

AS President Report to Academic Senate
Nov. 30, 2022
N. Persons

Planning and Budget Council (PBC) 11/28/2022

Vice President Ohkubo filled in for me for most of the PBC meeting this week, so that I could attend the live webinar on the Brown Act update regarding AB 2449 (see notes at end of this report). At this meeting I was able to give an update on our Strategic Planning Town Hall before having to leave the meeting. Information on that Town Hall follows. In addition to this, Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) gave an update on the software review for the Accreditation Requirement response. He indicated that the SLO software evaluation has resulted in understanding that faculty would have been required to use Canvas in one way or another for the work of SLO assessment. If we can integrate the Canvas Outcomes module with Tableau, we would not purchase additional software. RH explained follow up report to ACCJC is due Oct. 1st, 2023, and at that time our solutions need to be implemented and being used. Other topics included a presentation on the Annual Financial and Budget Report by Kate Jolley – SRJC is in compliance with the “50% rule,” i.e. SRJC spends at least 50% of its funds on instruction.

Guided Pathways Update

Executive Secretary and Guided Pathways Liaison John Stover and I met with Superintendent President Dr. Chong on 11/21/2022 to discuss the content of a message Dr. Chong will send out calling for the formation of a multi-constituent work group to develop a proposed structure for Guided Pathways at SRJC, an action which is the direct result of this Academic Senate’s recommendation. Please look for this email announcement coming any moment now. The work group will be formed and begin their work in the Spring 2023 semester.

Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) Consultation

In an effort to have a solid understanding of CRC processes in relation to the Academic Senate’s current debate regarding the Accreditation Work Group’s SLO proposal, I met with CRC faculty chair Ann Foster last week, and followed this up by attending the CRC meeting on 11/28/2022, so that I could hear all comments and better understand CRC concerns regarding this issue. At the meeting Ann showed the recommendations brought to this body to the CRC membership. Concerns and comments expressed included the following: Ann showed CRC members sections of the Fall 2015 (November 18, 2015) resolution regarding the 6-year updates to Course Outlines of Record (CORs) that is being maintained, and which may address some of the issue. The relevant section of that resolution, which prevents courses from being offered unless reviewed within the 6-year Title 5 mandated cycle, states “Resolved, That the CRC, working with the Academic Senate, will create solutions to help departments and disciplines that struggle to comply with curriculum currency standards due to extenuating circumstances on a case by case basis, including formation of an ad hoc committee of the Academic Senate President, CRC Faculty Co-Chair, Curriculum Dean and Academic Affairs Vice President to consider significant contractual or enrollment problems resulting from the implementation of this resolution when necessary; and...” (Highlights are Ann’s and left in here for your information). Concerns expressed included the following: would CRC have to become a watchdog looking out for

courses not assessed; the Fall 2015 resolution went from the CRC to the Senate whereas the current proposal is the other way around; the every-2-year requirement to assess seems excessive to some members of CRC; the second proposal might result in us not being able to offer courses; proposal 2 feels more like a stick than a carrot; for proposal 1, if courses are updated every 6 years for review, why is the SLO assessment suggested to be every 2 years; the update of courses is a separate process from SLO assessment so why not have a unified process for both; there are currently 43 courses currently past due, CRC struggles every year to get them reviewed, and how can they manage an additional hurdle; CRC can generate a report that shows the SLO assessment status and could add a column to note whether assessed or not to the annual review cycle.

In researching how accrediting agencies compare regarding their treatment of SLOs as part of the accreditation process, I found and recommend the following research report:

<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/college-accreditors-miss-mark-student-outcomes/>

AB 2449 (Brown Act Temporary Provisions)

I attended this webinar live on 11/28/2022 so that I could ask specific questions. The webinar was hosted by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC). Please see my notes at [Brown Act ASCCC Update 2022-11-28.docx](#) if interested in reading them. Previously I sent out an announcement from the Chancellor's office to you all with the full text and information regarding AB 2449, which offers temporary changes to Brown Act and remote meetings through December 2025.

Strategic Planning Town Hall 11/17/2022

Interim VP of Student Services Robert Ethington and I hosted this Town Hall. Approximately 30 people attended, about half in person and half via Zoom. Participants broke out into groups to discuss the four initiatives that were identified through last year's town halls and develop goals and objectives for each initiative. These initiatives include Academic Quality, Student Success and Support, Responsiveness to Our Community, and Campus Climate and Culture. Input provided by participants has been turned into a functional document and will be available on the Strategic Planning website. There will be one more Town Hall this semester, on Thursday, December 8th, from 1:00-3:00 in room 145 of the Doyle Library. It will also be available via Zoom. Please look for an email to come from Karen Maddux about this event. At this Town Hall we will build upon the ideas submitted prior, and possibly develop additional sets of Goals and Objectives.

Strategic Planning Coordinating Committee 11/18/2022

The SPCC met to review the work of the Town Hall participants the previous day. We identified one Initiative, goal, and objective, and discussed how to proceed with the next Town Hall. We also discussed how to convert the participant input into a workable document for further consideration. The SPCC will meet again on 12/13/2022 to review the full set of contributions from the two Town Halls.

The Council met on 11/17/2022. We reviewed our meeting schedule, then moved on to finalize the email that will introduce the Committee Survey Form that will be sent out to all committee and council chairs. If you are serving currently on a committee or council, be sure to check with your chair about when your group will work on responding to this survey. The intent is for all committee/council members to collaborate on responding. We expect the survey will be sent out this week, as we are now finalizing the identification of chairs of all groups. College Council will use these results during the spring semester to map out connections and relationships between all our collaborative governance groups in our ongoing effort to reorganize in a way that eliminates duplication of effort and fosters improved two-way communication. We then heard a presentation from Michael Hale, chair of the Integrated Student Success Committee, together with Petaluma Campus Executive Dean Matthew Long. These two presented information on the in-depth work undertaken by this committee over the summer and during the fall to reimagine their work. College Council will take this information along with the survey results into consideration. Future agenda items also include finalizing the College Council's core duties and revising the Council's charge.

Appointments to Superintendent/President Recruitment

Nine faculty members responded to our call for volunteers to serve on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. The Academic Senate Exec Committee (ASEC) chose two faculty members to serve on this committee. I completely recused myself from the conversation, as I was one of the faculty members who submitted their names for consideration. Using the stated principles of seeking to appoint "faculty from a diversity of backgrounds, disciplines, and lived experiences, who possess knowledge and understanding of the Academic Senate purview ("10+1"), have experience and understanding of collaborative governance work, and who represent our campuses and sites," the ASEC members participating in the selection have appointed George Sellu and myself to serve on this committee. I can tell you that I understand I represent all faculty at SRJC and will bring all my knowledge from the past twenty years working here at SRJC to bear on this recruitment. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to serve alongside George Sellu in this endeavor.