



ACADEMIC FREEDOM CONFERENCE

Friday, October 7

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast

9:30 - 9:40 a.m.

Welcome

- Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, President, FACCC
- Dr. Angélica Garcia, President, Berkeley City College
- Ginni May, President, ASCCC

9:40 - 10:50 a.m.

Keynote

- Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley School of Law

10:50 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions: A or B

A. Equity, Anti-racism, and Academic Freedom

Presenters:

- Manuel Vélez, ASCCC Area D Representative, San Diego Mesa College
- Juan Arzola, ASCCC At-Large Representative, College of the Sequoias

Academic freedom is essential to student-centered equity and anti-racism work in the California community colleges as identified in the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Call to Action. The connection between academic freedom and equity is fundamental. Without the rights of faculty to speak, research, and pursue diverse ideas, equity is not possible. Academic freedom allows faculty to academically challenge racist ideology and structures in the context of their subject matter expertise.

B. First in the Nation LGBTQIA+ Student Bill of Rights, Los Angeles Community College District

Presenters:

- Hon. David Vela, Trustee, Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD)
- Dr. Francisco Rodriguez, Chancellor, LACCD
- Dr. Deborah Harrington, Dean of Student Success, LACCD
- Felipe Agredano, Faculty Liaison of the Chancellor's LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee

LGBTQIA+ academic curriculum and holistic student services for BIPOC LGBTQIA+ are a cornerstone of academic freedom for student success in diverse student communities.

12:15 - 1:10 p.m.

Lunch

1:15 - 2:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions: A or B

A. Ensuring Academic Freedom for All Faculty: Local and Statewide Efforts

Presenters:

- Julie Bruno, Past President (2016-2018), ASCCC
- Manuel Vélez, ASCCC Area D Representative, San Diego Mesa College

This past year has seen additional efforts by the legislature and organizations outside our system to legislate our colleges and our curriculum. In 2020, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges published the paper *Protecting the Future of Academic Freedom in a Significant Time of Change*, which contained several recommendations for local academic senates and unions to strengthen academic freedom for all faculty. Join us for a discussion on how we might safeguard academic freedom by enacting these recommendations. Please bring your questions and challenges as well as your own promising practices to share.

B. Academic Freedom and Faculty Evaluations: Partnering with Union Colleagues

Presenters:

- Erik Reese, ASCCC Area C Representative, Moorpark College
- Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, President, FACCC

Academic freedom is one faculty issue that falls within the purview of the academic senate and the union. In fact, it is the one issue where there should be a strong partnership between the two bodies on campus. Most especially, faculty evaluations should be designed to protect both full- and part-time faculty from incursions into academic freedom. Join us to discuss how senates and unions might work together to create a faculty evaluation process that safeguards the academic freedom for all faculty.

Thank you to our partners:

