We continue to receive feedback from faculty regarding the trustee’s decision to rescind the vaccine mandate. It is clear that faculty hold strong views on both sides of the issue.

The LRCFT recently held several very productive negotiation meetings with the district regarding PT health care and the rescinding of the vaccine mandate.

Tonight, we heard from several Los Rios faculty who feel passionately about improving parental and family leave options in our contract. The LRCFT and District agreed to crucial improvements in parental and family leave when we last negotiated our contract in 2020. I am proud of that work and look forward to future discussions on the topic.

The LRCFT attended a working lunch on Oct. 21 with district employees who attended the All-African Diaspora Educators Summit at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana in September.

The LRCFT is also taking part in labor education outreach to students this semester through a program sponsored by the Sacramento Central Labor Council and the California Department of Industrial Relations. The Worker Education and Union Visibility Outreach Project will take place on all four campuses and will include classroom visits, tabling, and participation in career and job fairs on the campuses. This project has meshed well with our campus career centers.

This semester the LRCFT is also holding internal elections for campus representative, Secretary/Treasurer, and LRCFT President positions. The results of those elections will be announced in December.

The LRCFT will take part in an equity-based retreat in January.

And, finally, the LRCFT sends our support to the UC graduate researchers and teaching assistants who are going on strike on Nov. 14 for improved wages and childcare subsidies. As a former UC student involved in campus union organizing twenty-five years ago, I hope the UC system and the graduate student workers arrive at a fair contract soon.

Thank you, Jason Newman, LRCFT President