Dear Colleagues,

Two matters of importance:

1. Elections
   We are approaching the annual elections for the Santa Cruz Faculty Association Executive Board and wanted to give members a heads up. The procedure, done according to our by-laws, is as follows: By April 20, the nominating committee identifies and publicizes a slate of candidates willing to serve on the Board and stand for election. This initial slate needs to be large enough to fill vacant slots on the board (the board must have from 7 to 11 members and we like to have as big a board as possible). The membership at large then has two weeks to nominate others or themselves. By May 4 the complete slate is publicized and the election is held by email over the following two weeks. If there are no more names on the slate than available positions on the board, the nominees are deemed elected.

   We would like to encourage members to consider serving on the board. It doesn't involve an onerous amount of work and it can be very rewarding. If you need to learn more about the Board, please email Deborah Rosenberg, the SCFA assistant (scfa.assist@gmail.com), Ben Carson, Co-chair (blc@ucsc.edu), or Chris Connery, Co-chair (cconnery@ucsc.edu). You could also email the nominating committee, Miriam Greenberg (miriam@ucsc.edu), Kirsten Gruesz (ksgruesz@ucsc.edu), and Bali Sahota (sahota@ucsc.edu). There are always issues of importance in union work, and the union makes us strong. New voices are always welcome.

2. Harassment of Faculty
   The SCFA leadership is meeting this quarter with administrators from the office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, which is charged with handling student harassment of faculty (threats, violent behavior, and other forms of harassment). There have been a few disturbing incidents recently, and we have some concerns about how they have been handled. It is very important that we have as complete a picture as possible of any incidents. If you or anyone you know on the faculty (whether SCFA members or not) have experienced any form of threat or harassment by students or other community members (Title IX matters excluded), please share your experience with us. We want to ensure that the procedures for handling these incidents are sound and are adequately staffed.
Sincerely yours,

Ben Carson and Chris Connery, Co-chairs, SCFA

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With faculty participation, the FA is an effective political voice. Together, we decide how to use it. Visit our website to find out how to join your colleagues by registering online.