9/17 Flex Day Participatory Governance session notes

In attendance: 1 admin, 3 dept chairs, 2 Classified, ~30 faculty (including presenters/facilitator)

Governance problems identified by the audience:
The new system is top-down, not developed with constituency input.
We want the system to work, but we do not know how to make it work.
Issues being discussed in the system are not tracked in a visible way.
We do not necessarily trust the system to function as a vehicle for good decisions.
Facilities, IT, Student Services, and Instruction all compete for resources and attention.
The Chancellor sets the PGC agenda.
No outreach: potential participants must use their own volition to “enter” the process.
We are not utilizing the “collective intellect” at CCSF sufficiently well.
People are confused about what issues belong to the Academic Senate and which to the PGC. How to distinguish between the two?

Non-governance problems that came up:
Part-timers aren’t afforded new hire orientations.
Part-time faculty especially need support in order to participate in governance. They need to know more about what opportunities are available and how to participate, especially with PT schedules.
Classroom instructors should be able to block out committee times on their preference forms.
Committee meeting schedules need to be set in advance and not change.

Ideas for solutions:
The PGC should choose a chair other than the Chancellor.
Support the department chairs and their role in administration.
Provide orientations to PT faculty on a regular basis at all center/campus locations. Provide new hire orientations for new employees and new hire orientations for new hires that have worked at the college already.
There should be a handbook on new governance structure for employees and a flow chart on all Participatory Governance Systems that delineate the functions and charges of each piece and how to move items up the chain.