

Professional Standards Committee

2022-2023 Final Report to Cosumnes River College Academic Senate

Submitted by Mun Kang and Anastasia Panagakos, Co-Chairs

Purpose and Area of Responsibility

The Professional Standards Committee receives and reviews the applications of faculty members desiring Type A and B Professional (Sabbatical) Leaves. Every semester the College President sends a letter to all full-time faculty describing the application procedures and timelines for these leaves. The committee reviews the proposals using an approved rubric and interviews the applicants. Following established equitable guidelines, each committee member is given an opportunity to ask questions of applicants during the interview process as well as voice opinions and concerns during the deliberation phase. The committee then makes recommendations to the College President who sends recommended leaves to the Board of Trustees for approval (Please see current Article 9 of the LRCCD/LRCFT Agreement for information on purpose and criteria). The committee chair refrains from casting a vote during deliberation or voicing an opinion regarding an application but can vote to break a tie if one should arise. Within three months of completion of approved sabbatical leaves, the committee collects reports, reviews and then assesses them by an approved rubric.

Membership

All areas/units shall be represented. At least ten faculty members should be appointed including a representative from the LRCFT union. At least one voting member of the committee should be current in equity and diversity training. The chair and chair elect shall be designated by the Academic Senate President, in consultation with the College President.

The Vice President for Instruction and Student Learning serves as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

2022-2023 Committee Members:

Naomi Bahm (SBS)	Thien-Huong Ninh (SBS)
Lisa Beebe (AME)	Sarah Pollock (SME)
Iris Dimond (LRCFT)	Sharon Stith (HHS)
Patty Felkner (AME)	Mike Yarbrough (SME)
Michael Frigm (AFNR)	
Rubina Gulati (AME)	Co-Chairs
Norman Hom (ELS)	Mun Kang (AME)
Lap Ly (SME)	Anastasia Panagakos (SBS)
Ray Mapeso (SSC)	
Kathryn Mayo (AME)	
Lisa-Marie Mederos (BCS)	

2022-2023 Committee Activities

- Review committee charge and update/amend/change if needed
- Adhere to established standards for collecting and reviewing applications and interviewing faculty applying for sabbaticals for both the fall and spring semesters.
- Collect and review sabbatical reports from faculty who have completed sabbatical projects
- Recruit new committee members
- Assist faculty in developing sabbatical projects

The Professional Standards Committee recommended the following projects for approval:

Spring 2023

Kurt Erickson's proposal "Music and Storytelling: Turning *Here, Bullet* into a Short Film and Creating a New Multimedia Piece to Commemorate the Tragedy of Pan Am Flight 103" (Type A) is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Prof. Erickson to collaborate with Tony-nominated actor/director Will Chase in producing a new 30-minute multimedia and immersive video piece to be premiered in Fall 2024. Through the production of these pieces, Prof. Erickson will be learning new skills which will become part of the music curriculum and working with cross-over disciplines such as RTVF. Prof. Erickson's works also bring visibility and innovation to the CRC Music Department and campus community.

Danielle Heard Mollel's proposal "Funding for Umoja/Diaspora Students to Study Abroad in Africa" (Type B 0.4) addresses a gap in the study abroad opportunities available to our students. In this project she will research the funding and networking opportunities for CRC and/or Los Rios Umoja students to study abroad in Africa. The opportunity for Umoja and Diaspora students to study abroad in Africa is deeply significant, as it affords a chance to return "home" and gain a deep sense of cultural pride that breeds self-confidence, self-love, and by extension, many kinds of success. This sabbatical is a first step for Prof. Heard Mollel to develop a study abroad program in Tanzania that can be offered free of charge and make the study abroad experience more equitable.

Patty Felkner's proposal "Tell Me Something About Yourself: 31 years, 4500 faces, 1/60th of a second" (Type B 0.3) is a career-reflection project that uses some of the over 4500 student photos and biographies she has collected over thirty years to create a body of work that addresses her role as professor and to chart the changing nature of community college students' identities over time through an artistic process. Upon completion, Prof. Felkner will exhibit the work for the CRC campus community and have the basis for a new innovative photography course entitled "The Visual Self."

Phuong Le's proposal "CRC Math Boot Camp Redesign" (Type B 0.4 FTE) brings a much-needed revision to this successful program which has been offered each summer since 2010 to help CRC students review and learn fundamental math skills and concepts before starting college-level math. Prof. Le's redesign will include using a new online system, ALEKS, to innovate delivery of the curriculum with the end product of creating an equitable and inclusive opportunity for students to build skills and confidence in studying mathematics.

Fall 2023

Tamyra Carmona's proposal "Virtual Anatomy Lab Revisited and Exploring Early Anatomy Through the Lens of History, Medicine, and Art" (Type A) is two distinct, yet related projects. The first part of the sabbatical proposal is to update the Virtual Anatomy Lab (VAL) utilized by all CRC anatomy and physiology students. The VAL is widely used by students but is in dire need of editing, additions, accessibility updates, and expansion. The VAL has become a vital component of laboratory study with the switch to using Open Educational Resources. The access to quality images has severely decreased and students currently do not have enough resources provided for effective studying. Unfortunately, this has the biggest impact on low-income students. An expanded VAL will provide free, 24-hour access to course materials. The second part of the sabbatical is a study into the history of anatomical and cadaveric studies. The goal is to expand Tamyra's understanding of the cultural origins of the field and the impact that it had on modern medicine, art, and our understanding of human form and function. This part of the proposal is primarily an opportunity for professional and intellectual growth, and personal rejuvenation.

Danielle Heard Mollel's proposal "Making Study Abroad Inclusive and Equitable: Developing the First Study Abroad Program in Africa Offered at Los Rios" (Type A) addresses a gap in the study abroad opportunities available to our students. The intent of this project is to fully develop a study abroad program with the goal of bringing a cohort of Umoja/Diaspora students to Tanzania in the Spring or Summer of 2024. This sabbatical request continues the work Danielle began this semester with a 40% type B sabbatical to explore the feasibility of creating the study abroad program. This program addresses the lack of equity and inclusivity in Los Rios's study abroad offerings by developing the first-of-its-kind study abroad program in Africa offered in the Los Rios Community College District, an offering that targets our significant population of Black Diaspora students at CRC, particularly those in the Umoja Diop Scholars Program.

Rick Schubert's proposal "Restructuring CRC Honors Around Cal-GETC" (Type B 0.4) proposes to revise and restructure the CRC Honors Program, currently built around IGETC (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum) requirements, so that the program will continue to serve students well once Cal-GETC (California General Education Transfer Curriculum) requirements go into effect in Fall 2025. Aligning the Honors Program with Cal-GETC sooner rather than later will allow for a more seamless transition and less disruption to students' schedules and transferability.

Sabbatical Reports Received:

These reports are available to review on our committee's BoardDocs site:

Spring 2022 Sabbatical Reports (Submitted Fall 2022)

- Georgine Hodgkinson

Fall 2022 Sabbatical Reports (Submitted Spring 2023)

- Heather Hutcheson
- Brandy Jones-Thomas
- Rick Schubert