

Academic Senate

8 April 2026

Position Announcement

FACULTY LEARNING AND INNOVATION **FACULTY LEAD**

Term: One Year | Fall 2026-Spring 2027 | Renewable By Re-Nomination Each Term

Reassignment Load: 0.5 | 50%

Governance Accountability: Academic Senate

Administrative Supervisor: Vice President of Instruction or Designee

Effective: Fall 2026

PURPOSE:

Valley College faculty are professionals [teachers, counselors, and librarians] whose ongoing learning, inquiry, and growth are central to the quality of education we provide students. *The Faculty Learning and Innovation Faculty Lead stewards the institutional programs and spaces that support that professional excellence.*

Operating under the Academic Senate's authority over faculty professional development (Title 5 §53200; 10+1, Item 8), the Faculty Learning and Innovation Faculty Lead chairs the Faculty Learning and Innovation Committee and provides the coordination, and follow-through that transforms committee priorities into meaningful faculty experiences. The Lead serves all faculty [instructional, counseling, and library], full-time and part-time.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Faculty Learning and Innovation Faculty Lead is a faculty member with expertise in professional learning who provides collegial leadership across all disciplines and roles. The Lead convenes and facilitates the Faculty Learning and Innovation Committee and serves as a liaison between the Senate and the broader campus community on all matters related to faculty professional learning and innovation

Faculty Excellence and Professional Learning

- Chair the Faculty Learning and Innovation Committee, a standing committee of the Academic Senate, and facilitate its work in developing, planning, and evaluating professional learning programs
- Facilitate the development of an Annual Faculty Learning and Innovation Plan grounded in assessed faculty needs, institutional priorities, and equity commitments
- Design and coordinate professional learning opportunities that serve the full range of faculty roles (instructional, counseling, and library) and reflect the depth and breadth of our professional identities
- Identify and respond to emerging professional development needs across disciplines, including pedagogy, technology, AI, distance education, and equity-centered practice, before they become institutional gaps

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- Ensure equity and anti-racism are foundational to Faculty Learning and Innovation programming, with learning opportunities that deepen faculty capacity for inclusive teaching, advising, and student engagement

Community and Culture

- Coordinate a first-year professional development program for incoming tenure-track faculty that introduces Valley College's senate expectations, pedagogical expectations, equity commitments, and institutional culture.
- Develop and sustain professional learning opportunities for part-time faculty, recognizing their essential role in student success and their distinct professional development needs and constraints.
- Design programming that bridges disciplines, divisions, and roles to strengthen cross-campus collaboration and a shared sense of professional community.
- Oversee the coordination of all-college and discipline-specific Flex Day activities and faculty in-service programming during convocation each semester, in collaboration with the VPI and Academic Senate President, ensuring programming reflects institutional priorities and serves all faculty constituencies (full-time and part-time, instructional, counseling, and library).
- Provide timely information to the campus community about professional learning opportunities, resources, and programs.

Academic Senate Accountability and Coordination

- Report regularly to the Academic Senate on Faculty Learning and Innovation activities, program outcomes, and recommendations
- Provide regular oral reports to the Academic Senate on curriculum updates, trends, standards, and policy recommendations.
- Prepare midterm and annual written reports to the Academic Senate summarizing FLIC activities, decisions, and emerging issues.
- Collaborate with the Curriculum Committee, Distance Education Committee, AI Task Force, and other Senate bodies to build faculty capacity in response to emerging institutional needs
- Cultivate active partnerships with other faculty leads, including the IDEAA Faculty Lead, to ensure professional learning reflects and advances equity, inclusion, and anti-racism commitments across all faculty roles and disciplines
- Partner with the Vice President of Instruction on operational coordination with programmatic direction guided by Senate and Institution approved priorities
- Produce an annual report to the Academic Senate evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of the Faculty Learning and Innovation Plan, including progress toward equity goals and recommendations for future priorities.

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- In collaboration with assigned support staff, ensure the Faculty Learning and Innovation Committee website remains current and accurate, including agendas, minutes, resources, and program information

Please note that committee participation listed above is part of the Faculty Lead workload and does not fulfill District committee service obligations. These are separate from the committee assignments that count toward your District service requirement.

SPRING 2026 FACULTY LEAD ELECTIONS INFORMATION

April 8 (Wednesday): *Nomination period opens; call for nominations and letters of interest distributed to faculty. Full-time faculty are eligible for nomination, including self-nomination.*

April 22 (Wednesday): *Nomination period closes; letters of interest due by end of day.*

April 23-24: *Letters of interest submitted to Academic Senate President for posting in senate website; candidates prepare remarks.*

April 29 (Wednesday): *Candidate speeches at Academic Senate meeting; voting conducted immediately following candidate speeches.*

Candidate speeches:

After the nomination period closes, candidates who submitted a letter of interest will be invited by the Elections Subcommittee via email to attend the Academic Senate meeting as indicated above. Each candidate will have 5 minutes to present their qualifications and respond to questions from the Senate.

Voting Process:

Immediately following the candidate presentations, the Senate will conduct a vote to elect the new Faculty Lead. Voting will be carried out according to standard Senate procedures, with ballots cast by seated senators. Voting may be conducted by paper ballots or digitally. The candidate receiving a majority of votes will be elected at the conclusion of the meeting.