

Debra Hills-Beckwith – Instruction

I am running for Part-Time Faculty Senator. I am an adjunct professor in English as a Second Language (ESL) and I believe my experience would be valuable to the Academic Senate. I approach education through a lens of assets-based teaching and research, which emphasizes inclusion and the dismantling of barriers found at all levels of education, especially those that impact traditionally marginalized communities. My pedagogy emphasizes educational equity by meeting students' affective needs and using strategies that are culturally relevant and sustaining. Additionally, I have participated in the implementation and design of the current Accelerated ESL curriculum, by participating in the development of the department's curriculum, supporting my colleagues by sharing self-created teaching materials, and volunteering my time, as able, to support the department's goals. Moreover, I have served Cuyamaca College as a member of the Student Success and Equity Council (SSEC), helping to reimagine and implement new orientation practices for adjunct faculty. Currently, I serve as a member of the Teaching and Learning Committee. Overall, my work advocates for strengthening continuity standards for student support within K-20 education and developing effective professional learning opportunities for educators that meet the challenges of diverse classrooms. As an educator, I believe strongly in creating and maintaining an institutional climate of educational excellence. This is something that involves everyone, from students, staff, and faculty, to collaborating with Grossmont College and the communities our district serves. In simple words, success and excellence take a commUNITY.