



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 7th, 2022
TIME: 3:15 p.m.
LOCATION: Santa Rosa, 4638 Bertolini
Senate Chambers
Petaluma, 628 Call Bldg.
ZOOM ID: [Zoom Recording](#)

PRESENT

M. Anderman, L. Aspinall, A. Atilgan, S. Avasthi, B. Barajas, V. Bertsch, J. Bush, J. Carlin-Goldberg, S. Cavales Doolan, A. Donegan, W. Downey, J. Fassler, T. Jacobson, T. Johnson, L. Larsen, D. Lemmer, G. Morre, M. Ohkubo, A. Oliver, P. Ozbirinci, N. Persons, E. Schmidt, H. Skoonberg, J. Stover, P. Usina

ABSENT G. Garcia, N. Slovak (Proxy Bertsch)

GUESTS M. Collier, VPAA R. Holcomb, B. Bookman, A. Bloom, and Senator A. Atilgan Relyea

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President N. Persons. The Land Acknowledgement Statement was read by Senator H. Skoonberg.

OPEN FORUM

Senator Donegan read a statement about SRJC Foundation's decision to remove departments and disciplines from the selection process for scholarships.

[Read Senator Donegan's full statement here](#)

Senator G. Morre read a statement on behalf of Tim Melvin, Math Department, and other departments in presenting their concerns about the drastic changes being made to the scholarship awards process.

[Read T. Melvin's full statement here](#)

Bitia Bookman, Alexis Bloom, and Senator Atilgan Relyea read a statement about CDCP pay inequity and urged the body to vote yes in a resolution for the CDCP.

[Read Alexis Bloom, Aylin Atilgan Relay and Bitia Bookman's full statement here](#)

Sarah Whyllly from the Philosophy Department read a statement requesting that the topic of the CDCP receives sufficient time and consideration from the Senate with input from their constituencies.

[Read Sarah Whyllly's full statement \(to be added\)](#)

Senator Stover delivered an update on Guided Pathways; reported that over the next two weeks Mathew Long and he will update one another and work on moving existing projects forward; expressed apologies to the First-year Experience Course workgroup and Senator Donegan for missing the goals originally set; and assured the body he would continue to support the completion of all previously approved, existing projects thru Spring 2023.

MINUTES

Senator Stover reported the minutes corrections received before the meeting; received additional corrections in the meeting; suggested the body delay adopting current minutes until corrections are made and noted there will be two sets of minutes to adopt in the first spring meeting.

[Summary of November 30th Edits](#)

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Senator Carlin-Goldberg requested that the CDCP Resolution be removed from the Consent agenda and moved to action in support by vote by acclamation.

President Persons explained that by removing it from consent it offers a possibility of voting unanimously in strong support – vote by acclamation – and demonstrating strong support.

REPORTS

1. President's Report – N. Persons

President Persons reported with one week between the meetings that there was nothing new to report; thanked Senator Usina for filling in as sabbatical appointment for the semester; and thanked Marni Cunha for filling in as Administrative Assistant II.

2. SRJC Bookstore – A. Jimenez

Andrew Jimenez, manager of the Follett SRJC Bookstore. provided information about the bookstore process; clarified that he asks for a materials list because they must abide by the Higher Education Opportunity act, which stipulates that if students receive financial assistance from the federal government, the bookstore needs to list all the materials used for the classes on the website so that students can shop anywhere they want to save money; reported that as students sign up for classes, they go on the bookstore website to search books and pricing, so information from the faculty is vital for the bookstore to be able to aid students; mentioned students with financial awards (GI Bills, Magnet Programs) must purchase through the bookstore; knowing what textbooks will be requested in the following semester affects Buyback: noted the bookstore has been notified by all publishers that the price of paper will double this next year, so they are hoping faculty will reuse the same edition and mentioned the only way this works is for students to sell books back and the savings occurs at that time; mentioned without the materials list ready by finals week, the bookstore is not be able to buy the books back from students; noted that for Open Educational Resource (OER) materials, faculty members should provide the bookstore with access information and post the link on the website so students can download that information ahead of time; and noted that bookstore prices are high, in part, as related to a small commission the District received on all bookstore sales.

Senator Downey stated that students are shopping for the cheapest book which makes it difficult for students to get their books on time, makes it difficult for them to take exams, and asked if the bookstore will be selling a digital version of the books to buy or rent.

A. Jimenez clarified that shipping is a difficult problem, takes 7-14 days for a publisher to process ordered followed by a week for shipping, that the buyback program will help resolve shipping issues, and noted he has been advocating for digital books as well.

CONSENT None

ACTION

1. Resolution Support of Career Development and College Preparation Education (CDCP) *Shall the Academic Senate endorse the Resolution in support of advocacy for CDCP education and pay parity?*

Senator Goldberg moved to approve this resolution via acclamation, which was seconded.

President Persons called for the vote. The vote was unanimous with 25 yes votes.

[Resolution in Support of the CDC Education](#)

2. SLO Workgroup Recommendations 1 and 2 – M. Collier, R. Holcomb. *What shall be the Academic Senate's recommendation to the district regarding the workgroup's proposed actions to bring SRJC into compliance with the ACCJC Accreditation Requirements?*

President Persons reminded the body that with Recommendation 3 previously adopted, both Recommendation 1 and 2 were up for discussion today, noted that sometimes a workgroup

might take a proposal back to amend them after receiving feedback; explained this was not the process used this time; and reminded senators they could make motions that represent revised or new versions of the recommendations.

Senator Avasthi, SLO Coordinator, explained why the two-year assessment cycle is important in collecting enough data to see trends and better inform assessment; noted its tie to revising the curriculum; mentioned the SLO Coordinators are talking about development and training opportunities; mentioned the goal is not to remove courses or to make it harder to put courses up but to make better courses; and mentioned the importance of faculty accountability with one another instead of administrators.

Senator Donegan reported the following:

- I looked at minutes from the 9/21 meeting, where we discussed putting together the accreditation workgroup.
- The proposal stated that “any matters of contract or workload will be referred to AFA for negotiations as appropriate”
- The Workgroup’s 1st recommendation clearly includes matters of workload (requiring assessments every two years) and should have been sent to AFA.
- The proposal also stated that the work group shall, gather data from Departments regarding methods of SLO assessment and move toward college-wide standards for SLO assessments where data can be easily disaggregated.
- This wasn’t addressed in the recommendations. The SLO Coordinators need to use the PRPP to make regular assessments the norm.
- On 9/21 The Senate wanted to remove any mention of punitive consequences for faculty who do not assess SLOs. And yet Recommendation # 2 has clear consequences for the faculty and even more so for our students.
- There is a disconnect to what the body voted on 9/21 and what we were presented by the Work group on 11/2.

Senator Donegan moved that the SLO Coordinators work with department chairs who have an effective plan of assessing SLO’s and implement this plan college-wide, and SLO coordinators will work with those departments who need support getting this work completed, which was seconded.

Senators stated that the motion covers what the SLO Coordinators job are already doing in working with departments and moving forward best practices, concurred on SLO Coordinator job activities, and noted that the intent of the motion is understandable but feels redundant.

A senator asked about the recommendations and which part of the current motion was related to Recommendations 1 & 2, and another expressed concern about lack of timeline.

Senator Donegan clarified that she should amend her motion to include rejecting recommendation 1 & 2 and agrees the timeline should be what ACCJC expects of them which is every 6 years.

President Persons reminded the body that once a motion is seconded it belongs to the body and any amendment must be voted on by it.

Senators expressed concern regarding the motion; agreed with the sentiment that Recommendation 1 and 2 are hard to push forward when the process is unknown and maybe they are premature; and encouraged the workgroup to have the coordinators continue to give the faculty a voice and determine what is the software system to get the work done.

Senator Persons reminded the body that if you do not like what has been moved it can be voted down and an alternate motion made.

Senator Ohkubo made a point of clarification regarding the motion's content, which was affirmed.

Senator Schmidt, SLO Coordinator, stated that SLO coordinators were not appointed by the senate but hired into these positions with existing job descriptions and it is unclear whether it is appropriate for the senate to direct them, and noted that the motion is how she understands the job.

A senator asked how this proposal aligns with Dr. Holcomb's desire to get the SLO issue ironed out to satisfy the accreditation requirements.

Dr. Holcomb addressed the body and explained that to organize the work, for compliance they need to do disaggregated SLO assessments, the SLO on syllabus requirement is being negotiated with AFA, and that we need to have sustainable systems and structures and make sure SLO's are assessed; noted that in the past there were low completion rates over 6 years, therefore recommendation #1 and #2 exist; and noted that accountability is also relevant to having sustainable systems and structures.

Senator Donegan withdrew her motion.

Senators began a discussion on timeframes and cycles of assessment as related to "by year" and or "by semester."

Time expired on the item, and Senator Fassler motioned to extend the time for 7 minutes, which was seconded and not opposed.

Discussion continued re: assessment cycles and whether to require every 4th offering or every 4th semester and included discussion of impacts of future software solutions.

Senator Ohkubo made a motion that regular assessment is defined as all SLOs assessed every 4th offering or 6 years for one cycle and the Senate will revisit this assessment timeline in 3 years, which was seconded.

Senator Ohkubo clarified that the motion is referring to the spirit of Recommendation #1 to address what regular assessment means.

President Persons clarified the body would be voting on a motion related to recommendation #1 but is not Recommendation #1 in answer to a Senator's question.

Time expired again on the item, and Senator Donegan motioned to extend for ten minutes, which was seconded and not opposed.

A senator stated that every 4th offering can be less than 2 years because summer is included and asked for clarification on the 4/1 cycle.

Senator Ohkubo clarified it was a proposal for one cycle of 6 years to be revised every three years and suggested the Senate would do an assessment every three years.

A Senator recommended that we vote this motion down and clean up the language and make a new motion.

Senator Ohkubo retracted her motion.

Senator Ohkubo made a motion that regular assessments be defined as all SLO's be assessed at least every 4 years, which was seconded.

Senators commented, expressing opposition to this timeline without knowing the software and process at this time; expressed support for the motion as it defines a timeline and supports accreditation goals; supported the new motion and expressed that the body needs to show in good faith to ACCJC that they are making traction on a process that at any time can recommend an adjustment.

Time again expired on the item, and Senator Aspinall motioned to extend time for 2 minutes, which was seconded.

Senator Aspinall called for the question for the motion that regular assessments be defined as all SLOs be assessed at least every 4 years.

The vote was called, and the motion passed with 16 yes votes, 7 no votes and 2 abstain (with one absent).

M. Anderman – yes

L. Aspinall – yes

A. Atilgan – yes

S. Avasthi – yes

B. Barajas – yes

V. Bertsch – no

J. Bush – yes

J. Carlin-Goldberg – yes

S. Cavales Doolan –

yes

A. Donegan – no

W. Downey – no

J. Fassler – yes

G. Garcia – absent

T. Jacobson – yes

T. Johnson – yes

L. Larsen – yes

D. Lemmer – no

G. Morre – no

M. Ohkubo – yes

A. Oliver – no

P. Ozbirinci – yes

E. Schmidt – no

H. Skoonberg – abstain

N. Slovak (proxy
Bertsch) – abstain

J. Stover – yes

P. Usina – yes

3. CVC Membership – L. Beach. *What shall be the Academic Senate's recommendation regarding SRJC's participation in the CVC Online Course Exchange?*

President Persons reminded the body there are three options, becoming a home college, becoming a teaching college, and becoming a consortium college.

A Senator expressed concern that the CVC approach to how courses will be listed is coercive; expressed concern about the rubric, that right now 20% of the courses are required to adhere to the rubric, however that could change; and added that no is an option.

A Senator expressed support for the CVC Membership including: addressed the teaching college component which allows students from any other college to enroll in SRJC which would be helpful for enrollment and difficult-to-fill classes; noted the rubric adherence is a voluntary request and colleagues across the state have a positive perspective about them as they are peer reviewed; felt there is a lot of unfounded fear and that the intention is to make courses better.

Additional senators asked where do we want to invest in growing in terms of educational options; noted additional concerns about enrollment being drawn away from some of the SRJC courses; stated they do not need to vote on this today; expressed concerns about

the rubric and general concerns and asked for more time and feedback; expressed concerned about the quality of education and noted students coming out of online learning have lost a lot and need face-to-face instruction to learn the material; expressed that online courses are, in their opinion, not a good idea for most of our students.

Senators spoke from personal experience with online courses and how helpful that opportunity was for their attainment of personal educational goals; stated it was an equity and access issue; noted that students are already being referred to CVC.edu because of these issues and that we are losing students because of this; noted that before the pandemic most of the online classes filled first but now that was reversed; suggested strengthening online courses instead of not offering them at all; discussed working with students that face many barriers and stated that joining the CVC Exchange would increase access, decrease barriers, and provide a continuum of choice; advised that the body needs to be careful about who they are saying no to when we opt out of programs like this as it impacts disproportionately impacted students most; noted that is there are concerns are about the quality of education, that those issues can be addressed; stated the online option for other colleges is already being used by SRJC students; spoke to the incentive for home students to enroll in classes at SRJC first; noted that not all students thrive in in-person classes and not all thrive in online, but having options give students room to thrive in the learning environment of their choice.

Time expired on the item, and Senator Atilgan motioned to extend time for 2 minutes, which was seconded and was not opposed.

Senator Usina pointed out that the Senate has been discussing joining the Exchange for more than five years, discouraged the continuation of circular arguments and baseless claims, and encouraged the Senate to move forward on this issue.

A Senator spoke to their personal experience with teaching online courses and asked the body to revisit that the legislature came up with an idea that did not go get implemented, which was a bachelor completion program at CCCs.

Time expired again on the topic.

[CVC Exchange Presentation Video](#)

[CVC Exchange Slides](#)

DISCUSSION	None
INFORMATION	None
ADJOURNMENT	5:03 p.m.