The OC Academic Senate is working hard to enhance the communication climate at the college. Here are some of the ways we are doing that:

- First, it is important to settle the contract. We all hope that mediation does what it is supposed to do which is “intervene between conflicting parties to promote reconciliation, settlement, or compromise” (Merriam-Webster, 2020). The Senate is trying to remain hopeful.

- Second, the OC Foundation committed to donating $500k towards the Art + Design Building project, and we expect that donation, and the project specific information, will come forward at your Board of Trustee meeting in March 2020.

- Third, the Academic Senate is preparing for our IEPI visit by identifying key players from the Senate that can have the most impact. The two areas of focus are Enrollment Management and Integrated Planning. Faculty are involved with planning at the college although the contract is not yet settled.

- Fourth, our Guided Pathways team is moving forward diligently to make sure we are implementing this initiative to actually support students. The chairs, Shannon Trefts (Faculty), Gabriela Rodriguez (Classified), and Leah Alarcon (Admin) are hard at work to keep the initiative moving.

- Lastly, OC LIVE upcoming events: a conversation with Emmy Award-winning Actor Obba Babatunde on Tues., February 11 at 6pm. Then on March 5 at 6pm, we will be hosting a film screening of award-winning documentary #chicagoGirl which is about an American teen-ager using social media to help coordinate the revolution in Syria. After screening the film, we sit down with director Joe Piscatelli and star Ala’a, who joins us by skype from her home in Chicago. We will discuss the extraordinary role played by social media in political resistance movements, the on-going crisis in Syria, and hopes for the future.

Cheers,

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