



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: September 7, 2016

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Senate Chambers

Bertolini 4638

VIDEO CONF: Petaluma Campus

Mahoney 726

PRESENT: L. Aspinall, S. Avasthi, P. Bell, A. Bogomolny, J. Carlin-Goldberg, S. Diaz, T. Ehret, R. Fautley, A. Forrester, A. Graziani, A. Hsieh, T. Jacobson, D. Kirklin, M. Ludder, C. McClure, L. Nahas, N. Nasseem, G. Navarro, D. Padilla, F. Pugh, A. Romagnoli, S. Rosen, M. Starkey, E. Thompson, P. Usina, N. Wheeler

ABSENT: T. Johnson, C. Norton

GUESTS: L. Sata, L. Downing-Lee, E. Maremont Silver, A. Malaise, B. Beseda, D. Roberts, G. Bertone

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President Eric Thompson.

OPEN FORUM: G. Bertone, Director of Student Equity, invited all faculty to attend the Student Success and Equity Committee meetings which are held in the Senate Chambers immediately before the Senate meetings. The committee is currently focused on direct student support and textbook affordability. They are in the process of evaluating last year's funded programs and are open to input and encourage participation from faculty outside of the committee. Faculty who would like to work on an evaluation team should contact G. Bertone.

MINUTES: May 4, 2016.

Motion: N. Wheeler moved to approve the minutes as addended. The motion was seconded and passed. S. Rosen and S. Avasthi abstained.

REPORTS:

- 1. President's Report** – E. Thompson – The full President's Report was made available to the Senators. Current, ongoing, and planned conversations include: faculty role and collaboration in the Student Success and Equity process, the fate of the Bookstore, building a relationship and forging collaboration with AFA, the 20k in 2020 plan, and the 2030 Plan. The Senate is now overseeing the New Faculty Mentor Program. Mentors who missed the orientation and are seeking PGI for their participation should contact the Senate Executive Committee. The Teaching Fellows Program is running again this year with 11 students. The Senate Fall Retreat is Friday, 9/16 from 9:30-3:00. A continental breakfast, and a buffet lunch from Goji kitchen will be served.
- 2. 2030 Burbank** – L. Sata and L. Downing-Lee presented on the current progress and design of the Burbank Auditorium remodel. In addition to making the building more structurally sound, the auditorium will be updated with safer catwalks, more efficient lighting, improved acoustics, and better accessibility. Raking of the seating will improve visibility for the audience but will cost 200 seats. The new design will reorganize the site with the lobby serving the double function of lobby and reception area. The outdoor area will be increased allowing for more gathering space. The design also incorporates a new teaching space that will serve 55-200 students and will allow for film-watching as well as lecture. Care has been taken to preserve the original design and to provide multi-purpose spaces. Construction is slated to begin during the summer of 2017 with a completion date of December 1, 2018. The Communications Department will be moving out of Burbank permanently and will be housed in Analy Village. The Theatre Department will be housed in temporary facilities and is looking to establish working relationships with local high schools during the transition. Questions and concerns voiced by the Senate included: duplication and demand for larger spaces; earthquake safety; exiting and evacuation; and seating and resting areas for older adults inside and outside of the building.



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- 3. 100th Anniversary** – E. Maremont Silver, A. Malaise, B. Beseda. The SRJC 100th Anniversary Campaign was launched in June with the tagline “Pride, Purpose, Progress” and the goal of raising \$15M. The campaign is tri-chaired by P. Chanter, A. Maggini, and S. Diaz and is focused on 4 key areas: Student Success, in the form of scholarships, internships, and student support; Academic Excellence, in the form of faculty and professional development; Learning Environments, in the form of instructional and program equipment and support; and Endowment, to ensure continued support. To date the Foundation has received \$100,000 donations from Exchange Bank, American AgCredit, Clover Stornetta Farms, Sarah & Darius Anderson, the Coddling Foundation, and Kaiser; and has raised \$2.5M. Gifts can be designated to a specific program, department, or fund. Other ways faculty can get involved include the Brick Campaign; payroll deduction; or by joining one of the 5 work groups which include: new events and projects, chaired by G. Bertone and M. Sandberg; existing events and projects, currently without a chair; history, chaired by A. Hsieh; community connections, chaired by J. Rhoades; and communications, chaired by H. Sanford.

ACTION: None

DISCUSSION:

- 1. Faculty Input in Increasing Retention and Growing Enrollment** – The Senate Executive Committee solicited discussion and dialogue from the Senate addressing the topic of growing enrollment. Some concerns voiced by the Senators included: chasing one demographic to the detriment of others; how to engage faculty and assess the value of teaching evenings and weekends, at multiple locations, and online; how growing enrollment relates to efficiency goals; how cutting classes now could potentially hurt enrollment growth in the future; is the goal of 20,000 achievable and can we support those students in a meaningful way; should we focus on retention and completion instead of growth; repeatability; lengthy remedial pathways; the cost of growth to faculty and students and its impact on quality; lack of a clear plan forward; the consequences to the community of competing for students at the statewide level; and fear of the techniques that might be used to achieve growth. M. Rudolph noted that the repeatability issue was not legislative and can be reversed by the Board of Governors and urged faculty to make their complaints heard. This topic will be brought back for further discussion and possible resolutions.
- 2. Senate Considerations Regarding the Fate of the Bookstore** – D. Roberts presented on the current status of the Bookstore. Since the recession the Bookstore has lost approximately 40% of its business, losing \$300,000 in 2014-2015 and \$415,000 in 2015-2016. Potential solutions include subsidizing or contracting to someone like Follett or Barnes & Noble. 64 bookstores throughout the state are currently contracted out. Benefits of contracting include lower prices, commission, and the ability for students to have their books delivered. Used and rental textbooks would continue to be offered and current Bookstore employees would be shifted to other campus positions. Concerns voiced by the Senate included: the effect on the availability and price of course readers; will the college have a say in the merchandise that will be sold; and how this will affect the open source textbook initiative.

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