

Subject: Formal Concern Regarding PRAC Governance and Co-Chair Processes

Date: 2/23/2026

Dear Executive Leadership and GRC Chair,

I am writing to formally document my concerns regarding the governance processes of PRAC and the role of faculty leadership within the committee.

Faculty participation in shared governance, including service as co-chair of PRAC, is not a courtesy extended by the District, but a right and responsibility grounded in California Education Code and Title V. As you know, the "10+1" areas define matters that are the purview of the faculty. Specifically, item number 10—"Processes for institutional planning and budget development"—falls squarely within faculty responsibility. The current situation and climate raise serious concerns about adherence to both the letter and spirit of these requirements.

Over the past year, I have documented multiple instances in which established governance processes and collaborative norms were not followed. A particularly troubling example occurred last year when a memo was written, signed with my name, and sent to the President without my knowledge or consent. I was forwarded the memo only after it had already been distributed. The letter was recalled after my objection was shared.

Throughout the fall semester, I experienced increasing difficulty in fulfilling my responsibilities as co-chair. Requests for inclusion, information, and consultation regarding agendas, minutes, and planning were frequently unanswered, delayed until the last minute, or not addressed at all.

In December, the PRAC committee received a new presentation template developed by my co-chair without prior consultation with me. Given that this is a transitional year, I expressed—in a private email—my concern about implementing significant changes to committee processes. The committee ultimately struggled extensively with the new template, devoting hours to its discussion. Despite these challenges, the template was shared with managers without my prior knowledge. I learned of this decision informally while accompanying MESA students on a tour of CSS.

On January 26, I met with my co-chair to communicate my concerns regarding the ongoing lack of communication, planning, and collaboration between us. The next communication I received was notice that both the February PRAC meetings had been

canceled. I expressed that my concern was not with canceling meetings, but with the absence of collaborative planning. I was told I had misunderstood the situation, and subsequently one meeting was reinstated.

We also exchanged emails about establishing regular planning meetings, to which I agreed; however, I have not been invited to any such meetings.

Most recently (last week), I reached out requesting collaboration on the agenda for today's PRAC meeting and received no response. On Sunday, when a faculty member inquired about the agenda, it was distributed by the Executive Assistant. To be clear, I was neither informed of, consulted about, nor involved in planning today's meeting.

The continued exclusion of the faculty co-chair, whether intentional or accidental, undermines the principles of collegial consultation and contradicts the processes outlined in our Participatory Governance Plan. These patterns significantly impair my ability to fulfill the responsibilities of my role and weaken the integrity of shared governance and specifically PRAC.

I am formally requesting that the District and the Governance Review Council, in consultation with the Academic Senate, review this situation and take immediate steps to restore proper governance processes, ensure meaningful collaboration between co-chairs, and uphold faculty purview as defined by law and policy.

I look forward to your response and to a prompt resolution.

Sincerely,



Maria Coulson
Academic Senate President
Faculty Co-Chair, PRAC