

University Senate Chair Report
October 14th, 2025

Hi All,

I hope you enjoyed the activities during Lumberjack Weekend. The block party was a blast, and I really enjoyed seeing P-Funk on our campus – it's about the 5th or 6th time I've seen them in concert :-). What a cool event! I hope to see more events like this here; it really reminds me of my time as an undergraduate, when I could enjoy live music just outside the confines of my dorm room, without having to travel to some big, far-away venue, and pay an arm and a leg for a ticket.

I'd like to give a big shout-out to the Free Speech Team, the CFA, and everyone else who was involved with the events on October 7th. It's a particularly sensitive day for different groups and for different reasons, and I think it is fair to say many folks were nervous about the free speech activities leading up to that day. Then it came, and went. Honestly, it felt like a regular 'ol day at Humboldt. We had some tabling, we had a march, and there was productive dialogue between different groups representing different ideas. I was delighted when I walked across the quad and saw students engaging in civil discourse, without major disruptions to campus life. In fact, I would go as far as saying these types of events are very much a part of our regular campus life. It's why many of our students choose to come here and why many of us love this environment so much. We are activists, leaders, and scholars in social and environmental justice - it's who we are, and to see our campus community engaging in our First Amendment rights brazenly (and peacefully!) in the face of an administration that seems dead set on taking those rights away is a beautiful thing.

I had the pleasure of attending my first ASCSU Senate Chair's meeting on Friday, October 10th. It was lovely meeting the other Senate Chairs, and it's worthwhile to note they are grappling with many of the same issues we are: attacks on free speech and academic freedom, navigating AI in the classroom, dealing with ICE on campus, and so forth. There is a variety of ways our sister campuses engage with shared governance, and I thought it was interesting to hear about. Speaking of shared governance, if you have not read Dean Jeff Crane's [article](#) on the subject, you absolutely should! What a great read! I linked it in my report, and I think there is a lot we can learn and model from this article.

Last, you may have noticed I'm not here! I am attending the GI 2025 conference this week in Los Angeles, my first one, and will report out what I learn at the next Senate meeting. In the meantime, y'all are in good hands with 2nd Officer Jayne McGuire at the helm.

Have a great week, everyone!

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