

Karen Marrujo, English

Core Values

- Care
- Equity
- Inclusion
- Partnership
- Transparency

I am an English instructor who is honored to get the opportunity to run for Academic Senate President. I have served in Academic Senate for the last 5 consecutive years—two years as a senator and three as vice president. I am now ready to serve as president. I am motivated to run because I am committed to empowering faculty voices and championing equity for faculty. I want to make sure faculty are included in every decision-making space.

To provide students with care and equitable support and opportunities, we need to make sure faculty are also operating in supportive, adaptable, and equitable environments. Faculty too need humanized support. To make sure diverse faculty perspectives are accurately represented, I will make sure to communicate information to all faculty in honest, consistent, and accessible ways. We cannot have adequate representation and support unless faculty are well-informed and able to directly advocate for their needs. This is a major reason why transparency is one of my core values.

I know it is essential that we collaborate and maintain healthy and constant communication with all our partners—including student leaders, administrators, and colleagues from Classified Senate, as well as those at Grossmont College and our District. I am devoted to building partnerships so that we can work together to accomplish our shared goals. For example, I have collaborated with Classified Senate in writing resolutions such as the “Resolution in Support of More Collaborative, Effective, and Equitable Participatory Governance Practices and Policies;” I partnered with faculty and administrators at Cuyamaca and Grossmont to write a proposal for supporting and compensating EEO representatives; and every month I collaborate with our Library and the Young, Gifted, and Black Club to organize Open Mics for our students.

My service as Academic Senate Vice President along with my work on multiple committees, EEO Site Lead, and professional development as Teaching and Learning Co-Coordinator highlight my dedication to serving our campus, supporting colleagues, and empowering faculty. I also continue to focus on growing and developing as a leader. I am an AFT mentor and part of the first cohort for AFT's Leadership 101 Development Series. I have also accepted a role as one of our AFT Campus Coordinators. In addition to that, I am a member of the ASCCC Latinx Caucus and I attended the 2023 ASCCC Faculty Leadership Institute, which is intended to empower and engage faculty with the knowledge, skills, and insights needed to be effective advocates and problem-solvers. I will continue to seek improvement and growth because I always aim to better serve our community.

I'm a proud member of Cuyamaca College who is passionate about creating an empowering, effective, and nurturing environment for us all. To accomplish this vision, I will put in the work to make sure I continue to be a strong faculty advocate.