

## **Academic Senate Vice Chair Candidate Statement**

**Rita Kumar**

**April 2022**

Dear Senate Colleagues,

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Senate Vice Chair, and respectfully request your support.

I am a Professor in the Technology and Operations Management Department in the College of Business Administration, and also serve as Director of the College's Singelyn Center for Innovative Analytics. This is my 19<sup>th</sup> year on the faculty at Cal Poly Pomona, my 5<sup>th</sup> on the Academic Senate, and my 3<sup>rd</sup> on the Senate Executive Committee.

During my years on the Academic Senate, and particularly on the Senate Executive Committee, I have developed a deep appreciation for the role that shared governance plays in shaping our future. I have experienced how a process based on collaboration, consultation, communication, mutual respect, and trust can lead to successful outcomes. Needless to say, it is not always easy, nor is there always agreement, but it is effective because we have a shared set of core values and goals, along with a spirit of collegiality as our guiding principles.

My committee service at CPP has spanned department, college, and university levels. The ones with the most direct relevance for the Vice Chair position include Senate Faculty Affairs Committee and Senate Executive Committee; and RTP, assessment, accreditation, and curriculum committees. I am grateful for the many opportunities to collaborate with and learn from colleagues across departments and colleges, and look forward to many more!

A primary responsibility of the Vice Chair position is to “act as liaison between the Executive Committee and all ad hoc and standing committees of the Academic Senate, having complete charge of the referral process and being responsible for reporting to the Executive Committee the current status of work assigned to committees”<sup>1</sup>. I am keenly aware that every referral that comes to the Senate Executive Committee may lead to policies and procedures with wide-ranging impacts, and the importance of clarity, completeness, and consultation in the reports that are moved to the Senate floor for further consideration. I believe my experiences align well with the role of the Vice Chair, and I will be honored to serve as your Vice Chair.

Thanks,

Rita

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<sup>1</sup> Policy 122 – Academic Senate Bylaws (2020)