

PCS President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees for February 14, 2012

David Reed

Thank you Mr. President. Good evening trustees, chancellor, district administrative center staff, college presidents, colleagues and members of the public.

My name is David Reed, President of the Peralta Classified Senate and Laney Outreach Specialist.

As some of you know, this district-wide governance body for classified staff had been dormant for a number of years. The re-instatement of the PCS is a positive step forward for our district, and I want to share some of what we've already accomplished and what we plan to do.

Last Friday the PCS had its 2nd meeting of the spring semester, we had a great turnout with representation from all four colleges and the district office. It became clear in the meeting how strong the need is to have a channel of communication between the site senates and among all classified staff.

Key Accomplishments so far:

- January 20th, 2012, District-wide Classified Professional Development Day. Maureen Chenoweth, our Bay 3 region rep from the California Community Colleges Classified Senates (statewide classified senate organization) led a workshop and presentation "Strengthening Your Senate". Natasha Spivey from our district HR office presented "Hiring Committees: How they work". And our SEIU 1021 Field Rep Matt Lanza presented on union membership priorities. In the future we plan to move our professional development to the spring recess period to allow for better attendance, as most classified staff are extremely busy preparing for the new semester when the traditional "Flex Days" activities take place.
- Improving our hiring committee process. In order to increase classified participation on hiring committees I am working with our site senates, HR office, and union leadership to fill committees in a timely way, but also to ensure that staff who have not previously participated get a chance to do so. I thank our HR department for helping with this; there is already a strong improvement in interest and participation.

What We're Working On:

- Building strong senates at the five sites in our district. We are sharing examples of how to create or amend constitutions and Bylaws to ensure the procedures are appropriate for the site and that participation is encouraged.
- Encouraging participation on hiring committees and explaining the benefits for individuals to their own career development.
- Strengthening participation in shared governance; many staff are not informed of the senate's role and why it is critical to the success of college and district governance.
- Clarifying the difference between the senates and the unions; how they can complement each other and the respective roles they play, and also where the boundaries lie between them.
- Professional development: Informing staff of opportunities such as the Classified Leadership Institute, and regional organizations that conduct career fairs and other opportunities.

This concludes my report, a record of this and other reports can be found on the Board of Trustees web site

<http://web.peralta.edu/trustees/meetings-votelog/>

Respectfully, David