



# ACADEMIC SENATE

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

## MEETING MINUTES

DATE: August 17, 2022

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Santa Rosa, 145 Doyle  
Petaluma, 639 Call

ZOOM ID: 958 4627 3808

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

### PRESENT

L. Aspinall, S. Avasthi, V. Bertsch, J. Carlin-Goldberg, S. Cavales Doolan, A. Donegan, J. Fassler, G. Garcia, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, L. Larsen, D. Lemmer, G. Morre, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver, P. Ozbirinci, N. Persons, B. Reaves, E. Schmidt, H. Skoonberg, N. Slovak, J. Stover, J. Thompson, P. Usina

**ABSENT** M. Anderman (proxy H. Skoonberg), J. Bush (proxy L. Aspinall), A. Atilgan Relyea (proxy J. Stover)

**GUESTS** A. Foster, R. Holcomb, J. Smotherman

### CALL TO ORDER

The Academic Senate (AS) meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President N. Persons. The Land Acknowledgement Statement was read by President N. Persons.

### OPEN FORUM

1. G. Sellu, statement read by N. Haworth, AS AA, which read in part: "The Academic Senate (AS) in collaboration with the CRC and the VPAA agreed last year that in the absence of an Ethnic Studies department that we should cross-list a handful of existing courses as a temporary measure to address the Ethnic Studies graduation requirement. Now that we have hired 5 new tenure-track Ethnic Studies faculty and we have scheduled 25 Ethnic Studies sections, when are we going to reverse temporary cross- listing? I believe strongly that the AS should move swiftly to reverse the temporary cross-listing, otherwise we would undermine enrollment and faculty retention in the Ethnic Studies Department."  
[Read G. Sellu's full statement here](#)
2. L. Aspinall shared that Disability Resources counselors have been assisting students with the ongoing schedule reductions / class cancellations; asked the Administration to provide better coordination for supporting students' enrollment; reported that many students have financial aid, scholarship, and degree requirements and are finding themselves in a difficult position; noted that cancellations in Math and English have caused a domino effect of devastating impacts on the students; mentioned the vaccine requirements have changed and students are getting dropped while waiting for their vaccination appointments; and expressed strong concern regarding declining student enrollment and retention because of these issues.
3. A. Donegan commented on the proposed single GE plan; stated that she feels there are some unintended and intended consequences for making one GE plan for everyone (CC, CSU, UC); noted the plan removed the US constitution and American Institutions requirement, which is problematic given how these requirements teach our students democratic principles, civil rights, and how marginalized groups have used the courts and the constitution to secure their rights; and urged faculty to complete the survey recently distributed by President Persons and urged faculty to ask the ASCCC to advocate for retaining this requirement at the state level.
4. D. Carmona-Benson, new SGA Student Trustee, shared her opposition towards camera requirements for zoom classes; noted that students who are experiencing stress often turn their cameras off and this should be allowed; urged all faculty to ask their students what their needs are; hoped that the AS is supportive of preferred pronouns for student registration; announced initiation of a Student Trustee Council and invited students to participate on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

Senator J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the [May 18](#) minutes, and Senator G. Garcia seconded. A roll call vote was called, and Senators adopted the minutes with 20 yes votes and 5 abstentions.

M. Anderman (proxy H. Skoonberg) – Yes	S. Cavales Doolan – Yes	A. Oliver – Yes
L. Aspinall – Yes	A. Donegan – Yes	P. Ozbirinci – Abstain
A. Atilgan Reylea (proxy J. Stover) – Yes	J. Fassler – Yes	B. Reaves – Yes
S. Avasthi – Abstain	G. Garcia -- Yes	E. Schmidt – Yes
V. Bertsch – Yes	T. Jacobson – Yes	H. Skoonberg – Yes
J. Bush (proxy L. Aspinall) – Yes	T. Johnson – Yes	N. Slovak – Abstain
J. Carlin-Goldberg – Yes	L. Larsen – Abstain	J. Stover – Yes
	D. Lemmer – Yes	P. Usina – Abstain
	G. Morre – Yes	
	M. Ohkubo – Yes	

## ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

S. Cavales Doolan asked to move the Consent Item to the Action Agenda and was so moved.

President N. Persons asked the AS to move the Student Equity Plan from a Discussion Item to an Action Item; and explained that it would require a 2/3 vote to approve.

J. Carlin Goldberg motioned, and E. Schmidt seconded, to move the Student Equity Plan from a Discussion to an Action Item; and the motion passed with 25 unanimous yes votes.

## REPORTS

### 1. President's Report — N. Persons

President Persons welcomed new and returning Senators; reminded all that the AS Fall Retreat is being held Friday, 8/26/22 and encouraged everyone's attendance; welcomed Professional Development Coordinators Anne Donegan and Alexa Forrester to their roles and mentioned their upcoming report to the AS; announced the upcoming "Mentor-Mentee" meet up on Friday, 8/19/22 from 12:30-1:00 p.m. in the Doyle Library Reading Room and the Affinity Group New Hire Mixer from 1:00-3:00 p.m.; noted that there was a lack of diversified representation among the mentors this year and asked for more participation next year; announced that Guided Pathways is receiving a one-time allocation of \$552,000 over five years and that Executive Petaluma Dean Matthew Long will be attending an upcoming AS meeting to highlight opportunities ahead; announced Communities of Practice will again be offered by Academic Senate; announced committee appointments were almost finished, that hiring committees are coming up, and that more faculty participation will be solicited; encouraged faculty to respond to ASCCC surveys and share their voice at the state level; introduced President Chong who welcomed back everyone to a new semester; heard the concerns regarding students being dropped and promised to look into the issue more deeply; urged faculty to keep in contact with his office with questions or concerns; thanked again President Emeritus J. Thompson; and re-welcomed President N. Persons as Academic Senate President.

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

### 2. Expanded AS Executive Committee (ASEC) Pilot Project – B. Reaves, L. Aspinall, J. Bush

L. Aspinall reported enjoying her role as Senator At-Large; noted while there were no pre-determined duties, it was helpful to be able to plug in where/when needed; believed it was a success in having an extended Executive Committee; noted that having Associate Faculty J. Bush's perspective on the EC was invaluable; and suggested that if the Pilot Program is moved forward, that the AS maintain flexibility and varied areas of interest and expertise in the design.

B. Reaves reflected on his role as Equity Advocate (formerly referred to as Officer); stated that one person cannot meet all equity needs; noted he has been able to bring his experience and perspective to the role; advocated to keep the position as part of the ASEC in continued focus on the perspectives of and conversations with marginalized groups; and pointed out that it would be beneficial to have a person of color on the EC if this role is not maintained.

A clarifying question was asked regarding when the Pilot Program is ending; President N. Persons clarified that these positions end Fall 2022; that review of the bylaws could happen at the retreat; and that if the Body decided they want to expand the EC, two agenzized discussions are required before any action could be taken; and noted that these positions differ from the normal election cycle and would have to be reviewed as well.

### 3. Curriculum Review Committee Process Revision – A. Foster

A. Foster reported that CRC is seeking Senate approval of the newly developed process for situations where there is perceived disciplinary overlap or duplication of courses; clarified that duplication of courses differs from cross-listing, and that this specific situation is when the courses have some similarities, but they are coming from a unique discipline perspective, so they live potentially within two different disciplines or departments; noted that when updating the curriculum writers' handbook, the language was updated and also per Senate bylaws needs to be reviewed by Senate; and reported the new process listed shows clear steps of what should take place in the event that there is a disagreement.

T. Johnson moved to approve the CRC Overlap Process. A point of order was called that this is a report and a motion to approve cannot be made at this time, the motion was withdrawn.

L. Aspinall made a motion to move the report to a Discussion Item at the next meeting, T. Johnson seconded, and the motion passed with 25 unanimous yes votes.

[Read A. Foster's report here](#) / [Read the CRC Discipline Overlap Process Here](#)

## CONSENT

1. ~~[Temporary placement of the new Ethnic Studies Department in Area 5](#) for Senate representation.~~

Consent Item 1 was moved to Action Item #1 during Adjustments to the Agenda (see p.2).

## ACTION

1. [Temporary placement of the new Ethnic Studies Department in Area 5](#) for Senate representation.

Past President Thompson suggested a change to the wording of the Action Item to allow for temporary placement while also avoiding the need to change the bylaws over two consecutive meetings (as per Senate protocol); proposed that Ethnic Studies (ES) contract faculty members be temporarily represented by existing senators; and noted that by doing so we would not need to change/amend the bylaws because we are not placing the department within an area; stated that until such time that we do change the bylaws, that we are designating particular senators to provide representation and be a conduit for communication.

Concerns were shared that Area 5 might already have too many faculty members and asked if there was a smaller area for more proportional representation. President Thompson clarified that the ES Chair requested Area 5 designated representation; and noted there are forthcoming discussion opportunities for updating AS bylaws.

Area 5 Senator H. Skoonberg voiced support for Ethnic Studies representation by Area 5 Senators, either temporarily or permanently, and welcomed them to SRJC.

A point of order asked whether this discussion counts as one of the two discussions required to

change the bylaws; and it was clarified that as an Action Agenda Item pulled from Consent it does not.

S. Cavales Doolan motioned to approve that until such time that the Bylaws are changed, and the Ethnic Studies faculty members are assigned to Areas, the Senators for Area 5 will share reports with and provide representation for the Ethnic Studies contract faculty members, and J. Stover seconded. The motion passed with 25 unanimous yes votes.

2. \*Student Equity Plan – J. Smotherman, 15 min.

Shall the Academic Senate form a work group to consider how faculty can provide input into all SEP metrics and most especially for the metric "Completed Transfer-Level Math and English"?

[Student Equity Plan Presentation, August 2022](#)

J. Smotherman presented SRJC's Student Equity Plan 2.0 (SEP); explained that the purpose of the SEP was to increase and integrate collaboration with other areas of the college, to keep students at the center, presented opportunities to transform institutions in new ways, and could create stronger alignment to the [Vision for Success Goals](#) and the [Call to Action](#); noted SEP 2.0 has to be approved by November 2022; asked the college to be more race conscious in terms of achieving equity; and noted the chancellor's office has already stated what the metrics are and how we address the metrics in matters of equity is where we, locally, have a say.

A clarifying question was asked as to what the students identify as barriers; it was answered that it includes scheduling, class modalities, and other issues; mentioned that what is expected of the plan is access to enrollment in Math and English in the first year as well as successful transfer and completion rates.

N. Persons asked the group to refocus on the specific agenda question as to whether the AS shall form a workgroup and asked for questions pertaining to expectations of such a workgroup.

M. Ohkubo moved for the AS workgroup to consider how faculty can provide input into all SEP metrics, and most especially, for the metric "Completed Transfer-Level Math and English".

V. Bertsch moved to extend the time by 3 minutes, which was seconded, and no oppositions were made.

Senators asked how faculty would be selected for a workgroup, and President Persons referenced past practices of a call via email with criteria and a required, short statement of interest from interested faculty.

M. Ohkubo moved to withdraw her motion, and there were no oppositions.

M. Ohkubo moved that the Academic Senate will form a work group, to consider how faculty can provide input on all 10+1 matters in the SEP 2.0, including all SEP 2.0 metrics, that will be inclusive and open to all faculty, and A. Oliver seconded.

A clarifying question was asked whether the AS needed to find the key barriers for the SEP 2.0; and J. Smotherman clarified that that would be the job of the workgroup and that faculty participation is primarily important as it concerns Math and English decisions.

J. Carlin Goldberg moved to extend the time by 2 minutes to vote, which was seconded, and there were no oppositions.

A roll-call vote was called, and the motion passed with 24 yes votes and 1 no vote.

M. Anderman (proxy  
H. Skoonberg) – Yes  
L. Aspinall – Yes  
A. Atilgan Reylea  
(proxy J. Stover) –

Yes  
S. Avasthi – Yes  
V. Bertsch – Yes  
J. Bush (proxy L.  
Aspinall) – Yes

J. Carlin-Goldberg –  
Yes  
S. Cavales Doolan –  
Yes  
A. Donegan – No

J. Fassler – Yes  
G. Garcia -- Yes  
T. Jacobson – Yes  
T. Johnson – Yes  
L. Larsen – Yes  
D. Lemmer – Yes

G. Morre – Yes  
M. Ohkubo – Yes  
A. Oliver – Yes  
P. Ozbirinci – Yes  
B. Reaves – Yes  
E. Schmidt – Yes

H. Skoonberg – Yes  
N. Slovak – Yes  
J. Stover – Yes  
P. Usina – Yes

## DISCUSSION

### 1. ACCJC Accreditation Peer Review Team Report (PRTR) and Action Letter – R. Holcomb

Shall the Academic Senate form a faculty workgroup to develop a plan for responding to the ACCJC Accreditation Action Letter to facilitate achievement of the requirements of the 2022 ACCJC Action Letter of 6-14-2022?

#### [SRJC Accreditation Response Plan, 2022](#)

Dr. Holcomb reported on the action that SRJC is taking after receiving an Action Letter from the ACCJC, who; reaffirmed our accreditation for 18 months instead of 7 years due to the need for disaggregating and analyzing Student Learning Outcome (SLO) Requirements data via the development of sustainable and regular process for assessing all course and program SLOs; and reported our report is due October 2023, a site visit is scheduled for November 2023, and a review by the ACCJC Commission will take place at a January 2024 meeting.

Senators stated that there are SLOs processes already in place at SRJC and this is more about implementation and infrastructure.

V. Bertsch moved to make this topic an Action Item at our next meeting, E. Schmidt seconded.

Senators questioned how faculty members are capturing sub-population data; clarification was made that the district is the one in the charge identifying that data and that it would not be the charge of the faculty to capture that private data.

President N. Persons redirected the discussion back to the motion on the floor. A senator stated there had not been adequate discussion before the motion was made, and it was clarified that discussion could continue even if moved to Action.

Senator E. Schmidt called for the question.

V. Bertsch moved to extend the motion, which was seconded, by 2 minutes for the purpose of voting, and there were no oppositions. The roll-call vote was called, and the motion passed with 23 yes votes and 1 no vote.

M. Anderman (proxy  
H. Skoonberg) – Yes  
L. Aspinall – Yes  
A. Atilgan Reylea  
(proxy J. Stover) –  
Yes  
S. Avasthi – Yes  
V. Bertsch – Yes  
J. Bush (proxy L.  
Aspinall) – Yes

J. Carlin-Goldberg –  
Yes  
S. Cavales Doolan –  
Yes  
A. Donegan – Yes  
J. Fassler – Yes  
T. Jacobson – Yes  
T. Johnson – Yes  
L. Larsen – Yes  
D. Lemmer – Yes

G. Morre – No  
M. Ohkubo – Yes  
A. Oliver – Yes  
P. Ozbirinci – Yes  
B. Reaves – Yes  
E. Schmidt – Yes  
H. Skoonberg – Yes  
N. Slovak – Yes  
J. Stover – Yes  
P. Usina – Yes

**INFORMATION**      None.

**ADJOURNMENT**      5:02 p.m.