

April 29, 2022

Dear colleagues,

I am running to serve as the chair of Organization and Government (O&G) for a second term. Having been in this role for one academic year (2021-2022), I feel motivated and well prepared to continue this service to our Academic Senate.

The Fall 2016 semester was when I first began serving on the Senate; since then, I have served on O&G for six semesters (the last two of those as chair), Professional Standards for one semester (followed by a 1 semester sabbatical), and Curriculum and Research for four semesters. Over this time, I have learned many key lessons about leadership by closely observing and working alongside you, my fellow Senators. Most recently, it has been inhabiting the role of a policy committee chair that has turbocharged my understanding of how to competently serve this body and our university community at large.

As chair of O&G I've learned the ins and outs of following up on referrals, including how to *collectively* devise the necessary questions for investigation, collect the appropriate data to evaluate and assess each request, write up policy recommendations and other types of responses, and present recommendations to the Senate for deliberation. Relatedly, in this role and as a member of the Executive Committee I have better learned the power and the necessity of consultation, including with key constituencies outside the Senate and across our campus community.

To help me in this work, I will continue to draw on my training as a social scientist and ethnographer of communication; my 25+ years of experience in project coordination and management; nearly 10 years of SJSU committee work at the departmental, college, and university levels; my 25+ years of experience facilitating professional meetings (both in person and online); and my pedagogical commitment to designing effective frameworks for collaboration and shared success.

Chairing O&G is a weighty and sometimes stressful undertaking, and the learning curve is very steep. Serving in this role has been demanding but also rewarding, and I would very much like to continue. Thank you very much for considering my reelection.

Respectfully yours,

Tabitha Hart

Dr. Tabitha Hart
Associate Professor
Department of Communication Studies