

Statement to Academic Senate 8/22/2023

Re: Transfer related initiatives with four-year institutions

Hello,

My name is Leo Pastrana and I am the SAC University Transfer Center Faculty Coordinator. Thank you for allowing me to bring up my concerns to you all.

As I go through this, I do want to state that in no way whatsoever, am I opposed to any transfer collaborations with other universities. The concerns I am bringing up relate to recent statements by our District chancellor, Mr. Marvin Martinez and our college president, Dr. Annabelle Nery. Last week it was publicly announced that SAC would continue to collaborate with UCI and CSUF, but also would be collaborating with the following institutions on new transfer related initiatives with:

- UCLA
- Whittier College
- La Sierra University

While we welcome the addition of such transfer initiatives, I do wish to inform the faculty of this college, that the SAC University Transfer Center nor I, were consulted in the formation of these new partnerships; we learned about these new initiatives when you all found out last week. While transfer is not the sole responsibility of the SAC University Transfer Center, it is our responsibility to interface and collaborate with outside institutions and agencies once they are working with our students. Most importantly we serve as the conduit between these partnerships and our student body. Our students deserve to the right to have access to accurate information as they engage with these programs.

As your fellow faculty member, I think it is imperative that we have a faculty voice present during these meetings as I need to consider:

- Marketing and messaging to students, faculty, and staff
- Recruitment
- Logistics
- Reporting and accountability
- Staffing needs (we are a small department)

In the spirit of true partnership, transparency, and collaboration with our administrators, I am asking this body that as we move forward with transfer initiatives, I and any other interested faculty member(s) be included in the conversations regarding the formation of these partnerships. It is important that all responsible parties are on the same page for the sake of our students.

Thank you for your time.

Leo Pastrana