



ACADEMIC SENATE

The primary voice of the faculty in academic and professional matters at Santa Rosa Junior College.

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: September 06, 2017

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Senate Chambers
Bertolini 4638

VIDEO CONF: Petaluma Campus
Mahoney 726

PRESENT:

J. Arild, S. Avasthi, P. Bell, J. Carlin-Goldberg, T. Ehret, R. Fautley, S. Fichera, A. Graziani, A. Insull, T. Jacobson, D. King, D. Kirklin, C. McClure, L. Nahas, G. Navarro, N. Persons, F. Pugh, S. Rosen, N. Slovak, M. Starkey, E. Thompson, K. Walker, N. Wheeler, S. Whyly

ABSENT:

A. Hsieh, T. Johnson, N. Nasseem, C. Norton

GUESTS:

K. Kinahan, E. Navarro, B. Davis, S. Eidgahy, B. Goldstein, R. Holcomb, K. Loewen, V. Tam, P. Avila, W. Crawford, R. Martinez

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President E. Thompson.

OPEN FORUM:

1. T. Jacobson and K. Kinahan announced the new fitSRJC program focusing on employee wellness. The program was established by a workgroup that formed out of the Leadership Academy. The workgroup is looking to become a standing committee and to coordinate a comprehensive wellness program. They are establishing a Wellness Wednesday and will begin offering a flex approved, noon workout class for faculty and staff starting on October 4. Faculty and staff are encouraged to wear workout wear on Wednesdays. Additional activities, like challenges, will be added in the future, and they plan on working with the Classified Senate and student groups. fitSRJC will officially launch at the spring PDA day. More information can be found at fit.santarosa.edu.

MINUTES:

May 3, 2017.

Motion: J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

REPORTS:

1. President's Report – E. Thompson

- **President's Consultation Council** – Dr. Chong's newly formed council is made up of the presidents and vice presidents of the College, Academic Senate, Classified Senate, Student Government, AFA, and SEIU. The first meeting was held on August 21 where they discussed the AB 1887 resolution. The purpose of the council is to serve as a venue for ongoing conversation between the various groups. Senators or faculty who would like a certain topic addressed should notify E. Thompson or N. Persons.
- **Faculty Fora** – Several faculty forums have now been held, including the two most recent held

on PDA day, one with M. Rudolph and other deans and the other with faculty only. A survey was sent out to faculty in order to assess the prevalence of the issues brought up in the forums. All faculty are encouraged to complete the survey and to use the comment boxes if they do not find the offered answers to be applicable.

- **Guided Pathways** – Guided Pathways is directly related to curriculum and as such faculty are enthusiastically encouraged to participate in the important and often contentious conversation surrounding its possible implementation and funding. It is important that faculty educate themselves on the positive and negative aspects of Guided Pathways beyond what has been presented in the book “Redesigning America’s Community Colleges” and the Chancellor’s “Vision for Success”. Feedback can be forwarded to the Guided Pathways Task Force.

2. Introductions – The following were introduced by E. Thompson: Evelyn Navarro, Associated Student President; Brad Davis, Associate Dean, Workforce Development; Saeid Eidgahy, Senior Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences; Benjamin Goldstein, Dean, Agriculture, Natural Resources & Culinary Arts; Robert Holcomb, Dean, Language Arts & Academic Foundations; Kerry Loewen, Dean, Arts & Humanities; Victor Tam, Dean, Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics.

ACTION:

None

CONSENT:

None

DISCUSSION:

1. Student Services Reorganization – P. Avila presented the Student Services reorganization. The goals of the reorganization include: meeting the budget reduction target of \$640,708; protecting the core structure of student services; avoiding layoffs and salary reductions; and restructuring operations for efficiency, responsiveness and focus. It was noted that according to Title 5 section 53021, recruitment for a position is not required when the reorganization does not result in a net increase in the number of employees. The following vacant positions were eliminated: Financial Aid Manager; Senior Dean, Student Services Programs; and Senior Dean, Student Conduct & Special Programs, Disability Resources. The following positions were reorganized: Manager, Scholarship (R. Cutcher) is now Manager, Student Financial Services; Manager, Access for Students with Disabilities (K. Starke) is now Dean, Disabled Student Programs & Services; Dean, Student Success & Equity Retention (L. Collier) is now Senior Dean, Counseling & Student Success; Director, Career Development/CalWorks (L. Hunnemeder-Bergfelt) is now Dean, Student Support Programs; Dean, Student Affairs and Engagement Programs (Robert Ethington) is now Senior Dean of Students; Director, Student Equity (Genevieve Bertone) is now Director, Student Equity and Persistence; Manager, Student Affairs (Hilleary Zarate) is now Manager, Student Life & Engagement Programs; and Director, EOPS (vacant) is now Manager EOPS. There will be an open presentation for faculty regarding the reorganization on September 7 at 3:00 p.m. in Doyle 4246. Concerns voiced by the Senate included: the timing of the reorganization during the summer not allowing for faculty input; and the lack of interviews for positions that resulted in promotions.

2. Students on Faculty Hiring Committees – R. Martinez, the Student Government Vice President of Committees, is proposing that students be included on hiring committees for faculty and is looking for support from the Academic Senate. He believes that students should be included on faculty hiring committees because faculty selection directly affects students, and students bring a different perspective to the hiring committee. Concerns voiced by the Senate included: the level of professionalism, expertise, and confidentiality required for faculty hiring committees; the variation in faculty hiring committee selection by department; the time commitment required for members of

faculty hiring committees; and the potential ethical and legal issues for students sitting on faculty hiring committees. Suggestions voiced by the Senate included: having student government members, who are already vested in the shared governance process, sit on faculty hiring committees; investigating how other schools include students in the faculty hiring process; allowing students to participate in teaching demonstrations; and bringing this subject to the Department Chairs Council. It was noted that some departments already invite students to participate in and offer feedback on teaching demonstrations, and allow students to sit on faculty hiring committees as non-voting members.

- 3. Resolution in Support of AB 1887** – E. Thompson was asked to draft this resolution by the President's Consultation Council. The resolution is in support of AB 1887, passed by the California Legislature, calling for a ban on state funded travel to states that have discriminatory laws against LGBT individuals. The participation in the ban is not mandatory for individual colleges but the Chancellor has asked each district to participate voluntarily. It was noted that the legislation includes exemptions and exceptions and that the Attorney General of California can amend the list of states at any time if a state changes its laws. Groups potentially affected by this ban include: the NISOD winner, they would still receive the award but would have to use the funds to attend a different conference in a state that is not on the banned list; and the Debate Team, who voted 18-2 in favor of the ban. Groups not affected by this ban include: FFAS, because the funding is from private donations; sports teams, because they do not travel out of state; and Sabbatical proposals, because once the funds are paid to the faculty member they are no longer considered District funds. Concerns voiced by the Senate included: the potential to hinder support of LGBT groups in banned states; the potential for bans like this to infringe on individual rights; the potential to prevent people in banned states from interacting with people who challenge their beliefs; and the potential for the ban to encourage divisiveness. Suggestions voiced by the Senate included: removing the apologetic language currently included in the resolution; and removing unjust in front of discrimination. Dr. Chong plans on presenting this resolution to the Board in October and would like Senate endorsement.

Motion: N. Wheeler motioned to make this an action item with the understanding that the resolution can still be edited and voted up or down. The motion was seconded and passed. P. Bell opposed.

- 4. The Bookstore** – W. Crawford came to hear feedback regarding the Bookstore. Setbacks faced by the Bookstore included: lack of a full management team, and a month long internet outage. Concerns voiced by the Senate included: streamlining the selection process by allowing faculty to reselect electronically rather than having to send an email; the timeline for the remodel of the Bookstore; and Follett hosting the content of its competitors. The following was noted: there is an online adoption tool but it will take a full academic cycle before it is fully functional; a budget has been set aside for the remodel of the Bookstore but the timeline of the Santa Rosa remodel is not certain as there has been talk of moving the Bookstore to a different location; and even if Follett is unable to host competitor content they still need to know the information for compliance reasons and to do their best to ensure that students using specialty funds (EOPS, Veterans, etc.) are not disenfranchised.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.