

Christie Diep, United Faculty President
Statement to Board of Trustees Oct. 8, 2019

For a decade, faculty have watched the District reserves grow to the current amount of over 102 million dollars.

Faculty are asking, what is the legacy being built by our District with unheard of reserves and failing faculty salary and benefits comparability?

We faculty know that our work is intrinsic to the existence of this District, and our legacy is the contact and interaction we have with our students every day in the classrooms and through our online classes.

Faculty values are written into the curriculum we create, and they are expressed through our teaching and our care for each individual “FTES” number, or as some more crudely state, “butts in seats.”

I can’t imagine being thought of as a number to generate money, let alone in a District that has a reserve of over 102 million dollars.

What is the message faculty are getting?

Each individual faculty member is the representation of the District, and our work as teachers creates a legacy in the hearts and minds of each individual student.

In the District Mission, Vision, and Values document under “Values—Shared Beliefs” Value 3.5 “Stewardship” states,

“We uphold the responsibility for public trust of our mission and resources.”

Private industry corporate level reserves are not included in the Mission of the District.

At the last Board meeting, I spoke about our values.

So once again we ask, what is the message being given to faculty?

We are hopeful for comprehensive vision that embraces faculty value.