

End of the Year Report (2021-2022)  
Elections and Rules Committee (ERC)  
Academic Senate  
Santa Monica College

Committee Members: Kas Metzler (Chair) and Jinan Darwiche

The objective of the Elections and Rules committee for the 2021-2022 academic year was to conduct elections in accordance with the Senate by-laws and academic regulations. This was the first year of service for the Chair of the ERC so the priority was to establish a 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 2021: The ERC Chair worked alongside the Interim Dean of Academic Affairs (Jason Beardsley) in the Fall 2021 for the Department Chair elections. In total there were eight (8) Chair elections as well as two (2) special elections for Chairs.

In the Spring 2022, the ERC Chair issued a call for committee members as she was the only one tasked with the ERC role yet for the sake of transparency as well as support it is important there be more than one member. Jinan Darwiche kindly offered to serve on the ERC.

Spring 2022 Regular elections were held for Senate Executive, Academic Senators, At-large Senators as well as Curriculum committee. From these elections there will be appointments by the Academic Senate over the summer/Fall (positions of Exec Recording Secretary, Exec Treasurer, and Senator in Design Tech).

In the last Academic Senate meeting for Spring 2022, a change to the configuration for the Curriculum committee was approved which results in two (2) new Departmental representatives on Curriculum; in Business and Design Technology. Prior to this change the Business department shared a representative with the CSIS department and the Design Technology shared their seat with Communications and Media. There also remains an open seat for Math. All of these will be held as special elections in Fall 2022.

The vision for the 2022-2023 term is to create an ERC handbook which can be passed from Chair to Chair and 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.