



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 31, 2018

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Senate Chambers
Bertolini 4638

VIDEO CONF: Petaluma Campus
Mahoney 726

PRESENT:

L. Aspinall, S. Avasthi, P. Bell, J. Carlin-Goldberg, T. Ehret, R. Fautley, S. Fichera, A. Graziani, M. Ichikawa, A. Insull, T. Jacobson, D. King, D. Kirklin, J. Kosten, N. Mulkovich, L. Nahas, G. Navarro, C. Norton, N. Persons, S. Rosen, N. Slovak, M. Starkey, E. Thompson, K. Walker, S. Whyllly

ABSENT:

T. Johnson, C. McClure, F. Pugh

GUESTS:

C. Crawford, F. Avila, R. Martinez, A. Lopez, A. Nuñez, M. Anderman, M. Rudolph, F. Chong, E. Navarro,

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:17 p.m. by President E. Thompson.

OPEN FORUM:

1. C. Crawford, a Learning Resources faculty member, expressed his desire for the Senate to vote in favor of signing the Guided Pathways (GP) Self-Assessment. He argued that taking the grant funding is in line with goal 3 of the "2017-19 Integrated Plan: Basic Skills Initiative, Student Equity, and Student Success and Support Program" which states that "SRJC students will be guided and supported." He noted that SRJC already offers some GPs in the form of learning communities including APASS, Connections, PUENTE, and Work Experience; and he agreed with L. Aspinall's statement that GPs "should be a part of the continuum of choice we offer at SRJC." He also noted that GPs has been endorsed by students including B. McCapes of the Oak Leaf, and E. Navarro, the Student Government Association President.
2. F. Avila noted that the role of Counselors is not to give students classes but to provide them with choice. She argued that no class is unnecessary if the student learns something from it, even if the only thing they learn is that they are on the wrong path. She concluded that while GPs may not be for every student, it should be an option.
3. N. Persons announced that the Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies (FFAS) will be hosting Soupfest on Thursday, April 26. FFAS is open to all full-time faculty. She encouraged all full-time faculty to apply and to consider a monthly donation to the fund. FFAS paid for her to study Spanish in Spain for 6 weeks.
4. R. Martinez, the Student Trustee, advocated for greater student input in the discussion about GPs. He noted that SRJC already has a form of GPs in the various learning communities, and that students, including himself, are in favor of GPs. He also noted that not signing on to GPs would potentially jeopardize state funding that could make tuition free for students.
5. A. Lopez, a Connections student, implored the Senate to vote in favor of GPs. She noted that learning communities are especially important to the retention of minority students.
6. A. Nuñez, a Connections student, implored the Senate to vote in favor of GPs. He noted that learning communities, like Connections, offer guidance for first generation students that they cannot get at home, and helps them to complete school faster, which is an important consideration for some students.

MINUTES:

December 6, 2017.

Motion: J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the December 6 minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved. L. Aspinall, and N. Mulkovich abstained.

December 20, 2017

Motion: J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the December 20 minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved. L. Aspinall, N. Mulkovich, T. Ehret, S. Rosen, and N. Slovak abstained.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

REPORTS:

1. President's Report – E. Thompson

- **Guided Pathways** – E. Thompson spoke at the special Board meeting on January 9 regarding GPs. The Board voted unanimously in favor of GPs. He also attended a Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) forum regarding Guided Pathways on January 19, where A. Forrester was one of four panelists along with L. Hope, Executive Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Support; J. Warden-Washington, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Higher Education; and R. Beach, Executive Committee Member, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC). The panelists noted the following: the Chancellor's Office has declared that colleges are free to define GPs for themselves, however it is not clear how closely GPs will need to reflect the Chancellors "Vision for Success"; the legislators are largely uninformed and unaware of the many varying perspective on GPs; the faculty has not been included and has not contributed to GPs and the ASCCC plans to address this; no funding has been put forth for professional development of faculty or the hiring of full-time faculty which means the burden of implementing GPs will fall on adjuncts.

2. Department Chair Council – M. Anderman

- M. Anderman and B. Flyswithhawks are the co-chairs of the Department Chair Council (DCC). The DCC communicates directly with the Administration to improve the shared governance process and the working relationship between the faculty and Administration. One of the big issues currently being discussed by the DCC is online education including: appropriate online courses, allowing instructors who are not local to teach only online; and who is responsible for accommodation costs associated with online classes. Other topics of discussion include: funding statements from the Foundation; and the accelerated registration timeline.

ACTION:

1. Guided Pathways Self-Assessment – E. Thompson. The purpose of the action item is to vote whether or not to sign the Guided Pathways Self-Assessment. Audience members, including students, faculty, and administrators were allowed to voice their concerns and suggestions in addition to Senators.

- Concerns voiced included: uncertainty regarding what the state will require and what strings will be attached if we sign; the burden of additional reporting requirements; the state pitting the faculty against the students with threats to withhold "The Promise" grant funding if we do not sign; only having a verbal guarantee that the process will be faculty driven with an opt out option; the work plan is due in March, allowing little time for meaningful discussion; the potential for GPs to push departments to make classes easier; and how GP programs will be sustained once the grant ends.
- Suggestions voiced included: GPs could provide students with support and could help with the logistical challenges that students face outside of the classroom without making classes easier; more students should be included in the conversation; taking the grant money so that we can

continue the conversation that has thus far stalled without it; not taking the grant money until we are able to have a meaningful conversation and make an educated decision to opt in or not; and GPs will help minorities and first generation students whose needs are not currently being met.

- E. Thompson noted that the ASCCC passed a resolution asking the Chancellor to give the “The Promise” grant money to schools whether they sign on or not, which would make the program truly voluntary, but the Chancellor has not agreed to that proposal. He also noted that the GP task force would be made up of a majority of faculty members appointed by the Academic Senate and that adjuncts would be included and paid for their participation on the task force. M. Rudolph noted that the Chancellor would likely consider extending the due date of the work plan. Both F. Chong and M. Rudolph pledged that GPs would be faculty driven.

Vote: Eric called for a roll call vote on whether to sign the Guided Pathways Self-Assessment. There were 16 votes in favor of signing and 10 against. The yes votes included: L. Aspinall, S. Avasthi, J. Carlin-Goldberg, T. Ehret, S. Fichera, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, J. Kosten, C. McClure, L. Nahas, G. Navarro, C. Norton, N. Persons, F. Pugh, S. Rosen, and M. Starkey. The no votes included: P. Bell, A. Graziani, M. Ichikawa, A. Insull, D. King, D. Kirklin, N. Mulkovich, N. Slovak, K. Walker, and S. Whyly.

A straw vote was taken and it was decided to change from early-adoption to pre-adoption. It was noted that this change will not have any impact on the grant funding.

CONSENT:

None

DISCUSSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.