

LAW OFFICES OF
LAWRENCE ROSENZWEIG
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

1990 S. BUNDY DRIVE
SUITE 777
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

TELEPHONE (310) 453-0348
FAX (310) 453-3358
E-MAIL: LRPCORP@AOL.COM

August 14, 2015

Valerie Foster
Stephanie Fleming
Sheilagh Rose
Jay Cho
Academic Senate Executive Committee
PASADENA CITY COLLEGE
1570 East Colorado
Pasadena, CA 91106

Dear Executive Committee:

I have been asked by a group of concerned faculty and students at Pasadena City College to write you regarding your decision to re-establish the College Academic Senate. I have reviewed the e-mail correspondence discussing the Executive Committee plans. It is my strong opinion that the Executive Committee has completely misunderstood the Title 5 regulations upon which it is basing its decision to call for new elections in the Academic Senate.

In reviewing the correspondence, the Executive Committee bases its plan on 5 CCR Section 53202. The Executive Committee's interpretation of Section 53202 is completely erroneous. Initially, some context is helpful. 5 CCR Section 53201 states:

"In order that the faculty may have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation and implementation of district policies on academic and professional matters, an academic senate may be established at the college and/or district level."

So, the clear purpose of Section 53201 is to allow community college faculty to create an academic senate if they wish to do so. However, as you know, an academic senate was established at PCC many years ago. Therefore, Section 53201 has already been implemented.

Moving from Section 53201 to 53202, the plain language of Section 53202 makes it clear that Section 53202 implements Section 53201. The first sentence of Section 53202 states:

"The following procedure shall be used to establish an academic senate" (Emphasis Supplied)

The remainder of Section 53202 describes the procedures to be followed for an election to establish an Academic Senate, including recognition of the Academic Senate by the district governing board. Again, the district governing board recognized the Academic Senate many years ago.

Valerie Foster
Stephanie Fleming
Sheilagh Rose
Jay Cho
Academic Senate Executive Committee
PAGE TWO

August 14, 2015

Accordingly, Section 53202 cannot be used to justify disrupting the procedures for selection of Academic Senate members that have been in place and functioned effectively. If such changes are to be made, the entire Academic Senate should be allowed to consider such changes. To my knowledge, the Academic Senate will not meet until September.

Therefore, on behalf of the concerned faculty and students, I hereby request that you cease your rejection of well-established selection procedures. There is no legal basis for your intention to revamp the selection process for representatives to the Academic Senate.

Very truly yours,



LAWRENCE ROSENZWEIG

LR:mc

cc: Gail Cooper
Robert Miller
Robert Bell
Kathy Scott
President Vurdien