

Candidate: Richard Unis

My interest in serving as a part-time faculty representative is rooted in my 20 years of teaching sociology and witnessing firsthand the power of shared governance to advance student success. I believe a strong part-time faculty voice is vital, and I am committed to continuing my advocacy on behalf of our colleagues.

As a senate officer, I have led several initiatives to foster a more inclusive teaching environment for part-time faculty. I organized and led a workgroup to develop our college's first 'Part-Time Faculty Handbook,' which is now being expanded to serve all faculty. I also helped launch comprehensive, day-long orientations for both new and returning adjunct faculty, ensuring everyone has access to the resources and student support services they need. Furthermore, our advocacy has resulted in the creation of a paid seat for part-time faculty on every college-wide governance committee. In addition, I have worked with the Academic Senate Part-Time Faculty Committee to host monthly off-campus gatherings, building a stronger sense of community among adjuncts.

At the statewide level, I recently collaborated with faculty from across the region to draft and pass the unanimously supported Academic Senate resolution, 'Supporting Equal Rights for Part-Time Faculty.' This represents an important step toward greater inclusion for part-time faculty across California.

I hope to continue expanding opportunities for part-time faculty through meaningful inclusion and empowerment. It would be an honor to continue to serve as your representative and to advocate for the interests of part-time faculty at Grossmont. Thank you for your consideration.