

# RAQUEL JACOB-ALMEIDA

## CANDIDATE FOR ACADEMIC SENATE VP

I am a Sociology professor who is currently serving as the Full-Time Faculty Officer-At-Large for Instruction. I am writing to request your vote for Vice President of Academic Senate.

As faculty, my primary commitments are to equity across all aspects of our institution – equity for students and faculty – and to maintaining higher education as a public good. This equity-minded and community-oriented spirit motivates me in all that I do – not only in the classroom, but outside the classroom as well. This includes spearheading the Social Justice Conference, serving on our AFT's Executive Council, and being a part of the President's Task Force on Racial Equity and Social Justice in previous years. This also includes serving as the Full-Time Faculty Officer-At-Large for Instruction the last three years and, now, running for Vice President of Academic Senate.

As a Senate Officer, I have led or participated in a variety of actions that demonstrate my commitment to equity and community. As VP, I would further these commitments. I am interested in continuing to identify and pursue ways that fall within our purview that cultivate a more equity-driven system.

We as faculty have made strides in developing professionally to be more equity-minded, inclusive, and anti-racist in our teaching because of our commitment to justice, our students, our disciplines and to public education more generally. We need to ensure that our institution, as well as the community college system more generally, acknowledges and values our hard work and our dedication to equity and our students.

I am running for two positions for next year's Senate Officer's Committee (SOC) because I value serving on SOC and want to be sure I remain involved in this valuable work. My preference is to be elected as your Vice President on Academic Senate, which would allow me the opportunity to take on a more active role in senate leadership locally and at the state level.

Thank you for considering voting for me for this important position. I hope you will see me as a strong and loyal advocate for faculty and students in academic and professional matters.



## AS A SENATE OFFICER I HAVE:

- Served as the Full-Time Instructional Faculty Officer-At-Large for the last three years.
- Served (and will continue to serve) on the GCCCD Faculty Evaluation Workgroup.
- Organized Senate Officer Visits to Department Meetings During Flex Week to communicate more with faculty.
- Supported the drafting process for resolutions, such as [“Resolution to Reaffirm the Value of Traditional Face-to-Face Classes,”](#) [“Lower Class Caps to Close Equity Gaps,”](#) and the [“Calendar Alignment Resolution.”](#)

## IF ELECTED AS SENATE VP, I WILL:

- Advance efforts to foster communication and cultivate connections among faculty.
- Invite collaborative discussion and analysis of the major issues impacting education, such as emerging uses for Artificial Intelligence.
- Advocate using data and research to inform decisions and recommendations.
- Continuously identify important institutional issues related to the values and mission of our institution and of California Community Colleges.
- Remain focused on our college's and system's values and missions, which align with my own values and commitments.