

End of the Year Report (2023-2024)  
Elections and Rules Committee (ERC)  
Academic Senate  
Santa Monica College

Committee Members: Kas Metzler (Chair) and Jinan Darwiche

The objective for the Elections and Rules committee for the 2023-2024 academic year was to conduct elections in accordance with the Senate by-laws and academic regulations. This was the third term of service for the Chair of the ERC so the priority was to maintain clear and accurate assessment of the Fall and Spring elections process and verify current Chairs, Senate Executive, Academic Senators, At-large Senators as well as Curriculum committee members as well as the service term.

Fall 2023: The ERC Chair worked alongside the Dean of Academic Affairs (Dee Dee Carter-Hodges) to facilitate the Department Chair elections. In total there were nine (9) Chair elections: Communications, Cosmetology, Dance, Earth Science, ESL, Kinesiology, Life Sciences, Philosophy/Social Science, and Theatre Arts. Term duration: June 2028.

Spring 2024: Regular elections were held for Senate Executive, Academic Senators, At-large Senators as well as Curriculum committee.  
On Exec, the position of Recording Secretary remains vacant.

Spring 2024: Curriculum committee elections were held for four (4) seats Earth Science/Life Science/Physical Science grouping, ESL/Modern Languages, KIN/Health Sciences and Communications & Media). Term duration: Spring 2027. Two (2) positions remain vacant (ESL/Modern Languages and KIN/Health Sciences).

The vision for the 2024-2025 term is to finish and present an ERC handbook which can be passed from Chair to Chair of the ERC committee. This will be a living document that outlines tips and “lessons learned” so that new members will have a reference as they serve in the committee role. Once this handbook is initiated it will be shared with prior ERC Chairs as well as the Academic Senate members for review as well as contribution. This document will be housed on the ERC website.

ERC committee goals for the 2024-2025 cycle will continue to work with the Senate Parliamentarian to review and initiate the process of updating the Senate by-laws and/or constitution. One item in particular is the addition of the open educational resources (OER) committee which was approved by majority vote in Spring 2023. The committee prior to that was the New Faculty committee and at the inception there was no update to the bylaws or constitution, possibly none needed, but it requires review none the less.