



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: May 18, 2022

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom only

ZOOM ID: 958 4627 3808

<https://santarosa-edu.zoom.us/j/95846273808>

PRESENT

M. Anderman, L. Aspinall, A. Atilgan Relyea, F. Avila, V. Bertsch, S. Brumbaugh, J. Bush, J. Carlin-Goldberg, S. Cavales Doolan, A. Donegan, J. Fassler, B. Flyswithhawks, M. Hale, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, J. Kosten, J. Kmetko, D. Lemmer, G. Morre, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver, N. Persons, B. Reaves, E. Schmidt, H. Skoonberg, J. Stover, J. Thompson, S. Whyly, S. Winston

ABSENT S. Cavales Doolan (Proxy Michael Hale) – Partial, F. Avila (Proxy B. Reaves) – Partial

GUESTS J. Saldaña-Talley, C. Williams, A. Deen, J. Smotherman

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President J. Thompson. The Land Acknowledgement Statement was read by S. Cavales Doolan.

OPEN FORUM

1. Senator J. Kmetko read a statement regarding the scholarship process; thanked the VP of Student Services and the Executive Director of Foundation for organizing the open forum for discussion on blinding the scholarship process; noted good conversations happened at the forum and the goal is to get all faculty engaged in the scholarship process next year; and gave a heads up to Senate members that he plans to make a motion to table the Scholarship Process discussion and remove it from the Agenda.
2. Executive Secretary J. Stover shared gratitude, appreciation, and well wishes with the SRJC community as the AY2021-22 closed; thanked outgoing Emeritus President Dr. Brenda Flyswithhawks, who joined the ASEC at a time of transition and need and complimented her deep knowledge and expertise of SRJC Academic Senate histories as crucial in stabilizing the practices of the Academic Senate; welcomed our incoming President Elect Nancy Persons and expressed gratitude for being of service as Executive Secretary and to ASEC members, past and present, since Fall 2019. Most importantly, he shared gratitude to outgoing President J. Thompson for all she has done to carry the Academic Senate and the Executive Committee during what has been the most unexpected months and semesters of remote meetings, zoom lenses, and pandemic infused protests, remonstrances, and expostulations; expressed appreciation for her mentorship and guidance; and closed that she is “without a doubt, one of the most engaged, dedicated, and passionate of faculty advocates within our faculty ranks.”
[Read J. Stover’s full statement here.](#)
3. Senator A. Donegan thanked President J. Thompson for her two years of crucial service to and steady leadership of the SRJC community; noted her accomplishments in regards to Ethnic Studies, Guided Pathways, Communities of Practice, and the Faculty Hiring Policy; noted her tireless efforts to improve our shared governance, professional development, program review, equivalency processes; made sure all budget decisions mirror the values of the Senate; noted her leadership was inclusive, organized, kind, fair, and reasoned; thanked her for doing so much for SRJC faculty and standing up for 10+1 rights and faculty professionalism; and thanked her for recognizing the crucial role of faculty as keepers of their disciplines.
4. Emeritus President Dr. B. Flyswithhawks thanked President Thompson for her service in Academic Senate leadership and the difficulty of the role; noted the last few years have brought unprecedented change within SRJC, our county, and the Senate presidency; complimented her

integrity, humility, grace, and collaboration with senators, students, faculty, classified, management, Board of Trustees, and community leaders across Senate discussion and actions; noted she is an extraordinary example of leadership working to improve diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism at SRJC; noted the college will be forever indebted to Julie's efforts to improve the institutions, especially in relation to 10+1 faculty rights; thanked Julie for providing a respectable transition for the incoming president; and thanked Julie for the honored opportunity to serve as Past-President.

5. Dr. Chong appreciated being able to see SRJC faculty in action as he attended the SRJC production of *The Wedding Singer*, the MESA transfer celebration, the women's softball team making playoffs, the Earth Day mural, and the Petaluma Campus Fashion Show, as well as many festivities to come; expressed gratitude to the Academic Senate's work under the leadership of President Julie Thompson; expressed honor in being able to work in a collegial and civilized manner with Julie on so many important matters; also thanked VP Jane Saldana-Talley for her service at SRJC; praised her for her work to bring the college together at a time when we were splintered by challenges and struggles, and noted her tireless work efforts.

MINUTES

Senator J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the [May 4](#) minutes; Senator J. Stover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called, and Senators adopted the minutes with 26 yes unanimous votes.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Senator V. Bertsch requested to move item 3. "Continue with Remote Meetings of the Academic Senate" from Consent to Action.

REPORTS

1. President's Report — J. Thompson

President J. Thompson reported that College Council will be working with Vice President Saldana Talley on the governance redesign project and will, as much as possible before the end of the semester, synthesize and summarize the work so that it is ready to pass off; the Faculty Equivalency Committee will meet one more time to further improve its processes; the Educational Planning and Coordinating Council reviewed additional policies and procedures that are on today's Consent agenda for Senate consideration; EPCC has improved its process for review of policies, procedures, and new programs so that their work comes to Senate in the form of recommendations; Strategic Planning will continue in the Fall, and the Academic Senate President will continue to be involved; the College is looking forward to revising its Educational Master Plan next year, and the Senate will have a strong role within; next year will also bring work on a Student Equity Plan, and that Senate and the faculty will have appropriate work roles; regarding students' preferred pronouns, there is some urgency about this, and it will be on the August 17 agenda, either as a Consent item or a Discussion item marked urgent, so that, assuming Senate support, the question can be determined at a single meeting.

President Thompson shared congratulations to Senator Kat Valenzuela and former Senator Mark Ferguson on the birth of their son, who was born on May 6; welcomed new Senator Gregory Morre, Mathematics Department, who has been appointed to replace Kat Valenzuela while she is on leave; and welcomed incoming senators Guillermo Garcia, Counseling; Purnur Ozbirinci, English; Nikki Slovak, Behavioral Sciences; Smita Avasthi, Library and Information Resources; and Lauralyn Larsen, Work Experience.

President Thompson thanked outgoing Senators Filomena Avila, Michael Hale, Summer Winston, Jan Kmetko, Kat Valenzuela, and Jesse Kosten for their service; thanked Past President Brenda Flyswithawks for her stabilizing and guiding work behind the scenes; expressed thanks to everyone on Exec—Brenda, Monica, John, Byron, Jessica, Laura, and

Nancy—for many hours of work, wisdom, some hard conversations, laughter, and friendship; acknowledged that there was a lot more people to thank—too many for time to permit, but included many including SRJC Board Trustees, Dr. Frank Chong, Dr. Pedro Avila, VP of Human Resources Gene Durand and many others while also wishing incoming President N. Persons the best of success ahead ([see full list and well wishes here](#)). President Thompson closed with “I have been so impressed by the movement and growth I’ve witnessed over the past two years as the Senate has worked hard to listen, learn from each other, and draw on the best that we all have to offer in crafting solutions that move the college forward.”

[Read J. Thompson’s full report here](#)

2. President Elect’s Report – N. Persons

Thanked Past-President B. Flyswithhawks for serving the Academic Senate; thanked A. Donegan for running for the position of President because we are only as strong as the electorate is interested; thanked J. Thompson for her service as President to the Academic Senate, especially during a pandemic and during turbulent times within our country; noted Julie shepherded us through difficult conversations within the Faculty Hiring Procedure; demonstrated class and grace in adversity; shared on behalf of the Executive Committee several gift certificates to Heavenly Yarns, Left Bank Books, and Chase’s Daily Café, all located in near Julie’s east coast home; and expressed gratitude for her new role as Past President.

Shared the proposed 2022-2023 Academic Senate Calendar and Meeting Schedule; noted the document *From Equity Talk to Equity Walk: Expanding Practitioner Knowledge for Racial Justice in Higher Education* would be provided for Senators to read.

[Read N. Persons’ full report here](#)

3. Progress Report: College Council Governance System Redesign Project – J. Saldaña-Talley

Vice President of Academic Affairs/Assistant Superintendent Jane Saldaña-Talley provided an end of year update on the progress College Council made during 2021-22 in support of the Shared Governance Redesign; reported Dr. Chong asked College Council to carry forward the Action Plan put forward following the Partnership Resource Team visit; noted the work is far from done and College Council has agreed to wrap up the year by preparing a summary of the progress to date to pass on to next year’s College Council members; acknowledged the 2021/22 College Council Members: Julie Thompson (chair), Jane Saldana-Talley, Pedro Avila, Kate Jolley, Gene Durand, Delashay Carmona Benson, Debbie Weatherly, Sandy Sigala, Laura Aspinall, Anne Donegan, and Sean Martin; and thanked Julie Thompson for the work that she contributed and that her organization and attention to detail was most appreciated.

4. Program Mapping – T. Johnson, T. Jacobson, C. Williams, A. Deen

Reported on the new Drupal test layout pages for Student Journey Mapping, which will be linked directly on the SRJC main homepage; that there will continue to be edits to the platform as the group embraces change and ideas; expressed gratitude to Leila Rand and Tonya Irving who helped design the page and developed the content for the new program mapping; and gave time for questions or comments from the Senate body.

A clarifying question was asked when this page would be live and implemented; was clarified that this would be linked to mapping software now, but there is not a specific end date. A senator gave praise to the new “soft landing” for students; suggested that student services/resources should be broken down a little bit more to aid students; and suggested an overlay “pop up” button to find resources.

A point of order was called that time had expired on the report, that this was a report and not a discussion, and feedback could be shared via email.

CONSENT

1. Budget Request from Academic Supports Workgroup (5)
2. BPs and APs that have been reviewed and recommended by EPCC
 - a. AP 4235, Credit for Prior Learning (2, 5)
 - b. BP 5130 and AP 5130, Financial Aid (5)
- ~~3. Continue with Remote Meetings of the Academic Senate~~

A roll call vote was called for Consent Items 1 and 2, and the vote passed with 26 unanimous yes votes.

ACTION

1. Continue with Remote Meetings of the Academic Senate

Senator V. Bertsch spoke first and against the continuance of remote meetings in the fall and wanted the input of the Senate body (as having pulled the item from Consent). Executive Secretary J. Stover noted that via district communications all shared governance meetings will return to in-person meetings in Fall 2022; President Thompson further explained it was placed on the agenda today as a matter of a Brown Act issue; the vote is to give the option to move to remote if necessary; it was clarified that it is the intention of the Senate Body that in-person meetings are resumed and that this is a “just in case” vote.

J. Carlin Goldberg motioned to approve the continuation of remote meetings if necessary; J. Stover seconded.

A clarifying question was asked as to who makes the decision to make the meetings remote; President Thompson clarified that ASEC would make the decision if the district and county officials deems in-person is unsafe.

A point of order was called that it is the district that makes the decision with county health officials to shut down in-person meetings, not ASEC, and it was noted that the Executive Committee would not move to virtual unless instructed by SRJC.

A point of order was called that time had expired on the item.

V. Bertsch made a motion to amend the original motion to “Give the Academic Senate Executive Committee the option to continue remote meetings of the Academic Senate in the Fall if allowed by the District”; S. Whyly seconded.

A point of order was called to note that Senator J. Carlin-Goldberg could choose to withdraw her original motion with unanimous consent of the Body; Senator J. Carlin-Goldberg asked to withdraw her original motion in favor of the amended motion and passed with unanimous consent; the amended motion was now the motion on the table.

A roll call vote was called and the motion passed with 25 yes votes and 1 no vote.

M. Anderman – yes
L Aspinall – yes
A. Atilgan Relyea –
yes
F. Avila (Proxy
Reaves) – yes
V. Bertsch – yes
S. Brumbaugh – yes
J. Bush – yes
J. Carlin-Goldberg –

yes
S. Cavales Doolan –
yes
A. Donegan – yes
J. Fassler – yes
M. Hale – yes
T. Jacobson – yes
T. Johnson – yes
J. Kosten – yes
J. Kmetko – yes

D. Lemmer – yes
G. Morre – yes
M. Ohkubo – yes
A. Oliver – yes
B. Reaves – yes
E. Schmidt – yes
H. Skoonberg – yes
J. Stover – no
S. Whyly – yes
S. Winston – yes

2. Faculty Hiring Procedure 4.3.2P, Composition of Screening and Interviewing Committees (Ed. Code 87360); what shall be the Senate's recommendation(s) regarding composition of screening and interviewing committees?

President Thompson opened the topic with reminders that a revised draft was given to the Senate Body which took care of some internal inconsistencies and clarified language and language changes; reminded the Senate that there is currently not a sense of consensus around the number of Deans participating in the screening and interviewing committees for the hiring of regular faculty; indicated that within the new document the language in black is from the original draft, and language in red, highlighted yellow, orange, and or underlined are reflecting changes from the May 4, 2022 meeting.

Senators questioned 2.A.2 which stated Deans would serve in which circumstances; asked if we moved to approve this today, could the discussion happen later to resolve the Dean issue; it was clarified that the Body could use language to approve the document and return to the question of why; and that the final draft will come back to the body before final approval.

A senator suggested making a language change in section B in the final paragraph to include Allied Faculty at the Petaluma campus and offered a suggestion to say "Petaluma faculty supervising administrator" instead.

A point of order was called to continue to call on other senators to help clarify the suggested edits made by the previous senator.

Senators suggested to use the term "scoring" instead of "voting" within the document when two deans come together to make a consensus decision and suggested including "retired faculty member" in section 2.B.2.

A Senator clarified that for the previous suggestion, it should be read as straight forward; noted because of the term's non-inclusivity to Allied Faculty, to make the edit changing the term "Instructional Dean" to "Petaluma Supervising Administrator"; and questioned as to whether the supervising administrator is the Dean of the Cluster.

President Thompson announced that time expired on the topic and there was still a 10 minutes Information Item; a point of order was called that Senator T. Jacobson had an answer to a question previously asked; President Thompson asked guest speaker J. Smotherman if he was okay with staying over time to allow for their presentation, to which he graciously obliged.

L. Aspinall moved to extend the Action by 7 minutes, E. Schmidt seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

President Thompson then returned to the queue and senators commented that this might be a wordsmithing issue and the intent is that we want the appropriate administrator on the committees; an example in Disability Resources (DSPS) in title V they are prohibited to reporting to more than one Dean, so if there are offices on multiple campuses, they all have to be supervised by one Dean; the recommendation was made that for every faculty hiring committee there is a supervising administrator assigned and to say "The Supervising Administrator" and leave specific campuses out.

President Thompson asked what time was left in the queue; Secretary Stover said that there was three minutes left for the whole meeting and thought there needed to be an extension to allow for the Information Item; President Thompson clarified that the previous vote to extend the meeting by 7 minutes is allowing for that time.

Time ran out on the topic; there were no senators left in the queue.

DISCUSSION

None; time expired.

INFORMATION

1. Strategic Planning: Mission, Vision, Values Draft – J. Smotherman

The Senate was presented with the Strategic Planning Committee's draft Mission, Vision, and Values Statement; there were five virtual town hall meetings collecting data and input from over 100 participants in developing the draft Mission, Vision, and Value Statements as follows.

- Mission: SRJC transforms the lives of our culturally rich student body, employees, and community by cultivating a welcoming environment, offering exceptional educational programs and support services, and nurturing personal growth, social responsibility, and cultural awareness.
- Vision: SRJC commits to setting the standard in cultivating an accessible, open, barrier-free environment for students, employees, and the community. The college envisions equitable, impactful, transformative, enriching learning opportunities that inspire students to flourish.
- Values: Santa Rosa Junior College values: A Healthy College grounded in resiliency, kindness, innovation, collaboration, and restorative justice that identifies and removes oppressive structures; Teaching and Learning that encompass excellence, freedom, and responsibility in academics that promote civic engagement, a love of learning, and success for all students; Community Engagement and Relationships founded on cultural competency, trust, embrace of difference, and interconnectedness; Wellbeing that emphasizes the physical and mental wellness of all members of our community; Integrity that emphasizes honesty, transparency, and ethical engagement; Effectiveness and District Stability that support fiscally responsible planning centered on student needs; and Our Responsibility to Society and the Environment expressed in our commitment to social equity and sustainability.

President Thompson opened the discussion for feedback; a statement was made thanking J. Smotherman and J. Thompson for creating this draft and collecting the feedback of the SRJC community.

IN CLOSING

President Thompson officially "passed the gavel" to President-Elect Persons; stated that it has been an honor to serve the Academic Senate; and shared appreciated and gratitude for how the Senate has come together.

ADJOURNMENT

5:06 p.m.