



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2024, 3:15 p.m.

Santa Rosa: Bertolini Senate Chambers, Room 4638 Petaluma: Room 690, Richard Call Bldg.

ZOOM ID: 958 4627 3808 / [link](#)

PRESENT M. Anderman, L. Aspinall, A. Atilgan Relyea, S. Avasthi, W. Downey (remote), M. Ferguson, K. Frindell Teuscher, G. Garcia, M. Hale, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, D. Lemmer, L. Lukas, A. Martin, S. McGregor-Gordon, G. Morre, M. Ohkubo, N. Perrone, N. Persons, O. Raola, S. Rosen (Petaluma), E. Schmidt, N. Slovak (remote), I. Tircuit, P. Usina, A. Yu (Petaluma)

ABSENT L. Larsen (proxy G. Garcia), M. Papa (proxy A. Martin)

GUESTS R. Holcomb

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Senator Johnson read the land acknowledgement statement.

OPEN FORUM

1. Siobhan McGregor-Gordon reminded the body that AFA dues-paying members voted to join the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, or FACCC, as a contract college. As the elected FACCC SRJC representative, she shared with the body FACCC's position on AB1705 implementation.
 - a. Open Forum Statement linked [here](#).
 - b. Handout referenced in statement and physically distributed to Senators linked [here](#).
2. Jeremy Smotherman (Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning) shared the Strategic Planning Actions work group will be emailing [this \(linked\) survey](#) to inform their action steps in accomplishing initiatives and goals SRJC identified, in part, through previous Town Halls (2022-23).

JUST CAUSE REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Hearing no objections, President Stover approved the remote participation of Senators Downey and Slovak.

MINUTES

Senator Mc-Gregor Gordon pointed out a mistake on page 2: *IDEEA* should be *IDEAA*. Senator Slovak pointed out her name was not listed as an attendee, even though she attended. A motion to approve the draft [Minutes of 11/6](#) as amended was halted as another mistake was noticed by Senators Morre and Persons: on page 1, for the vote record, Senator Persons' vote was incorrectly listed as *no*; change to *yes*. President Stover asked if there was any objection to suspending the vote and bringing the minutes back with corrections at the next meeting (12/04). Hearing no objection, the vote to approve the minutes was suspended.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA None.

REPORTS

1. President Stover opened by summarizing his trip to ASCCC Fall Plenary and the resolutions passed re: AB 1705. Other updates highlighted from [his report](#) included:
 - The Senate task forces working on Generative AI and Reapportionment

- recommendations will be reporting out at the December 4th meeting
- Communities of Practice (CoP) call for proposals due this Friday (11/22)
2. District Online Committee (DOC) [report](#) out by Senator Jacobson: the group is working to create a continuous budgeted process and plan for SRJC's educational technology tools for faculty; regular hyflex gatherings for faculty; new federal accessibility regulations for digital materials with a deadline of April 2026
 3. Lynn Erikson Rhode [shared the Petaluma Faculty Forum](#) group started the Fall 24/25 semester with a community-building retreat and during their monthly meetings have discussed the following:
 - innovative approaches to increase in-person enrollment for in-person classes such as the monthly Takeout Tuesday event which provides free food to students
 - Recent safety concerns on campus resulted in a meeting with SRJC's police chief to talk about safety protocols
 - Spring Semester: elections for chair will occur (current chair [Matthew Martin](#) available for questions)
 4. Professional Development Committee coordinators Alexa Forrester and Ann Foster [presented an update](#) on PD committee activities, which included:
 - Activities for planning/executing Professional Development Activities (PDA) day; refining the Forever Flex (FF) program; New Faculty program; etc.
 - Reminded faculty of google spreadsheet for FF tracking created by A. Forrester and available for use as a stopgap for current SIS limitations
 - Monthly email newsletter for professional development opportunities
 - A senator asked and it was clarified there will *not* be an orientation for associate faculty in the spring
 5. Jeremy Smotherman [reported out on SRJC students' completion of local degrees, associate degrees for transfer \(ADT's\) and certificates](#):
 - local Associates of Sciences, AS, have higher unit count (on avg 5 units) than Associate of Arts degrees
 - Other topics discussed: [data](#) reflects those who applied for associate degree; local degrees are primary driver of degree completion at SRJC; SRJC is funded more when students complete an ADT, versus local degrees.

ACTION

1. **Academic Senate Revision of Bylaws and Constitution**—Senator Persons moved the body establish a task force, using [established procedures](#), for the purposes of revising and updating the Bylaws and Constitution, seconded. A **vote was called and the motion passed unanimously with 28 yes votes.**
2. **Establishing Local Degree requirements language**—President Stover reminded the body of department recommendations, and the [updated language in the Student Success and Wellness criteria](#), clarifying 'Workplace Learning and Development' encompasses community learning and work experience classes.
 - a. Senator Persons shared her support for the two Areas being added to the local degree pattern, showing SRJC-specific statement of values as educators. She made a motion to implement the language that was presented of local degree requirements, seconded. A **vote was called and the**

motion passed unanimously with 28 yes votes.

3. **Question of re-establishing Faculty Professional Development subcommittee of Academic Senate –** specific to #8 of [10+1](#).
 - a. Senator Lukas motioned to re-establish the subcommittee on faculty professional development, and a work group be formed using [established procedures](#), to review the subcommittee’s charge and scope, seconded. **A vote was called and the motion passed unanimously with 28 yes votes.**

DISCUSSION

1. After the break, President Stover and Senator Persons introduced the [Online Teaching Certification standards, highlighting the extensive resource](#) providing examples from other community colleges throughout the state. Senators spoke about:
 - Importance of ongoing learning for best practices in teaching courses online and establishing a consistent process
 - Option for consideration of another senate task force to address the task, and consideration of available data that shows students were more successful in classes that went through the online course review process.
 - Previous to Canvas, each department had different requirements. Some senators voiced concern for requirements, supporting flexibility in certain departments, like EMLS.
 - Discussion was extended for 7 minutes more, in which the need for establishing accessible, consistent certification embedded in the culture of the college was reiterated.
 - Time for the topic ran out with a queue of those senators speaking on the topic at the next meeting with (1st contribution) T. Johnson, E. Schmidt, and M. Ferguson, and (2nd contributions) A. Atilgan Relyea and L. Lukas.

INFORMATION

[Update from Office of Academic Affairs](#) — Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Holcomb reminded the body in Spring 2022 [ACCJC](#) accrediting agency, found Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) were not in alignment with standards. Is confident the commission’s meeting in January 2025 to review accreditation standing will be a favorable determination. Taking a comprehensive approach in creating a process to resolve SRJC’s budget deficit. Encouraged community involvement, referenced the collaboration happening in All Faculty Association (AFA), the Academic Senate, the Academic Affairs Council, and other groups. Senators asked for clarification around the infrastructure plan and what specific district resources would be provided for the enrollment recovery and growth areas planned.

President Stover announced Dr. Holcomb would be returning to answer more questions, with Senators in the queue for the December 4th return of the topic: E. Schmidt, A. Atilgan Relyea, G. Morre, G. Garcia, and L. Lukas.

President Stover adjourned the meeting.