

YFA Rep Council Meeting October 18, 2017 Highlights

Update on Retirement Benefits

For faculty hired after 2013, retirement benefits were curtailed by an agreement made during the 2013/2014 negotiations session under previous leadership. This new language was also inserted into LTAC and CSEA contracts. YFA plans on including retirement benefits as reopener in the next round of negotiations. Please see earlier email sent out by Jim Sahlman to all faculty regarding this issue.

Evaluations of Faculty Teaching Online

For those faculty teaching online, remember that only your immediate service area administrator and peer evaluators have the right to evaluate your online classes. Administration was trying to have a different administrator evaluate your online classes, but faculty have only one immediate administrator per service area and it is that immediate administrator who should evaluate your course.

Negotiations Update

Because YFA and the District have not been able to reach an agreement on the issue of class size caps (YFA has not agreed to the District's 40 or room capacity offer), the facilitator introduced the concept of having ranges of class caps. Instead of the variations we currently have, he suggested that we have fewer variations but maintain some flexibility to account for different pedagogical needs. The discussion centered around having four levels of caps for standard class sizes: 25, 30, 35, or 40. All current classes would have to go through a review process by the yet-to-be-convened, Class Capacity Committee, to determine which class size level would be appropriate. This review will probably take several years. All representatives need to gather constituent feedback on this class cap proposal and provide YFA leadership with the feedback **prior to November 1**.

During the last negotiations meeting, the District team did not want to talk about compensation (remember, faculty have not received any raise this year even though LTAC and CSEA have) until a new cohort was agreed upon. Because the discussion of a new cohort is not even a Sunshined issue that is legally a part of this current round of negotiations and because the District team admitted that it has not received any direction from the Board on this issue, negotiations stopped at that point. It appears that the District is not negotiating in good faith.

YFA General Meeting

There was overwhelming support to hold another general meeting in a central location before the end of the semester.