

University Senate Chair Report

September 29, 2026

Hi Folks,

As many of you know, we had the Strategic Planning Retreat this past Friday, which was really nice! I really enjoyed working with the group I was sitting with, and it was a great way to end a busy week. The energy in the room was palpable and reminded me why I love working here: you lovely people! I look forward to our meeting in November!

I met with the University Policies Committee (UPC) along with Courtney Loder and Patrick Malloy to highlight the work we've done on policy management modernization. We tasked them with making sure each policy's responsible office is accurate in our working file spreadsheet. In our new Policy on Policies, the responsible office for each policy is now a required piece of metadata to be identified, which was not done consistently in the past. A few members of UPC were genuinely excited for this work and appreciative of our move to PolicyStat, which several folks on our campus routinely interact with, as it is the same platform the Chancellor's Office uses.

We still need to find a Constitutions and Bylaws Committee (CBC) chair; however, I have arranged to meet with them this week. The University Space and Facilities Advisory Committee (USFAC) has worked on some minor changes to their bylaws, and I have tasked CBC with reviewing those changes. I expect this will be fairly straightforward, and we'll have a resolution coming forward soon to approve those changes.

I attended our first Council of Senate Chairs meeting last Friday (actually, at the same time as the Strategic Planning Retreat, which is why I was late), and I'm super appreciative of this group. As always, many of the same issues we are facing on our campus are being dealt with at our sister campuses as well. The big hot topic amongst Senate Chairs right now is related to the concluding GI 2025 information and the Student Success Framework. The report we received concluding Cal Poly Humboldt's GI 2025 metrics was a bit scathing; President Carvajal summarized some of these numbers for us at the Fall Welcome Back meeting as well as during the initial Strategic Planning Council meeting. Many of my counterparts reported that they received similarly scathing reports from the Chancellor's Office (CO), so at least we aren't alone there; however, I do find this style of reporting out to be a bit demotivating, and other Senate Chairs commented similarly.

This is a perfect segue into the Student Success Framework Implementation Team (SSFIT), a group created by the CO on each campus to advise our direction in their Student Success Framework initiative. We had our first meeting last week and discussed some of this data in the CO's report. Part of our work is to help tell the story that goes along with this data, or future data, and why this matters for student success. I was pleased with the acknowledgement by our campus group that the metrics of GI 2025 don't tell the entire story of student success here at Humboldt, and that we have the opportunity to do just that: tell our story and come up with better metrics that relate to student success here at home. There is a lot more to it than that, but I think that's a good summary for now.

Okay folks, enjoy the rest of your week!

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