

## **Jeff Waller, Academic Senate President Candidate Statement**

I have been actively involved with efforts to improve our college and to maintain our status as one of California's top community colleges since I began working here. I joined Grossmont College as a full time Mathematics instructor in 2005, and I became tenured in 2009. I joined the Senate during my second year. I served as the Math Study Center Coordinator from 2008-2011. I became a member of the Curriculum Committee in 2007. I co-chaired the committee from 2011-2014, then again from 2018-2020. I was chosen to join the ASCCC Curriculum Committee this semester, an experience I am thoroughly enjoying so far. Earlier this month, I attended the ASCCC Fall Plenary session. I felt that it would be a worthwhile to attend whether I become Senate President or not.

As I've learned from my many interactions with committees as both a member and a chair, the main duty of the chair is to keep the members well informed and to create a space for members to discuss and vote on issues. If elected Senate President, I would bring that same mentality with me. Being a chair or a Senate President does not mean gaining power. It means gaining responsibility. The responsibility to curate and disseminate information, to create a space for open discussions, and to represent the faculty voice everywhere the faculty voice needs to be heard. The position is not about a person. The position is not about power. The position is only powerful because it represents the will of the faculty.

While Curriculum co-chair the first time, I oversaw the creation of the Associate Degrees for Transfer (AD-T's) and the creation of families of courses. As co-chair the second time around, I led a group with representation from both colleges that created the Emergency Remote Teaching courses in response to the pandemic (and for use for any similar emergency situations in the future.)

As Curriculum faculty co-chair, I attended many committee meetings at Grossmont, many committee meetings at the district level, and many local and state workshops and conferences (including the Curriculum Institute, Plenary, and the Academic Academy). Through these meetings, I have met and worked with people at every level – from college to district to state. I have worked with several different VPAA's as co-chair. And I have represented our faculty before the Governing Board, fielding questions from and interacting with board members about degree and course modifications and curricular processes.

I am qualified and would be honored to perform the duties of Senate President on behalf of our tremendous faculty. I have worked directly with interpreting Title 5 language. I have worked directly with updating and modifying board policies. I have efficiently led committee meetings. I have overseen workgroups that incorporated faculty, administrators, and classified staff from both campuses. I can effectively use my passion in representing the will of the faculty. I understand the importance of surrounding myself with smart and passionate people whose perspectives will inform my own. And I am fully invested in seeing Grossmont remain one of the best colleges in California.

Thank you for your time.