



# ACADEMIC SENATE

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

## MEETING MINUTES

DATE: February 20, 2019

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Senate Chambers  
Bertolini 4638

ZOOM LOCATION: Petaluma Campus  
Call 609

ZOOM ID: 981 881 211

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/981881211>

### PRESENT:

J. Arild, P. Bell, J. Carlin-Goldberg, A. Donegan, T. Ehret, B. Flyswithhawks, M. Hughes Markovics, A. Insull, J. Kosten, S. Martin, L. Nahas, G. Navarro, C. Norton, M. Ohkubo, N. Persons, A. Spall, L. Sparks (Petaluma Campus), M. Starkey (Petaluma Campus), K. Swinstrom, A. Thomas, E. Thompson, J. Thompson, N. Wheeler, S. Whyllly

### ABSENT:

L. Aspinall, S. Fichera, S. Rosen

### GUESTS:

D. Laird, H. Dunn, T. Jacobson, L. Larsen, J. Saldaña-Talley, G. Sellu, K. Frindell Teuscher

### CALL TO ORDER:

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

### OPEN FORUM:

1. **N. Persons** encouraged full-time faculty to apply for the Faculty Fund for Advanced Studies (FFAS) grant to support professional development. She noted that only six applications have been submitted and there are \$10,000 of funds available. Due to how the fund was initially set up, adjunct faculty are not eligible. See the application for requirements or contact any member of the committee.
2. **S. Whyllly** announced that the students have been working through MEChA to increase the student minimum wage to \$15 per hour. She urged the senators to consider ways to support their efforts.
3. **J. Thompson** expressed her concern regarding the Chancellor's leadership and decision to accept the first year sign on to Guided Pathways as an indication of continued participation for all five years. She believes we were misled by the Chancellor's Office and that we should take a stand and express our concerns to our state legislators.

### MINUTES:

February 6, 2019

The minutes were adopted without objection.

### ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

### REPORTS:

1. **President's Report** – E. Thompson sent out the full president's report prior to the meeting.
  - **The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Area B** meeting is coming up. J. Carlin-Goldberg, E. Thompson, and possibly J. Thompson plan to attend. The meeting will be held in Monterey, the Friday of spring break.
  - **ASCCC Plenary** is also coming up and four people will be attending.

- **Policy Revisions** – There are multiple policy revisions, Equivalency and Faculty Hiring, approved by the Senate last spring that E. Thompson plans to bring to College Council (CC) for approval. After they have gone through CC, the plan is to put them on the Senate consent agenda.
- **California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) Memo** – The CCCCCO released a memo a week ago summarizing the current initiatives, including Guided Pathways (GP). In the memo, the Chancellor has indicated that he is now accepting the initial sign on for GP to count as a commitment for the remaining years. This is in contradiction with the explicit terms under which we agreed to participate in the program, namely that we would need to make a deliberate decision to accept the funding each year. The Chancellor also indicated that they are trying to link the Equity Plan, the Vision Goals, and GP. The effect of these changes is unclear at this point. The GP Workgroup is preparing a presentation to share what they are working on with the Senate. E. Thompson noted that he will be meeting with our GP regional coordinator tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. and any senators who have specific questions should email them.

Several questions were voiced by the Senate including: the funding sources of some of the entities involved and whether they respond to shared governance; the legality of the CCCCCO changing the rules; what specific funding the memo is referring to; and the ethicality of the change.

- **Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) Report** – D. Laird, chair of the Computer Studies Department and faculty co-chair of the CRC, reported that the CRC has been working on streamlining the approval process, standardizing the Course Outline of Record (COR), and cleaning up the local disciplines list to match the state. He noted that the committee has been relying more on the work done by Cluster Tech Review, which has allowed the CRC to pass more courses. The Curriculum Department also plans to update the Curriculum Writer’s Handbook over the summer.

Concerns and suggestions voiced by the Senate included: the CRC not negating faculty and discipline preferences; making sure the Senate is informed of any changes made over the summer; alerting Counselors to any changes; and coordinating compensation for faculty working over the summer.

**ACTION:**

None

**CONSENT:**

None

**DISCUSSION:**

1. **Bylaws Revisions** – Guest, H. Dunn, retired faculty from Sonoma State University (SSU), spoke of her experience serving as Academic Senate Chair as an adjunct. Some insights she shared included: adjuncts on the Academic Senate at SSU received a full vote; tenured faculty are not always more qualified to be chair than adjunct; as chair she had 50% reassign time in addition to teaching two or three classes; during her time as chair there were three adjunct on the Academic Senate and there are currently two; and as chair she never felt intimidated due to her adjunct status.
2. **Professional Development** – T. Jacobson and L. Larsen gave a brief history and the state obligations surrounding professional development. Per the state, we can have up to 15 out of 175 days for professional development. SRJC currently does five days, which are negotiated by the district and the All Faculty Association (AFA). The Professional Development Committee (PDC) relies on the guidelines approved by the Academic Senate in determining what counts as Flex credit. She noted that the committee might bring this document back for further clarification. The

committee recently changed to a tri-chair structure and is made up of six faculty, four classified, and two administrators with administrative support through HR.

Suggestions and concerns voiced by the Senate included: the PDC should be made up of faculty only; the PDC should be housed in Academic Affairs and not HR; faculty should be trusted to report what they determine to be professional development; not enough faculty related workshops on Professional Development Activity (PDA) days; having separate PDA days for faculty and classified; faculty PDA proposals being rejected; required PDA days interfering with time faculty could be spending on more appropriate professional development; faculty need more opportunities to hear about the research their colleagues are doing; the current inclusivity of PDA day is beneficial; and adjuncts, who teach more than half our classes, do not have the same or even a comparable professional development requirement and they are the people who are the most vulnerable in an evaluation situation and might need professional development.

This topic will be brought back for further discussion.

**INFORMATION:**

1. **ACCJC Accreditation Midterm Report** – J. Saldaña-Talley gave an update on the current draft of the midterm report. Due to the change from a six-year to seven-year cycle, the draft that was started last year had to be updated. The report addresses the ten recommended improvements from the visiting team. The final version will be taken to the March 12 Board meeting for approval, with a final due date of March 15. She noted that the relationship with ACCJC has improved significantly and that they are working to make the process non-punitive.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.