



THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
**FOUNDATION**  
for California Community Colleges

**CANDIDATE STATEMENTS  
FOR  
FOUNDATION DIRECTORS**

*November 4, 2016*

**Rebecca Ann Eikey, Chemistry, College of the Canyons**  
**Director Position – Three-year Position**

Academic Senate Foundation Director Candidate Statement

While I haven't had specific experience serving on a board or community group before, serving on the Foundation Board would be a wonderful opportunity for me to contribute to the professional development of faculty. I am personally benefiting from the professional development supported by the Foundation. I am a mentee in the Professional Development College-Leadership Academy this year. Thus, it would be great to "give back" and support the work of the Foundation by serving on the Board.

I strongly believe in the mission of California Community Colleges to support student success. I have been a professor at College of the Canyons (COC) in Santa Clarita, California for 11 years. I am serving my second year as Academic Senate President. Immediately prior to this, I was Chemistry Department Chair and Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator. I earned my Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at UCLA in 2002 and worked with Arlene Russell as a Post-Doctoral Scholar in Chemical Education. I earned my B.S. degree in Chemistry from Chatham University in Pittsburgh, PA.

I have had budget responsibility for over eight years, overseeing annual planning, fundraising and accounting for Chemistry department, Student Learning Outcomes, and Academic Senate budgets. I am also serving as faculty co-chair for COC's college-wide budget committee, the President's Advisory Committee on Budget (PAC-B).

I believe I can help advance the work of the Foundation by working collaboratively with the others on the Foundation Board.

Thank you for your consideration.

## **Michelle Sampat, Mt. San Antonio College**

### **Director Position – Three-year Position**

#### Academic Senate Foundation Director Candidate Statement

Hello. My name is Michelle Sampat, and I want to thank you for considering me for the Foundation Director, three-year term. I am a reading professor at Mt. San Antonio College as well as department co-chair of Learning Assistance. I have served as Secretary of my local senate for two years, and I am currently serving as the Curriculum Liaison for our campus. I am also the Legislative Liaison and plenary voting delegate.

While I do not have formal experience on a board or community group, I have some familiarity with legal issues for nonprofits and board operations. I have a juris doctorate that will help me serve as an effective member of the Foundation Board. As a reading professor with a legal background, I find myself in the rather unusual position of not just enjoying but also relishing reading a broad range of materials including, but not limited to, Title 5, Ed Code, the PCAH, case law, Tolkien (see how I snuck that in?), and more. I have read the Foundation Bylaws that were approved last May as well as the Academic Senate Foundation for California Community Colleges (ASFCCC) Strategic Plan for 2016-19. I want to participate actively in helping the Foundation Board reach the goals outlined in its strategic plan. I believe one of the most important goals is increasing fundraising through outreach and potential grant opportunities. This, in turn, will enable the Foundation Board to expand both its research capacity as well as the Professional Development College (PDC) of which I am a recent 2015-16 graduate. My experience in the PDC is one of the reasons I want to further my involvement in the ASCCC. The Foundation Board has a critical role in promoting professional development and improving teaching and learning in the California community colleges, and I want the opportunity to give back some of what I have gained from the ASFCCC.

In addition to my mad reading powers, another quality I bring to this position is my genuine and unbridled enthusiasm. I believe I will be able to serve the ASCCC Foundation because I like to have fun with “fun”draising. Oh yes, I did go there! I have to balance all that reading with a healthy dose of creativity and plain silliness. In the interest of full disclosure, if you absolutely adore your “There’s No Crriclm Without U” t-shirt, that was my brainchild. Further, I am going to admit that I have had my eye on that funky Monkey Trophy for years. Even the tragic loss of the Monkey Trophy has not quashed my eternal optimism. I have high hopes that the ostentatious Ostrich Trophy will come home to roost in Area C, if indeed ostriches roost.

While I jest about Area C winning, the essence of my enthusiasm is rooted in the fact that the Area competition serves an incredibly important purpose. The money raised by the Foundation Board is used to support research and provide annual scholarships to the ASCCC Institutes and Plenary sessions. Giving is rewarding, but giving for a worthy cause is even more fulfilling. Over the past few years, I have purchased raffle tickets, bought t-shirts, and donated items to the Silent Auction, and I will continue to do so, but that level of engagement is not sufficient for me any longer. The impetus for my decision to run for the ASFCCC Director position is a desire to give more. You and I are beginning our acquaintance with me asking for your vote, and I can promise you that, if I win, I will be soon be asking for your money, but my intention is to give far more than I ask by engaging wholeheartedly in the work of the Academic Senate Foundation Board. I thank you again for your consideration and welcome further discussion on ways in which I can contribute to the Foundation Board or on the mastery of Tolkien, whichever you prefer.

**April L. Pavlik, Psychology, Los Angeles City College Curriculum Chair/ Vice President**  
**Academic Senate Psychology**  
**Director Position – Two-year Position**  
Academic Senate Foundation Director Candidate Statement

Thinking about my previous board or community experience, I believe that I have had a great deal of opportunity to engage with many different agencies and community groups over the course of my professional career. I have not only volunteered my time, but I have also dedicated significant effort to further the goals of each organization utilizing various tools in my personal tool chest. As one example of this experience, while attaining my masters degree, as well as while I completed my Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, I worked as the community programs director for a non-violence in sports non-profit based in the Bay Area. I not only created programs that could be offered to interested community sports organizations free of cost, but I also helped to create, schedule, and run day of activities for multiple fundraising efforts. It was here that I learned I was quite efficient at evaluating current practice, determining strengths and applying those organizational strengths to achieve both short term and more aspirational long term objectives.

At Los Angeles City College where I have been a full time tenured professor for seven years, I have also been involved in working at my local campus, and in my district in many capacities. Currently, I am the Curriculum Chair and Vice President of the LACC Academic Senate. This elected position, has afforded me many opportunities to utilize my specialized training as a clinical psychologist to approach problem solving and consensus building with my own brand of honesty and humor. I believe that we are all provided challenging situations so that we can learn to apply creativity and passion to make a difference in our students lives. I also believe that to enhance professional satisfaction we need to be provided relevant and engaging professional development opportunities. I have recently been appointed to the LACC District Professional Development College in partnership with our Professional Development Coordinator at my local campus. I am excited about the amazing opportunity to provide faculty with robust, pertinent, informative and engaging professional development, that can not only enhance their knowledge base, but can also provide advancement and the opportunity to achieve continuing education goals.

I believe that being elected to the Foundation Director Position is an opportunity to continue my own professional development while offering my expertise and dedication. It is an exciting opportunity to be of service to my colleagues. I believe that if I were elected I would bring to the Foundation the same efficiency, energy, drive, and dedication that I pour into each of my responsibilities. In particular, I am excited about the research that the Foundation has chosen to focus on for the coming year. This is an exciting time to not only participate in the ASCCC Foundation, but to help shape our immediate future through active participation and service. Again, thank you for your time, and for your vote.

**Paul Setziol, Music, De Anza College**

**Director Position – Two-year Position**

Academic Senate Foundation Director Candidate Statement

1. I have not served on a board or community group unless "Friends of John Vasconcellos" would count as a community group.
2. Having been on the Executive Committee, chaired the ASCCC Staff Development Committee, and having observed Boards of Trustees and other boards including the Board of Governors many times over many years, I think I can bring both ideas and practicality testing to the group.
3. I would concentrate on garnering and coming up with new ideas as well as tapping into my knowledge of what has worked and not worked in various campaigns and in building consensus on literally hundreds of items in local and state consultation.

Finally, I believe I have established a reputation with most if not all of the ASCCC presidents since 1982 for making a positive contribution in multiple roles.

**Lara Baxley, Cuesta College, Local Academic Senate President, Chemistry  
Director Position – One-year Position**

**Academic Senate Foundation Director Candidate Statement**

I am in my second year as the Academic Senate President at Cuesta College. I am currently serving on the ASCCC's Relations with Local Senates Committee. Before becoming President of Cuesta's Academic Senate, I served on the Academic Senates at Bakersfield College, Cal Poly (SLO), and Cuesta College. I have also served on Cuesta's Faculty Professional Development Committee and in this capacity, I worked with the committee to plan a faculty retreat. I am very proud to represent the faculty at Cuesta College as their Senate President and I am grateful that California Community College faculty have a strong voice through the local and statewide Academic Senates. Including a strong faculty voice in college decision-making processes is critical in obtaining our shared goal of improving student success.

I have previously served on the board of my local chapter of the American Chemical Society. This chapter represents members from Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties. Although this position did not involve fundraising, it did involve reaching out to this large local community and organizing member lunches and presentations. As a member of this board, I organized an annual chemistry poetry contest for K-12 students.

I am excited to work with the fine members of the Foundation Board to provide support for professional development for California Community College faculty. I look forward to being involved in the design and implementation of professional development opportunities as well as raising awareness of, and funds to support, these opportunities.