

Karen Marrujo, English

I am an English instructor who is currently running for re-election as Vice-President of the Academic Senate. I have served in this role for the past two years and have focused on finding more ways to better serve our faculty and community. I am interested in continuing to serve in this role because it is important to make sure faculty needs are addressed as we strengthen Cuyamaca's commitment to diversity, equity, and student success.

In the last two years, I have helped organize and streamline committee applications by creating an application submission form as well as by creating and maintaining a list of active call outs on our Academic Senate website. I have also begun to use the information gathered in the form to increase transparency by sharing the information on committee applications and appointments. I have also changed the way committee call outs are shared to help reduce the number of emails sent to faculty. My focus has been on advocating for all faculty needs in every space I enter. It is essential that faculty get the support needed to serve students—this means making sure to address the challenges that arise while we work to create more equitable practices, which result in a heavier workload for faculty. In addition to this, I have helped draft resolutions to support faculty needs such as “Resolution: Lower Class Caps,” “Resolution for Adopting and Maintaining Equity-Minded Communication Guidelines,” and “Protecting Students, Faculty, & Staff during a Pandemic Resolution,” which was passed jointly with our Classified Senate.

Along with my role in the Academic Senate, I have been working to serve Cuyamaca in a variety of other ways. As part of my work in the English Department, I participate in a community of practice dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of our students and creating more equitable student outcomes through significant structural interventions. I have also been working as our campus's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Site Lead and I'm a member of the Outcomes and Assessment Committee (OAC) and a couple of other committees.

I'm a proud member of Cuyamaca College who aims to approach all aspects of my work with enthusiasm, a growth mindset, and an open heart. I want to continue being engaged in supporting our campus-wide work and would be honored to serve Cuyamaca College as Vice-President of the Academic Senate for another term.