



Academic Senate
for California Community Colleges
LEADERSHIP. EMPOWERMENT. VOICE.

Virtual Resolutions Process Overview

- **ASCCC Resolutions Committee**
- Annie Corbett & David Morse, Resolutions Committee Members
Area B Meeting
 - March 25 & 26, 2021

Why Resolutions?

- **Democracy: A Messy Enterprise**

Unlike dictatorships, democratic decision-making is an often chaotic, bottom-up process involving lots of conversations, multiple levels of politicking, and rapid changes of opinion. Though seemingly chaotic—but not a free-for-all!--it tends to produce superior policy decisions because it treats participants equally, and judges ideas solely on their merit. The Academic Senate (AS) embraces the chaos and trusts the process.

- **Resolutions: The Primary Mechanism for Setting Policy**

The AS relies on formal resolutions, a democratic process, to set direction for the organization as a whole.

- **RE: Solutions—Borne out of Issues**

In many instances, before the AS can take action on an issue, concern, or problem, the adoption of a resolution by the body is necessary to provide direction and facilitate deeper understanding of the issue.

What has changed in a Virtual Plenary-Logistics

- No software or combination of software is able to recreate the feeling of our amazing plenary process.
- ASCCC will be using 2 systems to facilitate debate and voting on Saturday
 - **Zoom** will be used to facilitate debate
 - **Poll Everywhere** will be used to vote

The ASCCC President, Resolutions Chair and Parliamentarian will be (socially distanced) together to facilitate the Plenary debate and voting.

Additional ASCCC staff and/or Resolutions Committee members will assist in logistics.

All colleges must identify (certification form) and have registered their delegates by March

What has changed in a Virtual Plenary- Resolutions

- The Chair (ASCCC President) will read the resolutions resolves on Zoom.
- Those wishing to debate will indicate PRO or CON, their name and college in the chat if they wish to debate. (any attendee may debate)
- Moderators will facilitate the pro/con debate que and the chair will call on the next faculty to speak. That person may unmute and debate.
- Debate will still be time limited (15 minutes) unless extended through a parliamentary motion.
- To make a parliamentary motion attendees may ask questions or delegates my make motions by indicating in the chat PM, name and college. The chair will call on the faculty member for them to unmute and state their business.

Pre-session Resolutions from Executive Committee

- Initial packet created by Executive Committee, through its standing committees
- Resolutions in the pre-session packet are deemed worthy of debate and consideration by the field—they are not adopted or officially endorsed
- Clean-up and edits that don't change resolution's intent can be made during pre-session area meetings
- Significant changes merit amendments

Pre-session Resolutions from Area Meetings

- Additional pre-session resolutions and amendments can be submitted by members of areas *during* pre-session area meeting
- Area should agree to put the resolution(s) forward
- Contact is still required—should be someone who will attend plenary
- Resolutions Committee Member and Area Rep will assist in ensuring correct format of submission and checking for previously adopted submissions
- Submissions should be forwarded to Resolutions Chair by end of Area meeting

Resolutions Consent Calendar

- Resolutions are placed on the consent calendar if they:
 - Are noncontroversial,
 - Do not potentially reverse a previous position,
 - Do not compete with another proposed resolution.
- Consent Calendar is adopted at the start of voting on Saturday.
- Consent Calendar items may be pulled by:
 - Any faculty attendee at an Area meeting,
 - Any registered attendee by 8:20 AM on Saturday,
 - When the resolutions voting begins at 8:20 AM on Saturday before the Consent Calendar is adopted.
 - If you pull an item – be ready to debate it!

Resolutions and Amendments

TIMELINE:

- Area meetings March 26 and 27, 2021
- Resolutions Packet out to the Field – March 30, 2021
- Resolutions Review Period March 30-April 12, 2021
- Resolutions Committee Online Office Hours April 5-9, 2021
- Delegate Certifications due to ASCCC by April 9, 2021
- Resolutions due to resolutions@asccc.org by April 9, 2021 by 11:59pm
- Amendments due to resolutions@asccc.org by April 12, 2021 11:59pm
- Final Packet to Field by April 14, 2020
- Urgent Resolutions due by Friday (4/16) at Plenary at 12:30 pm

* Urgent Resolutions- “A time critical issue that has emerged after the resolution deadline and new information has been presented which requires an established Academic Senate position before the next plenary”– ASCCC Resolutions Handbook

Open Review Period

- Due to the shortened timeline, after the Area meetings the resolutions will be posted for a 10 day open review period.
- Anyone can review the resolution and provide comments and suggestions, although no one will be able to edit.
- The goal is to generate conversations and allow delegates to work together to identify additional resolutions and or amendments that they wish to submit to **resolutions@asccc.org**.

This is also a way to solicit seconds to amendments.

The resolutions committee will provide a list of registered delegates to assist with seconds.

Resolutions and Amendments

- **Requires 4 delegates as seconders!!!**
- Resolutions and Amendments must be submitted *electronically* as **an attachment to resolutions@asccc.org**
 - Resolution full text /Amendment (recopied with strikeouts and new text underlined) with Title! Do not use “track changes”.
 - Include contact information (email/cell phone number)
 - Include names and colleges of seconds

Submitting a Resolution or Amendment? Do Your Homework!

- Check past resolutions to see if there is already an existing senate **position**:
<http://asccc.org/resources/resolutions>.
 - Reversing existing positions requires a 2/3 vote of the body.
 - Submit resolutions here: resolutions@asccc.org.
- If you are considering an amendment, email the resolution contact person first, if possible.

Resolutions Committee Open Office Hours

- The Resolutions Committee will be holding Open office hours on Zoom to provide assistance writing resolutions and amendments and answer questions on the resolutions process
- Register for the April 5, 2021 11-12pm Open Office hour
- Register for the April 6, 2021 3-4pm Open Office hour
- Register for the April 8, 2021 9am-10am Open Office hour

Getting Ready for Voting

- Enlist the help of your local senators in a variety of disciplines by asking them to be on standby for a text, an email, or a phone call seeking advice or feedback on a resolution
- If you need clarification on a resolution or amendment, ask the contact. Names and colleges are listed in the packet.
- Do your best to bring the packet of resolutions released prior to the plenary to your senators at a formal meeting or electronically, depending on timing, for feedback and guidance.

Saturday is Voting Day!

- Resolutions are debated and voted...anyone can debate.
- Pro and Con Arguments are made in Zoom .
 - Debate continues until no one is in the que, or until time for debate expires (15 minutes).
- Participants may indicate in the Chat they wish to use Parliamentary procedure for making motions, parliamentary inquiries to the chair, etc.
- Votes will be tabulated in Poll Everywhere and announced by the Chair (Sorry no Serpentes!)- **Only registered delegates may vote.**
- **We will not be having elections at the same time as resolutions. They will be during a separate process.**

Referring Resolutions

- Resolutions can be referred to the Executive Committee for the following reasons:
 - More information or clarity is needed,
 - More time to debate the issue on local campuses is needed,
 - May be worthy of consideration for adoption but is written in a manner to make it unclear as to the intent.
- The maker of the motion to refer the resolution must be clear about the reason for referral and the instructions to be taken by the Executive Committee upon referral. A motion to refer must include a date by which the resolution is to be returned to the body upon completion of the referral instructions by the Executive Committee.
- A resolution cannot be referred to direct the Executive Committee to accomplish what the resolution seeks to do.

Unclear Resolutions

If a resolution is unclear, even with amendments, perhaps it should be voted down instead of referred.

(The author can rewrite it and bring it to the next plenary session!)

Important Senate Resources for Delegates

Senate Delegate Roles and Responsibilities:

<http://asccc.org/sites/default/files/DelRolesRespon09.pdf>

Resolutions Handbook:

http://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/ResolutionHandbookFinalFA17_0.pdf

Senate resolutions web page (searchable):

<http://asccc.org/resources/resolutions>

ASCCC Bylaws:

<http://asccc.org/about/bylaws>