



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 19, 2016

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Petaluma Campus
Mahoney 721

VIDEO CONF: None

PRESENT: L. Aspinall, P. Bell, J. Carlin-Goldberg, T. Ehret, R. Fautley, A. Forrester, A. Graziani, A. Hsieh, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, D. Kirklin, C. McClure, L. Nahas, N. Nasseem, D. Padilla, R. Romagnoli, E. Thompson, P. Usina, N. Wheeler

ABSENT: S. Avasthi, A. Bogomolny, S. Diaz, M. Ludder, G. Navarro, C. Norton, F. Pugh, S. Rosen, M. Starkey

GUESTS: V. Hamilton

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

OPEN FORUM:

1. T. Ehret requested clarification on Senate communication with adjuncts working less than 40%. E. Thompson responded that DL.STAFF.ADJ.ALL can be used to communicate with all adjunct faculty. It was clarified that adjuncts can only vote in Senate elections if they have a 40%+ load.
2. E. Thompson announced that he gave a lecture on Monday as part of Community Education's Arts & Lectures series regarding LGBTQ issues as related to the Bible and other sacred literature. He will be giving the lecture to the Santa Rosa City Human Resources Department and at Oakmont. He also encouraged faculty to wear purple to support the LGBTQ community on Spirit Day tomorrow as well as participate in the Great ShakeOut.

MINUTES: October 5, 2016.

Motion: J. Carlin-Goldberg moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. President's Report – E. Thompson

- AFA/Senate Relations – E. Thompson plans on making this a permanent topic on his President's report. He will be meeting with K. Frindell Teuscher to schedule and discuss upcoming AFA/Senate Relations meetings with the next meeting scheduled for the afternoon of November 30, most likely in the new AFA house. Additionally, AFA/Senate has proposed a joint PDA session to discuss the book "Redesigning America's Community Colleges" and E. Thompson is collaborating with M. Rudolph to do a follow-up to their fall PDA session.
- Area B Meeting – J. Carlin-Goldberg, T. Jacobson, G. Sellu, and E. Thompson attended. E. Thompson gave a presentation on resolutions as a member of the ASCCC Resolutions Committee. He urged the faculty to look at the resolutions package on the ASCCC website and to let him know how they would like him to vote at Plenary.
- Plenary – T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, G. Sellu, and E. Thompson will be attending on November 3-5. Faculty can contact any of the attendees regarding resolutions of interest.
- President's Staff Meeting – R. Fautley attended as E. Thompson's designee. The adjunct job fair was discussed at the most recent meeting. The job fair is mainly targeted at departments who have difficulty finding qualified adjuncts and will be held on Tuesday, November 1 from 5:30-7:30. Faculty from departments that have a need for adjuncts are urged to attend or to recruit someone from their department to attend to talk to potential candidates. They are also preparing a student survey to gather information on issues related to students like



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homelessness and insecure housing. Classes will be selected randomly. If your class is selected please consider having your students complete the survey.

- DCC/IM – E. Thompson plans on looking more in depth at the faculty obligation number (FON) data that is provided to the Chancellor's Office to better understand how that number is calculated and what influences that number.
- Textbook Affordability Act Proposal (AB 798) – SRJC's proposal for funding under AB 798 was one of only 100 proposals accepted for all California Community Colleges and CSUs. E. Thompson congratulated and thanked J. Carlin-Goldberg and the Textbook Committee for all the work they put in to get this proposal funded.

2. Petaluma Faculty Forum (PFF) – V. Hamilton presented an update on the PFF. The PFF is a designated Academic Senate committee that meets once a month and represents the full time and adjunct faculty on the Petaluma campus. The 2016-2017 recipients of the Friends of Petaluma Campus Faculty Professional Development Funds (\$250 each) included: A. LaCasse from DRD, K. Swinstrom from Life Sciences, T. Frongia from Modern & Classical Languages, and C. McCain from Art. E. Edwards was elected as an adjunct faculty representative to the PFF Steering Committee. Recent and ongoing PFF meeting discussion topics include: bond measure updates, PFF and Academic Senate goals, respect contracts, Plicker demo, and posture activities. The Steering Committee will be running the PFF on V. Hamilton's behalf while he is out on paternity leave. For PFF related matters you can email V. Hamilton, E. Sullivan, E. Simas, T. Ruiz, E. Ratliff, or E. Edwards.

3. Academic Academy – R. Fautley attended the Academic Academy as part of the ASCCC Equity and Diversity Action Committee (EDAC). The theme of the conference was working together and trying to build bridges between student services and academic instructors. It was reinforced that silo-ing is not useful and that when teaching faculty and counselors work together everyone benefits. Some programs of note included A²MEND and PASS: Brain Food Project. A²MEND, or African American Men Education Network and Development, is a group of educated, black men who mentor black male students. SRJC does not currently have an A²MEND representative. The PASS, or Peer Assisted Study Sessions, Brain Food Project is a program developed by Jennifer Dorian, to serve academically challenged and underprepared students and increase their attendance in supplemental instruction and tutoring by focusing on needs like food and supplies insecurity, and the need to belong. The program offers snacks and free meals, free printing and school supplies, and assisted tutoring from tutors who have gone through empathy training. The goal of the program is to create a culture shift that addresses the student's needs and makes them feel comfortable expressing those needs. The program has seen a notable difference in success and retention, with only one measure not showing a significant difference. T. Johnson noted that Student Affairs has started a resource center located in Bertolini that is addressing similar issues.

ACTION:

1. Class Size Task Force Rubric – E. Thompson presented the rubric separate from the process document. The rubric has been substantially revised. The example column was completely removed leaving only two columns, the first column representing the status quo/current practice, and the second column representing class activities and characteristics. Additional factors that a department or discipline might use to lower or raise existing class maximums have been listed at the bottom. Concerns and suggestions voiced by the Senators included: documentation in the Course Outline of



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Record (COR), specifying which factors will raise and which factors will lower class size, upper limits not always being specified, and to change from lab/physical education to lab/physical activity.

Motion: L. Aspinall moved to table the rubric action item until there has been a conversation about the process document. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION:

- 1. Bookstore RFP** – E. Thompson brought this back to the Senate due to concerns that the final RFP had not been properly vetted. D. Roberts has agreed to delay sending out the RFP until hearing back from the Senate. Concerns and suggestions voiced by the Senate included: no reference to the South West Center, no section for custom texts and electronic textbooks, no wording about the bookstore working with EOPS and other similar programs, no section for open education resources, no section for printing on demand, no provision for custom publishing, lack of alignment with the textbook affordability plan, questions about the bookstore paying rent to the District, and no wording about state and Federal vouchers.

Motion: N. Wheeler moved to extend the discussion for 5 minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

N. Wheeler suggested that the Senate Executive Committee draft a letter to D. Roberts with a list of constituent groups that need to be consulted before the RFP is released. E. Thompson took a straw vote and the Senate was unanimous in their approval of the letter.

- 2. Class Size Task Force Process** – E. Thompson and T. Graziani presented the latest draft of the Class Size Task Force Process document to the Senate. The current draft is substantially the same but now includes an appeals process with the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the President of the Senate acting as final arbiters in disagreements on class size. Concerns and suggestions voiced by the Senate included: including relevant legislation in the evidence section, lack of transparency in the process and the potential for animosity, pedagogically recommended class size versus budgetary recommended class size, Curriculum Committee following the recommendations, and using class size at other community colleges is not pedagogical evidence. It was agreed that this topic would be brought back for discussion at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.