

March 13, 2018

Dear President Chong,

Earlier this year our colleagues in the Social Sciences Department wrote a letter to the 100th Anniversary Planning Committee. As you know, they expressed their dismay at boycotting 100-year anniversary events due to the egregious actions of the SRJC Administration and their predilection to increase administrative salaries combined with their desire to cut faculty salary. The Mathematics Department supports the Social Sciences Department in their boycott, and we have chosen to take a similar position; however, we have chosen to direct our misgivings toward the SRJC administrative leadership.

As faculty and staff, we are being told that we are worth less than the administration, in spite of the fact that we are the ones carrying forth the legacy of excellence in education. Many in the Mathematics Department have been here through two or more administrations. We believe the current administration is the first in our collective history to devalue educators and support staff, as we are presently seeing.

The Mathematics Department faculty is as proud as any group at SRJC when it comes to serving our community for so long. That is why many in our department wish to participate in 100-year events. When we do, however, we commit to respecting the 100-year event participants, but at the same time, conveying the message that the District is wrong in their pursuit to crush RANK 10. We will respectfully participate with signs, buttons, and messages to deliver a pro-faculty message, while protesting the anti-faculty directives of our administration.

We have agreed not to take this stance during purely student events and we support the students who have worked to honor SRJC during this historic occasion.

The Mathematics faculty, like our colleagues in the Social Sciences Department, believes that by honoring RANK 10—and other ideologies essential to student success and SRJC's prosperity—the District would be honoring the legacy that has been SRJC's for the past 100 years and ensuring that it carries forward. If the District changes its position and decides to honor RANK 10 as it has for the past 40 years, the Math Department will happily reverse our stance and once again embrace our centennial celebration in its intended spirit.

Regards,

Mark Ferguson

Mathematics Department Chair x 4732