**ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT SP22-FA23**

**CANDIDATE – MARK LEWIS**

**Dear LMC Faculty,**

**My name is Mark Lewis and I wish to be a candidate for the position of LMC Academic Senate President beginning next semester.  For those of you who don’t know me, I have been an LMC biology instructor for a little more than thirty years. During my first four years at LMC I was an adjunct instructor, and then I was fortunate to be hired as a full time instructor in 1995. I have served as an Academic Senate member every semester since I was hired full time.**

**To be honest, this will be the first time I have ever sought out an administrative leadership position at our college—mostly because I love teaching and administrative work doesn’t appeal to me nearly as much.  However, with the recent and unexpected departures of our esteemed Senate President and Vice President, I feel that my institutional knowledge and history can help me be of service during these days of unsettled and unsettling professional changes.**

**I am serving this semester, along with Louie Giambattista, as Senate Co-President. Louie, a former Senate President, has been generous with his guidance, helping to make my learning curve a bit less steep.  We are also lucky to have George Olgin and the incomparable Abbey Duldulao serving as Senate Finance Officer, and Senate Administrative Assistant, respectively.  Each of them does an amazing job, every single day, and their dedication to Senate work is inspiring.**

**Were you to elect me Senate President my Presidential priorities would be humor, good will and the inclusion of music and art at the start of our meetings.  I will also reach out to student groups and clubs to recruit members who, during Senate meetings, would be willing to share their experiences and make suggestions about our evolving educational environment. I think we should hear more student voices during our Senate meetings.**

**Aside from that my priorities as Senate President are to facilitate whatever our faculty feels are the principle academic issues and programs that need attention and development. It would be an honor just to serve LMC faculty as your primary spokesperson for academic and professional matters on campus.  I will consider my tenure a success if our institution and our students are doing better when I am done than they were doing when I began.**

**I feel truly blessed that I have been able to work at LMC these past thirty years. I believe we are one of the best community colleges in the state due to the dedication and commitment of an amazing procession of talented and kind faculty, staff, students and administrators over the years.  On our good days we all make each other better, and we make our community better. And even though we may not always feel it, most of our days are good days.**

**Thank you for reading my statement.**

**Mark Lewis**

**LMC Biology Instructor**