

May 19, 2011

Academic Senate
Santa Cruz Division

Dear colleagues,

The academic year 2010-11 is drawing to a close, and thanks to your Senate tax dollars, there is a lot to report at our last meeting of the year on Friday, May 27, 2:30-5 PM at the Stevenson Event Center. Reception immediately follows. The agenda can be viewed at: <http://senate.ucsc.edu/meetings/11May27/A11May27.html>

Several promissory notes in the form of uncompleted projects from the winter quarter are now about to come due. Among the highlights:

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) has produced a short report on the relationship between our majors (pre-requisites and gateway courses, requirements, disqualification policies) and student retention rates. The [CEP report](#), one of the must-reads in the Call, demonstrates how the major-mapping tool, previewed by Chair John Tamkun at the winter Senate meeting, can help departments to assess the effectiveness and organization of their majors. The ultimate goal of developing a comprehensive campus retention plan will have to ensure that major requirements and pathways are best serving the needs of our students at all levels of academic preparation and achievement. [The Senate Executive Committee proposal to realign academic functions](#) is another critical piece of the retention plan that was promised at the winter Senate meeting and will be updated for you now.

Faculty salaries: EVC Galloway will report on the current three-year program to enhance faculty salaries on our campus. Both the Senate and the Administration have reviewed comparative data on the effects by rank and step of salary enhancements, and the results will be summarized along with a preview of personnel policies for the future.

Systemwide plans from the Office of the President for online education have recently received a lot of attention, much of it negative. You will get a report on how the Senate has responded to these developments, starting here with a [letter](#) written by the systemwide Academic Council expressing concerns about the budget and planning for the online proposal.

If you want to hear about faculty salaries and to see the second act of the CEP Chair's highly acclaimed major-mapping performance, please come to the May 27 meeting and stay for the reception at the end. I look very much forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Susan Gillman, Chair
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