### So You Say You Want a Resolution...

(The breakout formerly known as "Resolutions: Why All the Bother?")



**Dolores Davison, Foothill College** 

John Freitas, Los Angeles City College

## Why Use Resolutions?

At the statewide level, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges adopts resolutions which become the bases for future Senate policies and which drive the work of its standing and ad hoc committees.

From the ASCCC Plenary Session Resolution Process

## Why Use Resolutions?

Locally, resolutions are designed for local senates to urge or recommend policy or action to the Board of Trustees, college administrators, other local groups, or the state Academic Senate (ASCCC). They are designed to solicit a rapid response *in writing*.

From the ASCCC Resolution Guide for Local Senates

### Statewide Resolutions

- Develop positions for the ASCCC
- Direct the creation of papers or other resources
- Make recommendations
- Support local senates or other groups
- Work with Chancellor's Office or other organizations
- Others?

# Writing Statewide Resolutions

- Identify a relevant topic:
  - Through local senates
  - Through Senate committees
  - Through Senate area meetings
  - As an individual (you don't have to be a delegate!)
  - In the cocktail lounge during a plenary session (don't laugh!)

# Writing Statewide Resolutions

- Consider feasibility and appropriateness:
  - If it gives the organization direction (writing a new paper, conducting a study, etc.), can the work be done in a timely manner
  - If it takes a position, will it reflect well on the organization if it passes?

# Writing Statewide Resolutions

- Do your homework!
  - Current events, looming policy changes, educational and political trends
  - Research past Senate resolutions and papers
  - Research Ed Code and Title 5

# How Does the Process Work Statewide?

- Resolutions can come from a variety of sources:
  - Executive Committee
  - ASCCC Standing or Ad Hoc Committees or Taskforces
  - Area meetings prior to Plenary Session
  - Local Senates
  - Individuals
  - Inspiration from Plenary breakout sessions

\*\*All resolutions, other than urgent resolutions, must be submitted by the Thursday afternoon of Plenary to be considered by the body.

## Process (continued)

- Resolutions are reviewed by the Resolutions Committee (chaired this year by our L.A. City College presenter...aren't you impressed!) to ensure that they:
  - Are not duplicative
  - Do not reverse a position previously taken by the ASCCC (unless that is the intent)
  - Are being brought forward by an approved group
  - Make sense and will make sense to the field

## Process (continued more...)

 Resolutions are discussed by delegates at the preplenary area meetings, by local senates on home campuses, and at the session area meetings.

 Amendments can be added to clarify resolutions (requires four seconds by registered delegates!)

 When the Saturday of plenary session rolls around, it is time for debate...

# Okay, It's Not QUITE This Bad...



## At Session

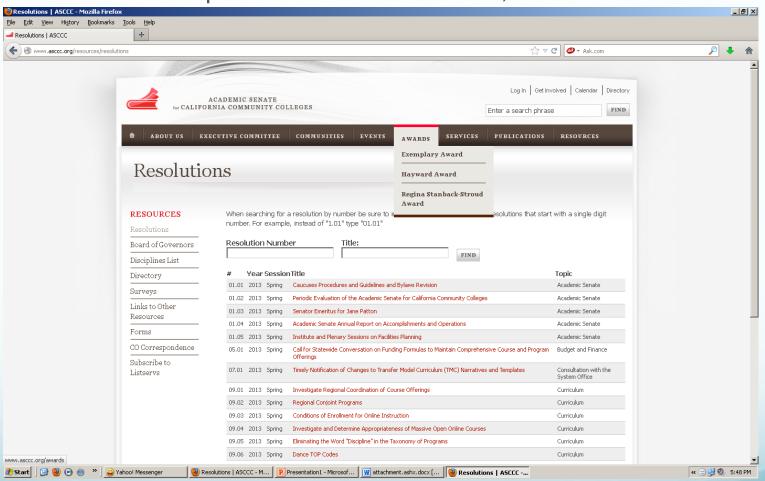
- The body debates the resolutions and votes on them
  - It is also possible for the body to refer the resolution to the Executive Committee for perfection, research, or other actions.
  - Resolutions which change an existing position require a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority.
  - Amendments are not taken from the floor.

## What Happens Next?

- It depends on what the resolution calls for:
  - Action by the president is taken directly by the ASCCC president
  - Other resolutions are given to committees or task forces for completion, which is then reported at the bottom of the resolution on the website
  - Some resolutions are deemed infeasible due to lack of resources or other issues

### Resolutions on the ASCCC Website

Great tools allow you to search by subject, author, specific resolution number, etc.



## **Local Senates**

- Guide processes
- Take positions
- Express concerns
- Others?

\*\*As stated in the ASCCC document, the purpose of resolutions locally is to receive a response quickly and in writing

**Local Senate** resolutions can be used for a variety of purposes, and tend to be geared more specifically to concerns from the faculty at the college or other local concerns...



### The Academic Senate of Los Angeles City College

### Resolution #02-F12: Collegial Consultation Agreement with the College President

### Whereas.

The district governing board or its designee, with the designee being the College President, shall consult collegially with the academic senate on academic and professional matters as defined in Title 5 section 53200 and Chapter XVIII, Article I of the LACCD Board Rules;

### Whereas

The College President shall, through the collegial consultation process, rely primarily upon primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate or reach mutual agreement with the academic senate on recommendations made by the academic senate on academic and professional matters;

### Whereas.

It is recommended that districts and colleges adopt policies on collegial consultation that delineate which academic and professional matters are designated "rely primarily" and which are designated "mutual agreement," as stated in the Community College League of California and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges joint paper "Participating Effectively in District and College Governance" adopted in Fall 1998, and is an important part of succession planning;

### Whereas

The proposed Collegial Consultation Agreement was developed and finalized in a collegial manner and agreed to by the President of Los Angeles City College;

### Resolved,

That the Academic Senate of Los Angeles City College approve the Collegial Consultation Agreement and recommend to the President of Los Angeles City College submission of this agreement to the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District for final approval.

# One Form of Resolution Disposition

Resolution Type: Academic	Senate Disposition
X Recommendation to the President X Ap	proved
Sense of the Senate Re	jected
of Feetas 11/1/2012	
John E. Freitas Dat	e
Summary of Recommendation(s) (attach additional documentation The Academic Senate of Los Angeles City College approve the College recommend to the President of Los Angeles City College submission of	ial Consultation Agreement of this agreement to the Boa
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# The Dreaded No-Confidence Resolution

- Not to be taken lightly!!!
- An expression by the faculty that they want an action, typically dismissal, taken against an administrator
- There will be serious tensions and hard feelings...even when it has widespread support
- It will be taken personally...even by administrators that aren't targeted by the resolution
- It will affect your working relationship as a leader with the administration

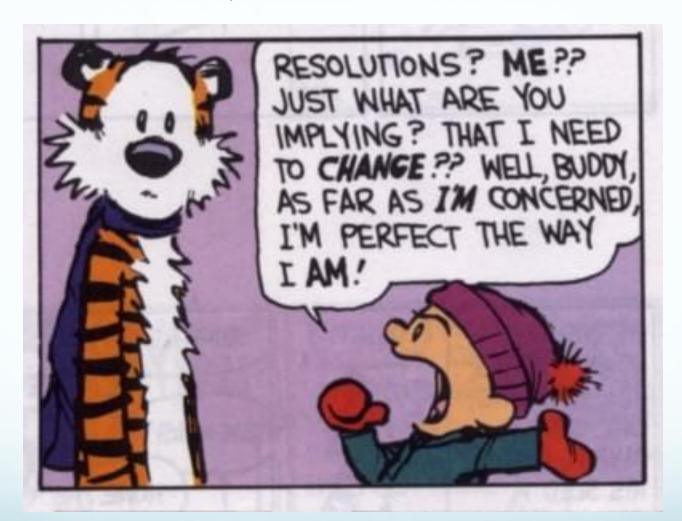
### Resources

- Your Resolutions Committee chair (John Freitas) or past chairs (David Morse, Dolores Davison)
- Your area representatives (Kim Harrell (A), Dolores Davison (B), Lesley Kawaguchi (C), and Cynthia Rico (D)
- http://asccc.org/resources/resolutions
  - All adopted Senate resolutions are posted here in. Check this first before writing resolutions!
- http://asccc.org/communities/local-senates/leadershipresources
  - Includes resolution writing guide for local senates and explanations about the process during the plenary session

# If You Come to Enjoy the Resolutions Process As We Both Have, You Might Need One of These:



## Questions?



Thank You!