

VP Candidate: Steve Davis

Hello Grossmont Faculty,

I am running for re-election as Vice President of the Academic Senate because I continue to believe in the importance of shared governance, faculty voice, and equitable student success. I've served in this role for eight years—and while that might sound like a long time, to me it feels like I'm just getting started. (I served two full six-year cycles on Academic Program Review, after all!) I remain energized by the work and the relationships we faculty have with our students, staff, and administration.

As Chair during my second Program Review cycle, I gained a deep understanding of the excellent work our faculty do across the college and the support they need to do it well. That experience still shapes my approach today. My goal—as it was then—is to advocate for the conditions that allow faculty to thrive in service to students.

I've had the privilege of working with three Senate Presidents: Tate Hurvitz (pre-COVID), Denise Schulmeyer (during the onset of COVID), and our current president, Perla Lopez. Each brought unique strengths, and it's been an honor to support their leadership as we navigated unprecedented challenges and pursued a shared vision for Grossmont.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue working with Dr. Sharon Sampson, our next Senate President. Sharon and I have collaborated for years, and while we sometimes approach things differently, we challenge each other respectfully—and often shift each other's perspectives. That's the kind of partnership I value; one rooted in trust, critical thinking, and a shared commitment to the well-being of our faculty and students.

Equity remains central to our work. Dr. Sampson has been a consistent voice for making Equity an integrated, not supplemental, part of our practices. I fully support that vision. While the Senate has embraced this approach, I believe there is still work to do across our campus and in our classrooms to make Equity second nature in everything we do. As Vice President, I will continue to champion this transformation.

I also remain committed to building strong relationships with our colleagues at Cuyamaca. The collaboration during FLEX Week has been inspiring—whether in developing the Compressed Calendar or through events like Dr. Victoria Rodriguez's Equity Showcase. These efforts show what's possible when our colleges work together.

In addition, I will continue serving on the Faculty DEI Committee (JEDI), where I aim to foster partnerships with campus leaders around creating academically rigorous and supportive environments that fully engage our students.

Ultimately, my role is to support you. By ensuring you have what you need to serve students—whether they're transferring, entering the workforce, or returning to their communities—we strengthen Grossmont's impact and our shared mission.

Finally, as our college undergoes significant administrative turnover, continuity matters. Senate officers meet regularly with administrators, and I bring the institutional memory and collaborative experience necessary to help guide us through this transition.

For all these reasons, I hope to serve two more years as your Academic Senate Vice President. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,
Steve Davis