



Associated Students Fall Newsletter

To attend AS meetings, find the agendas here:

<https://as.fullcoll.edu/agendas>

AS meetings are open to the public for attendance and public comment! Feel free to drop by and express your concerns or be more involved in your student government!

To visit the A.S. executives' office hours, click on this link:

<https://as.fullcoll.edu/executive-officers>

Your AS executives have office hours that are open to any student to express their concerns, ask for help, or simply connect with their governing body!

A.S. Instagram

@fullcollAS

<https://www.instagram.com/fullcollas/>

A.S. Youtube Channel

Fullerton College Associated Students

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUTXemtL8lOK2ITU9wHNaBg>

Finals Week Events



For spring events, look out for our next newsletter!

A.S. is looking for artists to perform at virtual Quadchella in Spring!

Virtual Club Rush - February 4th, 2021!

AS Accomplishments

**Fall 2020 and
Spring 2021**

No fees for the ID card as per the AS recommendation!

Associated Students advocated for providing headphones for students to help with online learning. We also advocated that the campus purchase noise-blocking headphones so students sharing rooms can study and focus as well. The headphones will be available for students in the spring, look out for more details on the Fullerton College website and Instagram!

**Spring
2021**

A.S. President David Robles:

“On Tuesday, Nov 3, AS had one of the largest Senate meetings anyone can remember. Over 200 Students, Faculty, District, and community members joined us to bear witness as Student leaders spoke truth to power and

Fall 2020

condemned the abusive behavior of NOCCCD Board President Ryan Bent. AS Senate unanimously approved the release of a statement attached to this newsletter. Additionally, two ad hoc committees have been formed with the unanimous consent of the Senate. The first joint task force will work with District and Campus groups to review Board Policies and propose changes to ensure Board Trustees are held to higher standards and face consequences for their bad behavior. The second task force is aimed at playing a role in Fullerton college's goal of becoming an anti-racist institution. Specifically, we will attempt to create space for students to join together around their shared experiences of microaggressions or racism, and create an environment for healing and empowerment. Any students interested in this work or any of the other things AS is doing, please contact any AS members or just show up to our next meeting and find a way to get involved."

Here is the letter that was written to the NOCCCD Board of Trustees on behalf of Associated Students:



Fullerton College Associated Students

November 03, 2020

To: North Orange County Community College (NOCCCD) Board of Trustees

Subject: Board of Trustees President Ryan Bent's actions at the 10/27/20 Fullerton College Associated Students (AS) Senate Meeting

Board of Trustees, I am writing to you today on behalf of the Associated Students of Fullerton College. Attached to this letter, you will find a detailed accounting of what happened. In this letter, I will summarize the events, highlighting particularly distressing points, and ask the Board to address these issues. During her regular reports to AS, Trustee Chloe Jane Reyes has kept AS apprised of the investigation into Board President Ryan Bent. After the results of the investigation were reported at the 10/13/20 NOCCCD Board of Trustees meeting, Trustee Reyes shared those results with the AS Senate on 10/20/20. As a result of her report, Trustee Reyes and several other students were tasked with drafting a letter to be presented at a special Student Senate meeting to be held at 1:30 pm on 10/27/20. At 1:02 pm, from his official NOCCCD email, Trustee Bent emailed the AS executives a long email, that will also be attached to this letter, in which he commanded "Do not be pawns of the radical union leaders trying to get me out of office right now." At the meeting, Trustee Bent became so angry during the course of the discussion that on multiple occasions, he raised his voice, spoke over students, repeatedly spoke out when not called upon by the chair, called the AS president's conduct "thuggish," and aimed a retaliatory threat at Trustee Reyes for her use of free speech.

Trustee Bent, you have defined your actions as "defending myself." Although extremely defensive in nature, your actions are more accurately described as

attacking students. You did not present a coherent, respectable defense for yourself. Instead, you employed rhetorical fallacies and bully tactics to attempt to intimidate students into silence. When we as a student body did not back down, you became irate and used racially coded language to address a student. The word "thug" has no place in respectful discourse and no place being used by an elected official to describe a man of color. The history of that word is deeply racist. Anyone intentionally using that word is not fit to hold office, and if you were not aware of the history of that word, that is an unacceptable failure on your part. For your edification, attached are articles tracking the history of the word. Furthermore, your implicit threat against Trustee Reyes is not only uncouth and boorish but it was also in direct violation of "the exercise of free expression by students" established by the California Education Code. Free expressions should be free of retaliation. Lastly, your vague accusations meant to undermine the credibility and independence of Fullerton College AS are as cowardly as they are unfounded. Instead of hiding behind plausible deniability and coded language, speak clearly if you have accusations of misconduct and provide any evidence you have. In light of your choice to continue to operate in bad faith and contrary to the values set forth by the District and laid out by CA Education code, the Associated Students of Fullerton College do not believe that you can fulfill your duties and oath as a Trustee. We are demanding a public apology for your actions and your resignation effective immediately.

To the rest of the Board, upon failure to receive Trustee Bent's resignation, we implore you to use your considerable powers to reprimand him in a way to prevent further misconduct. It is our belief, indicated by Trustee Bent's own words, that the conclusion of the investigation emboldened him to conduct himself in the way he has: "I will also note that the union's accusations against me have all been proven false by my own board's ethics investigation, which I voted to have done to clear my name:[sic]" We believe these actions violate BP 1001: "Professionalism: We hold high standards for our faculty and staff and create an environment in which staff development and other continuing education are valued and promoted" and "Respect: We cultivate an atmosphere of courtesy, civility, and collegiality with all students and employees in the District." Additionally, we feel Trustee Bent's acts rise to the level of violating the Safe Place to Learn Act. Specifically, "It is the policy of the State of California to ensure that all local educational agencies continue to work to reduce discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying."

The disruptions, bullying, and threatening language Trustee Bent used at our meeting would not be tolerated by any student, staff, or administrator in this district. Trustee Bent did not attend a shared governance meeting on Campus. It was not the Student Services office down the hall who heard his unhinged rants and abusive language. He came into our homes. He threatened Trustee Reyes in her home. He insulted me in front of my family. It was my son who heard him yelling in the living room from my bedroom at the opposite end of our home, my son, who asked my wife, "Why was that man yelling being so mean to dad?" It is him who asked us, "Well, that is not ok. Will he be in trouble for being naughty?" I hope to tell my son that no matter what position you hold, and no matter how powerful someone thinks they are, there are repercussions for your actions. The actions we recommend that are well within your powers would be any, and as much of the following items, you find fit. The immediate removal of Trustee Bent as Board President and further barring him from holding officer positions on the Board and withholding a portion, or all of the per diem allotted to him until a public apology is received and corrective action to include cultural sensitivity training is complete. We believe it is essential to show the community that in light of recent social paradigm shifts, that NOCCCD recognizes the importance of rebuking men who demean and threaten women and reject any racist language, however cloaked or coded it is. Associated Students is willing to meet with any Board members hoping to receive further information. We eagerly anticipate your response and know you will do what is right to protect students' well being and their rights to free speech and shared governance.

On behalf of Associated Students of Fullerton College,

In service,



David Robles Fullerton College Associated Students President



Get to Know...

Professor

Faculty Focus

"I have been teaching chemistry for Fullerton College since the fall of 2008... A career that I began working towards shortly after my return from Utah, where I could best be described as a menace to society. In addition to teaching, I also serve Fullerton College as a representative on the curriculum committee.

Guy Dadson

1. What makes you smile when you get up in the morning?

Individuals who are close to me know that I refrain from smiling in the morning. However, if anything is to bring a smile to my face in the morning it would be my wife and daughters... well, that or a cup of coffee.

2. If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Although the cholesterol would greatly shorten my life...welcomed, I suppose, if I could only eat one thing... it'd be a bacon and egg breakfast burrito, stuffed with potatoes and cheese. Oh my... my mouth is watering just thinking about it!

3. Do you have any pet peeves?

Pet peeves...hmm. I might become frustrated by individuals who ignore me while I am speaking to them. I suppose for this reason I take with me to class yellow and red penalty cards, which are given to students who are caught paying closer attention to their technology (e.g. cell phone) than my lecture!

4. If you could time travel, when and where would you go?

Although inclined to say back in time to see my hero, Marie Curie... It would be to go back and see my mom again. She passed away a couple years ago... and I miss her tremendously.

5. What's the most important thing we should know about you?

Since the spring of 2013, I have had to deal with multiple neurological problems: hydrocephalus, a large spinal cyst and (now) superficial siderosis. I have significantly impaired hearing and difficulty walking. But... and this is very important... with all the wonderful things that surround me, I feel as though I am blessed! I always look for the positives in life... always."

A Tomato A Day

-by Tina Cruz

How are you doing right now? How are your classes? Tired? Need some tips and tricks? That's where I come in. I am going to be sharing a few in this space that have helped me, and because I believe in equity, I want to share with you, too. First up, the Pomodoro Technique.

Created by Francis Cerrillo in the eighties, it is a technique designed to help you be more



A tomato timer.

productive with your time. Pomodoro means “tomato” based on the timer that Francis used in university. It is a simple technique and can be done with any timer, though there are some great apps out there that make using the Pomodoro Technique easy.

The classic Pomodoro is three periods of 25:00 minutes each, with 5:00 minutes break between them. After four 25:00 blocks, you get a long break of 15:00. Then, start over again. This technique helps keep you on track. If you are easily distracted, you can maintain focus for twenty-five minutes.

You can do that! If you hyper-focus, you allow yourself to take a break so you don't get too fatigued. It is fully customizable: change your time periods as it suits you, use longer periods for deeper work. It is a great system.

In addition to using any timer, you can also use apps. I personally like Focus-To-Do (which also has a Chrome extension) but there are a lot of apps out there. Some like Tide, which is a simple and stylish app that does one thing: keep time. Still, another pick is Pomo To Do. Forest is an app-based upon the Pomodoro Method that helps you grow trees, if you like to reward yourself. All of these are found in your app store. You can experiment to find the one that works best for you.

photo credit: s Eia b at i l l a n W i k i n e w s . - T r a n s f e r r e d f r o m i b i l k i n e w s t o C o m m o n s b y F a l e u s i n g C o m m o n s H e l p e r , C C B Y - S A 3.0

For general AS questions, please contact us at AS@fullcoll.edu.

If you have any suggestions, concerns, or questions, feel free to contact A.S. President David Robles: rrobles@fullcoll.edu

If you would like anything to be added to future newsletters, feel free to contact the Chair of A.S. Newsletter Taskforce Urooj Naveed: unaveed@fullcoll.edu