



# ACADEMIC SENATE

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

## MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 16, 2020

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom only

ZOOM ID: 739 337 730

<https://santarosa-edu.zoom.us/j/739337730>

### PRESENT

M. Aparicio, L. Aspinall, P. Bell, M. Bojanowski, J. Bush, J. Carlin-Goldberg, C. Crawford, A. Donegan, J. Fassler, N. Frantz, T. Jacobson, J. Kosten, D. Lemmer, L. Nahas, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver, R. Romagnoli, S. Rosen, G. Sellu, J. Stover, J. Thompson, K. Valenzuela, K. Wegman, S. Whylyly, S. Winston

### ABSENT

S. Martin (proxy A. Donegan)

### GUESTS

None

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President J. Thompson. There was a reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

### OPEN FORUM

1. L. Larqué stated that, as a member of the Ethnic Studies and Black Studies Task Force, she was frustrated that the Task Force's recommendations were not addressed at the December 2 Senate meeting. She urged the Senate to avoid further time loss and confusion and urged the Senate to support the Task Force recommendations that day.
2. B. Flyswithawks urged Senators to move the Black Studies and Ethnic Studies Task Force recommendations Discussion item, marked urgent, to Action and approve the recommendations; requested that Senators not be distracted by the timeframe or specifics embedded in the recommendations, such as the number of recommended faculty positions and the cost of implementing these recommendations; stated that the role of the Senate is to approve and forward the recommendations to Academic Affairs; and noted that the implementation would address issues of budget, hiring faculty members and staff, and negotiations.
3. A. Foster encouraged the Senate to continue forward progress on the approved motion regarding ranking Guided Pathways (GP) recommendations, which she stated would support the Senate's goal of transitioning GP to the design phase; and stated that the Senate process is rooted in democracy, with voting members representing their area constituents and basing decisions on all the information that has been presented. [Read A. Foster's full statement here.](#)

### MINUTES

A request was made to delete from the December 2, 2020, draft minutes language that qualifies rather than reports discussion, specifically regarding the Academic Senate Executive Committee Action item. The December 2 minutes will be so edited and brought back to the Senate for final approval.

### ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

It was requested that Credit for Prior Learning be removed from the Consent agenda.

### REPORTS

1. President's Report – J. Thompson stated that the revision of the Faculty Hiring policy and procedure is urgently needed and asked Senators to review the support materials on the Senator

Resources page before January 20; and stated the hope that the Spring Retreat on January 29 will include the conversation on Senate values, which affect Senate work on many subjects, including Accreditation, program review, shared governance, institutional planning, budget, faculty equivalency, and professional development.

Further comments addressed J. Thompson's attendance at the Student Government Assembly retreat during the winter break; upcoming work to review and redefine Senate Areas; and the role that parliamentary procedure plays in valuing all voices, ensuring the body's deliberation and efficiency, and maintaining courtesy, respect, and fairness.

2. Parliamentarian's Report – G. Sellu apologized for the confusion at the last meeting and pledged to work with the Senate President to help address some of these mistakes. He stated the hope that the Senate would move past those mistakes and listen to one another; that he will post a cheat sheet of motions on the Academic Senate website for Senators' convenience; encouraged Senators to use the Point of Order motion as often as needed to get clarification before voting; and stated a reminder that Senators do not vote against one another but represent their colleagues, so there is no need to feel badly about voting differently from Senate colleagues. G. Sellu reviewed the Order of Business for the day's meeting, noting that the pending GP motion on the floor, carried over from the December 2 meeting, would require a two-thirds vote as it would be overturning the Senate's November 18 vote; and described the steps available for responding to the December 2 error regarding the vote to table.

## ACTION

1. Guided Pathways Ranking – A. Donegan introduced this item. Discussion noted the confusion about ranking and motion language at the December 2 meeting; dismay that the Senate had not discussed and agreed upon the ranking system in advance; the desire to follow democratic process and vote on the recommendations; the ability of Senators to rank the recommendations in the order determined by the GP workgroups; that the Senate had had ample time to read and discuss the recommendations; the sentiment that Senators' exercising their judgment in ranking as opposed to "rubber-stamping" is an issue of professionalism.

The Senate returned to the motion on the floor, which, if approved by a two-thirds vote, would overturn the November 18 decision stating that the Senate would rank the recommendations and the Senate would use the GP workgroup rankings. The roll-call vote resulted in 13 yes votes and 12 no votes; the motion failed.

The ranking was conducted via electronic survey. Due to an issue with proxies' access to the ballot, the results will be announced at a later date.

2. Academic Senate Executive Committee – A. Donegan introduced this item by noting that, as the Senate is a democratic body, "votes matter"; that due to confusion at the previous meeting a vote to table the item carried by the requisite majority but was considered not to have carried due to a statement that the motion required a two-thirds vote; and, as the item was not tabled, a subsequent motion was approved, resulting in a decision regarding the expansion of the Executive Committee. It was noted that it was desirable to resolve the contradiction in a way that did not disregard Senators' franchise. As the maker of the December 2 motion to table the item, A. Donegan offered to relinquish that motion in the interest of time and the good of the body but stated that she did not wish to make that decision for other Senators who had supported the motion to table.

K. Valenzuela made a motion to table the agenda item until a later date. Responding to a question from a Senator, K. Valenzuela clarified that her motion was to honor the tabling of the motion from the December 2 meeting. A. Donegan seconded.

In response to a question about the significance of a "yes" vote on this motion, it was explained that the focus of the discussion included how to define three additional Senate Executive Committee seats; that if the motion to table passed, the Senate would then need to consider a motion to

rescind, by a two-thirds vote, the December 2 decision about those three Senate Executive Committee positions; and if the current motion to table failed, the Senate would not honor the tabling from the last meeting, and the December 2 decision about the three Senate Executive Committee positions would stand.

A roll-call vote resulted in 22 no votes, 1 abstention, and 2 yes votes. The motion failed.

As the motion failed, the December 2 decision about the composition of the Executive Committee would stand.

## **ELECTIONS**

1. Vice President, Executive Secretary, Past President – Senators voted electronically; the administrative assistant met with members of the Elections Committee in a breakout room, to certify the election; and the President and Parliamentarian joined the breakout room so that, per the Bylaws, the Elections Committee could report the elections results to the Executive Committee.

The administrative assistant announced the election results to the Senate: Vice President, M. Ohkubo; Executive Secretary, J. Stover; Past President, B. Flyswithawks.

## **CONSENT**

1. Credit for Prior Learning, Board Policy and Procedure 3.16 – This item having been removed from the Consent agenda and there being concerns about the remaining business and time constraints of the current meeting, A. Donegan moved to table Credit for Prior Learning and reschedule it at the next available meeting. J. Carlin-Goldberg seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Black Studies and Ethnic Studies Task Force Recommendations – J. Thompson opened the discussion, explaining that the support document provided in the meeting packet identified which elements of the Task Force recommendations fall within the Senate's purview, recognized that the Senate was being asked to support recommendations that are not in the Senate's area of responsibility, and noted that the Senate could nevertheless avail itself of the opportunity to support the Black Studies and Ethnic Studies Task Force recommendations.

J. Carlin-Goldberg motioned to move this to an Action item at this meeting. S. Whyllly seconded.

A roll-call vote to move this Discussion item to Action carried unanimously.

J. Stover moved to accept the recommendations and refer them forward to the next step. L. Aspinall seconded.

A roll-call vote to approve the recommendations of the Black Studies and Ethnic Studies Task Force carried unanimously.

## **INFORMATION**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

5:00 p.m.