be purchasing. Should be in place by
      end of spring quarter.)
    - o noting importance of research and accessibility in communication tools.
- 4. Enhance Communication and Collaboration with ETS to Achieve Evolving Priority
  College Objectives
    - o Ubiquitous wifi
    - o Address recycle cycle
    - o Peripheral loan program for doc cams etc.
    - o College-identified projects for student success/regulatory issues.

Discussion of Foothill plan progress. This is moving forward, but somewhat delayed at this time for
survey fatigue.

Next, we reviewed District Tech plan and review in light of the DeAnza Draft Tech plan. Joe M.
Suggests adding a goal to the three year goals to make a connection with De Anza Techn Plan
goal #4 and look into formalizing the communication and collaboration between ETS and the
colleges.

Also looking at the Infrastructure goals and adding expanding WIFI as a priority of the college
presidents and an urgent need with to return to campus. Also refine the Infrastructure Goal around
the upgrades of classrooms/conference rooms.

Joe Moreau is also looking at aligning training/professional development goals in the district tech
plan and colleges' draft tech plan work.

Discussion of the importance of this process of Technology Planning for our Technology progress
but also for accreditation as Accrediting teams looking at these plans carefully.

Final review for the District Plan will be at the June meeting.

Accessibility Best Practices
Districtwide License for SensusAccess**. - - https://www.sensusaccess.com/
From their Website: SensusAccess is a self-service, alternate media solution for educational
institutions. SensusAccess allows students, faculty, staff and alumni to automatically convert
documents into a range of alternate media including audio books (MP3 and DAISY), e-books
(EPUB, EPUB3 and Mobi) and digital Braille. The service can also be used to convert inaccessible

documents such as image-only PDF files, JPG pictures and Microsoft PowerPoint presentations into more accessible and less tricky formats. We call that Inclusion Technology.

There is a Canvas and non-canvas aspect, so training will be coordinated between district and colleges.

ETS Projects (Chien & Sharon)
A brief report/update on ETS projects by Sharon Luciw and Chien Shih. Access the report here: https://ets.fhda.edu/governance-committees/etac/archived-agendas-project-updates-and-minutes/project-updates/05-12-21_project_reports.html

Security Issues
Joe Moreau asked us to pay attention to the current pipeline crisis. It is not known for sure, but Joe says it is likely to be a phishing error from an employee. FHDA employees, the district and the colleges could also be vulnerable. Please be careful.
For access to confidential information, staff/faculty should use VPN and college owned equipment. Part-time faculty can request equipment loan. More information here:
https://ets.fhda.edu/getting-help/faculty/index.html
Next meeting: Wednesday, June 9 from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

APM (Academic & Professional Matters)
Chaired by Isaac Escoto (District Academic Senate President)
Reported by Kathryn Maurer
APM met on April 21st and talked about a possible revision to AP 4225 Course Repetition. There may be language in Title 5 that could allow a student to retake a course, even if they passed, another time if enough time has passed. However, UC's will only take the first attempt, so students would need info about this to manage expectations. Also need to check in on potential issues with apportionment. Will come back again to APM.
Isaac presented findings from his look into students taking large number of units between the two colleges, and group decided that it's worth looking more into but don't yet have enough information to figure out what intervention is needed, if any. Will come back to future meeting.

APM met on May 12th, and spent the entire meeting talking about the faculty hiring procedures, which had been booted back to APM at CAC due to some student concerns with language in the new procedures. After addressing the student concerns with language, more discussion arose with concerns around the students on hiring committees, and if everyone who needed to be heard from (e.g. deans who function almost always as the hiring managers) had had an opportunity to weigh in. It wasn't clear what the next step will be.

CAC (Chancellor's Advisory Council)
Chaired by Judy Miner
Reported by Kathryn Maurer
CAC met on May 7th. Talked about faculty hiring procedures. Senates/FA had lengthy meeting and made slight changes but forwarded on. DDEAC/HRAC then reviewed and forwarded them on with the understanding they were going to Chancellor's Cabinet and then to CAC. By seeing them on agenda we all thought they were ready to go. Comments by students suggested that students hadn't yet had enough time to weigh in; then some administrators expressed some concerns that there was not yet enough clarity about the student participation. Judy asked for APM to discussed before asking CAC to approve (see APM notes for more info).

A number of BP's/AP's are up for revision but no one had feedback.
Judy shared information on district planning for return to campus (see Consultation Task Force Update) and Affordable Housing. An Affordable Housing Shared Governance Task Force is forming, and constituencies will be getting requests for appointments soon.

DBAC (District Budget Advisory Committee)
Chaired by Susan Cheu
Reported by Kathryn Maurer
No new report

Police Chief Advisory Committee
Reported by David Marasco
At the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, the PCAB will transition to a shared-governance model, and no date for the next meeting has been announced.

EESAC (Energy & Emissions Strategic Advisory Committee)
Reported by Robert Cormia
No report

Consultation Task Force (revived in May 2021 with exclusive focus on Return to Campus)
Reported by Kathryn Maurer
The consultation task force, which was created in summer 2020 to address the anticipated budget reductions which did not come to be was revived in May 2021 by Chancellor Miner to become the forum to discuss districtwide planning for the phase return to campus. It is a slightly expanded group from the Chancellor's Advisory Council, which includes leadership from all constituencies at both colleges and Central Services. The main point of discussion was about whether or not the district should move forward exploring amandatory vaccination requirements for students and employees.

Task force members asked for more communication about what is being done to optimize campus safety. While it appears that much work is under way to prepare for a safe return, they said that information should be shared about the safety protocols that have been established. Some staff members have expressed concern about possibly being asked to enforce safety protocols; at the same time, they did not think that would be an appropriate role for campus police. Clear and consistent policies and procedures will be needed. There were also questions about how to deal with people who come to campus who are not students.

To assist in planning, task force members supported the idea of surveying students and employees about their feelings, desires, and needs related to returning to campus this fall. Getting a definitive answer of what to expect by surveying students can be tricky, though, because whether students want to return may depend on how many classes and support services are offered. The group asked that students be surveyed first, and then the results of that survey be communicated to employees prior to asking them to complete a survey about their desire for the fall return and beyond.

ASCCC Committees

ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI)

Reported by Foothill liaison, Carolyn Holcroft

Hello colleagues!

As the Open Educational Resources Liaison, it's my role to share communications from the ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) with you. Please read on to learn about upcoming events that are open to all and an opportunity for faculty to play a role in increasing OER consideration and adoption by others in their discipline. If I can assist you in your considering OER, or answer any OER, related questions, please let me know.

• **Cal OER** – Now Accepting Proposals • The 2021 Cal OER Conference will be held virtually on August 4 - 6. The Cal OER website is now live, the keynote speakers for the conference have been secured, and presentation proposals will be accepted until June 4, 5:00pm. Registration information is coming soon. Cal OER Conference will focus on OER efforts and impact, broadly defined, across the state of California and especially across the state's three public higher education systems, the California Community Colleges, California State University, and University of California.

Individuals submitting proposals will be asked to identify which of the following tracks is most aligned with their proposal:
• Students in OER
• Advocating for OER
• Sustaining OER
• Exploring OER
• OER Impact and Efficacy
• Open Pedagogy More information on each of the themes may be found under "Proposals" on the Cal OER website.

OER and Counseling, May 14, 2021 - The ASCCC OERI is pleased to announce its first OER event designed exclusively for counselors. The Blueprint for Counseling Success Conference will provide an introduction to OER, showcase the Blueprint for Success OER text series and other OER for counseling, and provide an opportunity for counselors to share OER specific to their discipline. The Blueprint for Counseling Success Conference Preliminary Program is now available. The Blueprint for Counseling Success Conference will be held virtually on Friday, May 14th from 9:00 am – 3:00pm. This conference is free, but space is limited so don't delay. Register for Blueprint for Counseling Success.

• **LibreFest, May 25, 2021** - LibreTexts is a powerful platform for all things OER, allowing for the easy adoption (and printing) of an existing OER text, the remixing of existing OER, and the developing you own OER. Learn more about LibreTexts at the upcoming LibreFest, a **free** virtual event on May 25. The primary goal of LibreFest is to introduce potential users to LibreTexts and offer some hands-on experience with creating and/or adapting OER using the platform's powerful editing and remixing tools. Register for LibreFest.

• **OER for Your Consideration** - Last month the OERI hosted sixteen discipline webinars and we have still more of these webinars scheduled in May. Faculty who were not able to attend the

webinar for their discipline can [access an archive](#) on the OERI website or [review the discipline's curated collection](#).

Are you using OER – or looking for OER – in a discipline that we are not yet working with? Please let us know – we are in the process of identifying disciplines – and discipline leads – for Fall 2021.