

End of the Year Report (2024-2025)

Academic Senate Elections and Rules Committee (ERC)

Santa Monica College

Committee Members: Kas Metzler (Chair) and Jinan Darwiche

The objective for the Elections and Rules committee for the 2024-2025 academic year was to conduct elections in accordance with the Senate by-laws and academic regulations. ERC functions smoothly with accurate tracking and organization. My observation is that communication can be a challenge in situations such as, when a Senator can no longer serve. This information is usually conveyed to the Dept. Chair who sometimes finds a replacement, or may not have an option. The challenge is that this information is not passed onto the ERC Chair and/or Senate admin. This has also happened on the Curriculum committee which results in asymmetry of who is serving and term status. I appreciate the communication and coordination from Tamika and will continue to match the information on the ERC page with the Academic Senate main pages.

A “first” during my time as the ERC tenure occurred during the Spring 2025 Officers elections. There were 2 candidates for the Treasurer position, a full-time faculty member and a part-time faculty member. According to Academic Senate by-laws, Section 9.3.B., “all active faculty members are eligible to run for an officer position.” The question was brought up from the part-time candidate that if they did not get assigned a class in the Fall 2025, could they serve as an Officer on the Academic Senate. I reached out to former Senate President Nate Donahue as well as Faculty Association President, Peter Morris for information regarding the inquiry. The conclusion was that if there was no assignment, the individual would not be eligible to hold a Senate position. The candidate withdrew their nomination soon after.

I spoke with Vicenta Arrizon, incoming Academic Senate President about this situation and if it could be put on the Senate agenda to be discussed in the Fall. With so many other big issues going on, I will “table it” for now.

Summary of elections (2024-2025)

Fall 2024: The ERC Chair worked alongside the Dean of Academic Affairs (Dee Dee Hodges) in the Fall 2024 for the Department Chair elections. In total there were 4 (four) Chair elections (Art, CSIS, Library and Photo & Fashion). There was also one (1) special election in Health Sciences which will be part of the Fall 2025 election cycle for a 4-year term.

Spring 2025 Regular elections were held for Senate Officers, Academic Senators and At-large Senators. With Zoom no longer being an option to attend Senate meetings, the number of At-large Senators has decreased.

[The current list is now maintained as a Google doc.](#)

Senate Officers are:

Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President (2024-2026)

Roxanna Cruz, Recording Secretary (2025-2026)

Jessica Krug, Treasurer (2025-2026)

Parliamentarian, To be appointed (2025-2026)

For curriculum committee elections, the following positions were voted in or re-elected for another 3-year term:

[The current list is now maintained as a Google doc.](#)

Note: For the ESL/Modern Languages position, the programs have told Redelia that 3-years is too long for a faculty member to commit to, so they rotate a faculty person semester by semester. I discussed this with Vicenta as well as emailed Redelia to recommend this be aligned with the terms of all members and as established in the by-laws.

Kas Metzler, ERC Chair