



Rachelle Panganiban – Counseling, DSPS
(Academic Senate Student Services Officer at Large)

I have been teaching and counseling in the community college system for fourteen years, twelve of those years spent at Cuyamaca College Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS). I am excited to run for Academic Senate Student Services Officer-at-Large and even more thrilled for the chance to represent faculty. During my time at Cuyamaca College, I had the honor to serve on the Student Services Council and Tri-Chair for the former Student Success and Equity Committee; Currently, I am the Co-Chair of the Petitions Review Committee, Categorical Representative for Academic Senate, and an Executive Council member for the American Federation of Teachers, AFT Guild, Local 1931. In my current role as Co-Chair of the Petitions Review Committee, I have become well versed in Title 5 education code and the relationship between state laws versus local Governing Board policies and procedures in order to provide due process for student petitions. As the Categorical Representative for Academic Senate, it is an honor to represent my constituency group and bring forward our united voice as we vote on campus wide decisions that affect our community. As an AFT Guild Executive Council member, I enjoy being a resource to Cuyamaca Faculty in all matters related to our faculty contract. I actively collaborate with my fellow AFT Guild Executive Council members to organize and promote union membership on campus, and I was on the negotiation team in the recent faculty negotiations. If elected as the Academic Senate Student Services Officer-at-Large, I will continue to advocate for faculty rights through a collaborative approach, always keeping the student experience at the center of my decision making. Furthermore, I am fully committed to representing the united faculty voice by listening, communicating, and being a resource for all because together we are stronger.

As a DSPS Counselor at Cuyamaca College, I have worked collaboratively with faculty, staff, and administrators to advocate on behalf of students with disabilities. I am passionate about demystifying the experience of students with disabilities through open dialogue and departmental visits to explain the DSPS student/faculty experience. Furthermore, I have established good working relationships on campus and in the surrounding community to identify barriers for students, create solutions, and promote student success. I also teach Personal Development Special Services Self Advocacy and College and Career Success. When I am not working at Cuyamaca, I also teach yoga at a local yoga studio. Namaste.