



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 20, 2021

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom only

ZOOM ID: 739 337 730

<https://santarosa->

[edu.zoom.us/j/739337730](https://santarosa-edu.zoom.us/j/739337730)

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

M. Aparicio, P. Bell

GUESTS

F. Chong, J. Saldaña-Talley

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President J. Thompson; Roll Call was taken by Secretary J. Stover; Past President B. Flyswithhawks read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

OPEN FORUM

1. F. Chong gave an update on vaccine availability for staff: educators are going to be next in line for the vaccine and the process is going slower than is expected. F. Chong reported that he will meet with SoCo [Emergency] (Sonoma County Emergency and Preparedness Information) Thursday to discuss SRJC developing a process and procedure for all employees being vaccinated; that Student Health Services has been administering vaccines to SRJC health care students in clinical settings; that the Petaluma gymnasium on the Petaluma campus will be used as a site for administering vaccinations for the general public, and not necessarily SRJC employees; and that after consulting with the Board and other folks in leadership and following safety and science recommendations, the District has decided SRJC will remain remote for the summer.

F. Chong further reported that SRJC has hired Dr. Jeremy Smotherman to be Senior Director of Institutional Research Planning and Grants, and Mary-Catherine Oxford as the new Dean, Learning Resources and Educational Technology; that he remains committed to working with the Academic Senate on diversity and inclusion issues in terms of hiring practices and has been in close contact with President Thompson; and that he is confident they have a good strategy moving forward. For more detail please refer to Dr. Chong's [letter to the staff](#).

2. K. Valenzuela expressed concerns about comments from a fellow Senator who referred to her directly by name at the last Senate meeting; voiced concerns that she was misrepresented and that the comments made could have negatively impacted her candidacy for the Senate Executive Committee. [Read K. Valenzuela's full statement here](#).

MINUTES

1. A request was made that the hanging title at the bottom of page two entitled "Minutes" should be moved forward and joined with the accompanying text on page three for the December 2 minutes.
2. It was requested that the December 2nd minutes be corrected to reflect mistakes made using Parliamentary Procedure regarding the removal of a motion on the floor and continuing the discussion of an agenda item after it had been voted to be tabled. J. Thompson asked that the

suggestions be forwarded to her, and stated that the revisions will be made by the Executive Secretary and the revised minutes brought back to the February 3rd meeting.

3. J. Carlin-Goldberg motioned to approve the December 16 minutes as written; L. Aspinall seconded the motion. The December 16 minutes were unanimously adopted (23 yes votes) by roll call.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None

REPORTS

1. President's Report – J. Thompson informed the Senate that email solicitations for candidates for available Senate positions – the Area 10 vacancy and the three additional Senate Executive Committee positions – have been sent and that deadlines for both are February 1 (times vary by position); stated that the Executive Committee is finalizing the ranking of the Guided Pathways Recommendations following some unexpected technical difficulties involving proxy votes; and thanked P. Bell and A. Donegan for their past service to the Senate, and particularly thanked A. Donegan for her service, support, and mentorship.

J. Thompson reported that she was invited to attend the Student Government Assembly retreat over the break and described the SGA leadership as an impressive, engaged group of individuals interested in opportunities for further conversation with the Senate; stated that the Senate Executive Committee is working with S. Hopkins, Vice President of Human Resources, to bring the District's legal counsel, Laura Schulkind, to the Senate for a presentation on hiring and diversity; reminded that Senate that on February 19th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Stephanie Curry from the Statewide Academic Senate will be facilitating a professional development session on parliamentary procedure for the Senate; and noted that the Spring Retreat is Friday, January 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and requested that Senators forward ideas for agenda items to the Executive Committee.

J. Thompson stated that she was impressed with the Senate's "hard work and good thinking" during a very challenging Fall 2020. [Read J. Thompson's full President's Report here.](#)

2. Parliamentarian's Report – G. Sellu encouraged Senators to take advantage of the point of order motion as often as possible to get clarification on the motions; noted that there was one Action item on the agenda – Credit for Prior Learning – which was pulled from the Consent Agenda, by a Senator's request, during the December 2nd meeting; pointed out that the discussion item – Faculty Professional Development: Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Anti-Racism – was marked urgent and could be moved to Action with a motion; noted a single item on the Information agenda, with no action required or permitted, allowing for Senators to research in preparation for discussion at a future meeting; and requested that Senators send comments and additional resources related to this item to President Thompson. [Read G. Sellu's full Parliamentarians Report here.](#)

CONSENT

None.

ACTION

1. Credit for Prior Learning, Board Policy and Procedure 3.16/P

J. Thompson introduced the item by explaining that after a first reading at the Board's December meeting, the policy had been revised in response to further information from the Chancellor's Office and re-agendized for a new first reading at the Board's January meeting; clarified that the policy in the packet is the revised version from the January 12th Board meeting; explained that the Senate is considering endorsing this policy revision in response to new regulation; noted that after the policy is approved, the Senate can work on the procedure, using as a draft the policy created by Palomar College's pilot program; and clarified that if the Senate approves this Action item, they

would be approving the Board Policy 3.16 policy draft and agreeing to create the companion procedure, modeled on Palomar's work.

Senators asked for clarification on the changes included in the packet, noting that there were only small changes made. J. Thompson explained that the driving force behind the policy revision was, in part, to ensure that veterans are able to receive credit for work they have done prior to entering a community college, support completion goals, and support equity. J. Saldaña-Talley was invited to address the questions; explained that this requirement is a conversion of laws that were being passed in a piecemeal manner; stated that an advisory group had worked on how best to roll this out; noted that the CCC Board of Governors had implemented the change to take effect on March 20, at the beginning of the COVID pandemic, and that SRJC was not aware of these regulatory changes until August/September; cited a deadline of December 31st for all CCCs to develop and implement policies and procedures meant a tight window for SRJC's timing. J. Saldaña-Talley noted that SRJC is presently repurposing its policy and procedure for Credit by Examination to meet the requirements of the regulation change, that there is much already in place that can be kept, and that she hadn't seen such specific approval of language needed in the past. She recommended reviewing the [CPL toolkit](#) to understand the revision process.

Senators' comments included the opportunity to tighten the policy and do better; that SRJC will in the future be using the Community College League of California's (CCLC) policy updates and templates; a concern that CCLC was handing the College policies that the Senate should approve; the Senate has a duty to carefully vet policy coming from CCLC; the desire to strike the word "primarily," rename the document Credit for Prior Learning, and substitute "assessment" for "examination."

J. Thompson clarified that the word "primarily" deliberately echoes the Title V language that describes the role of the Senate. J. Saldaña-Talley stated that CCLC is no way telling SRJC what their policy should be, which is up to the District. The CCLC service provides regulatory updates, making sure that the District is not dropping the ball, and templates are then modified. It is discipline faculty who determine whether these policies will be allowed.

J. Stover moved that the the Academic Senate shall approve revisions to Board Policy 3.16, currently "Credit by Examination," renaming it as "Credit for Prior Learning" (CPL) and repurposing it to conform with California Code of Regulations, title 5 §55050, effective March 20, 2020, and endorse revising Board procedure 3.16P to create a CPL procedure to be modeled on that developed by Palomar Community College and ensuring the appropriate role of discipline faculty?" T. Jacobson seconded.

A point of order was raised regarding the motion being phrased as a question rather than a declarative statement, and a Senator stated that he had attempted to make a motion but had difficulty due to technology. J. Stover moved to withdraw his motion in deference to his colleague's potential motions; A. Donegan seconded the withdrawing of the motion. A roll call vote resulted in 22 yes votes and 1 abstention. The motion carried.

A Senator requested that the discussion continue in a future agenda or be taken to the Curriculum Committee; it was clarified that it is the Senate's role to decide the matter, not the Curriculum Committee's.

L. Aspinall moved that "The Academic Senate shall approve revisions to Board Policy 3.16, currently 'Credit by Examination,' renaming it as 'Credit for Prior Learning' (CPL) and repurposing it to conform with California Code of Regulations, title 5 §55050, effective March 20, 2020, and shall endorse revising Board procedure 3.16P to create a CPL procedure to be modeled on that developed by Palomar Community College and ensuring the appropriate role of discipline faculty." N. Frantz seconded the motion.

A Senator stated a desire for an edit specifying that the "procedure shall include, but not be limited

to this statement creates a policy that is not actually a policy, specifics should be spelled out in the policy.”

A roll call vote on the motion resulted in 19 yes votes and 3 abstentions. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION

With 25 minutes and two Discussion items remaining, J. Thompson initiated a discussion on whether to proceed with the Agenda “as is” or reorder the agenda, which would require a 2/3 votes. The decision was made to proceed with the present Agenda.

1. Faculty Professional Development: Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, & Anti-Racism

L. Aspinall made a motion that this item: *Faculty Professional Development: Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, & Anti-Racism* be moved to action; R. Romagnoli seconded.

A roll call vote resulted in 23 yes votes. The motion passed unanimously, and the motion was moved to Action.

T. Jacobson made a motion to approve *Faculty Professional Development in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*. J. Bush seconded the motion.

Senators’ comments included Senate’s role in discussing expectations of professional development requirements first and then sharing with AFA for subsequent negotiations; advocacy for a mandatory, semester-length equity training series for all faculty, staff and administration; building on existing practices (PDA Day, New Faculty Development); introducing/incorporating equity circles, equity conversations, and anti-racist pedagogy training that addresses implicit bias and centers equity practices. It was suggested that the Senate move forward with the motion, allowing AFA to begin to negotiate, and then to discuss specifics at a future meeting; that the Senate provide reading materials and examples of what other colleges are doing, to provide background for the Senate; and advocacy for various strategies in how to support AFA and flexibility for unique faculty approaches; and that either a Senate task force or subcommittee be formed, to address equity, diversity, inclusion and anti-racism professional development.

A roll call vote resulted in 23 Yes votes and the motion passed unanimously. The discussion of implementation of this requirement would be brought back to the Senate at a future date.

INFORMATION

1. Board Policy / Procedure 4.3.2/P, Faculty Hiring: Regular and Adjunct (Ed. Code 87360)

J. Thompson stated that the focus of this Information item is to address where the Senate is in its revision process, how to align this revision work with Senate goals and values, and identifying a path forward. Senators’ comments included keeping the work focused on equity, the general tension between the faculty and administration in how hiring is done, the bearing on this discussion of the results of the November 2020 ballot measures, the concern that the Senate has come up against legal concerns in attempting this work, upcoming training on hiring and diversity that is being arranged for the Senate and faculty, which will support the Senate’s policy work; the need for time to review support materials posted for this discussion; and the invitation to forward additional support materials that may be made available to Senators.

ADJOURNMENT

5:00 p.m.