



May 3, 2021

Dear Academic Senate Colleagues,

The health of our college and the morale of our faculty, classified staff, and students are of utmost importance to me and our administrative team.

I understand you are not expecting a written response, though I want to respond in writing to acknowledge your wish to explore possible solutions. I also look forward to our dialogue at the Academic Senate meeting later today. I want to have conversations with you to discuss how we can come together as a campus during what has been the most difficult year of our professional lives.

Per your letter, the Academic Senate Officers are also scheduled to meet jointly later today with me and President's Cabinet. We will use this meeting to discuss the frequency of regular meetings moving forward to ensure a continuation of the conversation and to also lay out the groundwork for us to collaborate on solutions to each of the points in the letters. We will also explore with the Officers possible mediators/facilitators, in addition to the ones previously identified.

I understand the seriousness of the issues you raise in your letter and the concerns held by faculty at Foothill College. I am deeply saddened that some of my efforts to engage with the Academic Senate and the faculty at large have had the opposite outcome from what I intended, and it is not helpful here to address each point made in the letter as the overall spirit of your letter is clearly felt and understood.

I seek to create a campus climate that contributes to trust and collaboration, and until we address the issues in your letter, I understand we will not make progress in that direction. To that end, I take responsibility for actions that must be undertaken to initiate quickly steps to address the issues and concerns you raise, and to bring us together as a campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thuy Thi Nguyen", written in a cursive style.

Thuy Thi Nguyen