

Campus Issue 22-23-02

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Issue/Concern: Convocation Planning

Describe the issue/concern::

While Convocation has existed for a while, the planning of Convocation has always been a herculean effort and a new lens might be necessary with which to view Convocation in general.

Redefining Convocation as a celebration, as an interactive opportunity to grow connections and solidify our individual commitments to students and antiracism and supporting each other in our growth as educators (we are educators in all of our roles at SCC) is a necessity.

Much of Convocation is fluid and doesn't fully materialize until late December/early January or late July/early August for respective Spring and Fall Convocations, times in which most faculty are off contract and many classified professionals are busy preparing for the subsequent semester or surviving in the current one.

What do you recommend or suggest solving this issue/concern? :

For this, I am asking for a specific planning committee for Convocation that includes as tri-chairs the SRC coordinator, PRIE or a rotating administrative tri-chair,

and a classified tri-chair that gets release from regular duties (possibly the SRC Assistant to start, and then this role can change to other classified professionals with interest and availability).

Other member of the committee would be the equity coordinators, representatives of student-facing institutions on campus such as the Cultural Engagement Centers, Student Leadership and government, Academic Senate, Classified Senate, the A/V team, and more.

This planning committee would meet for about a 3-month period prior to each Convocation, although discussions might occur between as new and progressive educational landscapes are unveiled in research and action across colleges in CA and beyond.

This planning committee would have a specific budget per Convocation that included coffee and pastries early, it would balance those areas on campus that are highlighted and celebrated, and it would align along a theme the various aspects of Convocation to make the experience more profound for all that attend.

How will this recommendation support the success of SCC students and benefit the campus community?:

This committee will enable a more well-rounded Convocation to occur with less overall burden on a single person or a small group of persons (SRC coordinator and equity coordinators) or committee (Staff Development Committee for example). It would also get more voices to the table to shape a more robust and interactive experience for everyone.