



ACADEMIC SENATE

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

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: May 20, 2020

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom only

ZOOM ID: 739 337 730

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/739337730>

PRESENT:

M. Aparicio; P. Bell; M. Bojanowski; J. Carlin-Goldberg; C. Crawford; A. Donegan; T. Ehret; J. Fassler; N. Frantz; T. Graziani; J. Kosten; D. Lemmer; S. Martin; L. Nahas; G. Navarro; M. Ohkubo; A. Oliver; M. Starkey; J. Stover; A. Thomas; E. Thompson; J. Thompson; N. Wheeler; S. Whyly

ABSENT:

S. Rosen

GUESTS:

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:17 p.m. by President E. Thompson.

OPEN FORUM:

1. **J. Stover** read an [open letter](#) in which he thanked the Senate and the Senate President for their service; requested that the Senate keep in mind the principles that the SRJC Guided Pathways workgroups used to guide their research and recommendations; and recommended that the Senate schedule separate workgroup meetings where the Senate could consider each of the recommendations, one meeting for each of the four workgroups, and that senators use the summer to study the recommendations in preparation for these meetings in the fall.
2. **Dr. Frank Chong, President SRJC**, thanked the faculty for all of the hard, valiant work during these hard times; invited all faculty members to commencement on Saturday, May 23, and Career Education ceremony on Friday night, May 22, stating that over 300 students submitted photos to be a part of graduation ceremony; and thanked E. Thompson for all of his hard work and welcomed J. Thompson as incoming President of Academic Senate.
3. **K. Starke** highlighted the Disability Resources Department (DRD) resources as faculty members create accessible online course materials, located on the [Disability Recourses webpage](#); stated that the Accessibility Team had created a multi-layer menu to meet faculty members and staff at their comfort level; noted that an accessibility support plan and tip sheet, professional development activities, and PDA workshops are planned; and directed senators to a list of links: [Simple Accessibility Fixes](#).
4. **AC Panela** stated that he and A. Foster, "hubs" for the 2019-20 Guided Pathways effort, had joined the meeting to be a resource for the Senate's discussion on Guided Pathways.

MINUTES:

Some typos were noted in the April 29, 2020 minutes. The April 29, 2020 minutes were adopted as corrected without objection.

Some typos were noted and also that phrasing in one entry should be changed on the May 6, 2020 minutes. The May 6, 2020 minutes were adopted as corrected without objection.

CONSENT:

The Emergency Distance Education Addendum was removed from Consent. S. Martin requested that the Emergency DE Addendum be extended until the fall term due to concerns about the description of

regular and effective contact (REC) and meeting accessibility standards; A. Foster stated that the language is the same as the accessibility language in the regular DE addendum from last fall and that the information on REC has changed several times, with the addition of two to three methods a week. . It was noted that finalizing the Emergency DE Addendum is urgent and that the item may be moved to Discussion later in the meeting if there is time.

J. Carlin-Goldberg moved that the Consent agenda, including the [Academic Renewal Policy](#) and the [Accreditation Annual Report](#), be adopted; there being no objection, the Consent agenda was adopted.

REPORTS:

1. **[President's Report](#) – E. Thompson (10 + 1)**. E. Thompson made his farewells, noted the tumultuous political events of the four years of his presidency, and thanked many, including but not limited to J. Melvin, for her significant assistance; T. Frazier; J. Thompson; P. Bell; A. Donegan; N. Persons; and L. Aspinall. E. Thompson also noted the progress the Senate has made in building relationships with other faculty bodies. He also stated that the Academic Senate is not a “rubber stamp” and addressed complaints that the Senate Executive Committee does not trust subcommittees and also complaints that the Senate accepts subcommittee work without challenge and therefore feels like a rubber stamp. Democratic institutional bodies do not take subcommittees’ work wholesale, without criticism or amendment; the Senate has a duty to scrutinize everything it receives. E. Thompson stated that the Academic Senate is a decision-making, elected, representative body and encouraged the faculty to find and use their voices and participate in the democratic process.

ACTION:

1. **Guided Pathways**. E. Thompson introduced Guided Pathways (GP) by acknowledging that the GP workgroups needed more time. E. Thompson stated that the Senate’s options include approving, rejecting, or calling for further study of recommendations. He explained that the GP MOU can’t be extended; a new GP MOU needs to be negotiated; that the Senate would request that AFA negotiate a new MOU; that negotiations is severely impacted at present; and that while the Senate and AFA consult prior to AFA’s negotiations, the outcome of negotiations will be influenced by AFA and District interests, too. E. Thompson also reported that he and Dr. Chong were co-authoring a letter to the Chancellor’s Office, to request a two-year extension to the spend-down for GP money. The current deadline for spending all GP money is June 30, 2022. Future GP work is constrained by the GP budget.

Discussion points included that the GP workgroups had not had adequate time and that AFA should negotiate what the Senate wants. A friendly amendment was made to the motion on the floor at the end of the previous Senate meeting: that the Senate endorse continuation of the current GP work; that the Senate request consultation with AFA; that the Senate focus on matters within the 10 + 1; that the Senate request that formal recommendations come to the Senate in October, or late enough in the fall that the workgroups have time to do their work; that to the extent possible, the same faculty members continue with the GP workgroups. There was discussion of process and of whether to amend the previous motion or drop the previous motion and start with a new, clean motion. There being no objection from the Senators, the previous motion was dropped, and J. Thompson made a clean motion that the Senate endorse continued work on the items in progress that each of the four workgroups identified in its report; that we also state a Senate preference that those faculty members currently involved will, to the extent possible, continue their involvement; and that the Senate identify a date for the workgroups to inform us [the Senate] of recommendations, in October 2020.

There was discussion of whether to use the word “recommendations” or “options,” so as to clarify the Senate’s role and responsibility in deliberating on workgroups’ work before making decisions.

M. Aparicio moved to amend the clean motion by changing “recommendations” to “options.” There was a roll call vote to determine whether the motion would be amended to say that the workgroups would inform the Senate of its options; the Senate voted to amend the motion to say that the

workgroups would inform the Senate of its options.

Further discussion included clarification of AFA's legal responsibility regarding negotiations: AFA negotiates on behalf of unit members, which includes all the faculty; AFA has a legal obligation to consult with the Senate on 10 + 1 issues; AFA is required by its bylaws to take direction from the AFA Executive Council, which is an elected body; AFA negotiators have a legal obligation to provide fair representation on all matters within the scope of bargaining; negotiators have integrity, cannot substitute their private preferences for those of the membership, and would not do that; AFA has an obligation to follow labor law, which includes the legal obligation to demand to bargain matters at the college that are being implemented and that fall within the scope of bargaining; these are not choices that AFA makes; AFA is not attempting to hold up good work; AFA does not have the right or ability to unilaterally set the agenda in negotiations; faculty members who serve in AFA also have a legal right to participate in the Academic Senate and express their views just as any other senator; it is a false narrative that faculty members serving in both AFA and the Senate are attempting to promote a personal agenda.

It became known that senators had misunderstood the prior vote on the amendment, to wit, changing "recommendations" to "options." A second roll call vote was taken to determine whether the clean motion made earlier would be amended to reference "options." The motion to amend the clean motion failed.

There followed a roll call vote on the un-amended, clean motion, which was passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION:

1. **Urgent* [New placement rules for Math and ESL](#)**. N. Wheeler moved that the rules be suspended and this one Discussion item be moved to Action. There being no objections, the motion carried, and the item was moved to Action.

N. Wheeler moved that this Action item be approved. Discussion included a request for clarification about the new placement rules, which M. Vidaurri provided. There being no objections, the motion carried.

2. **[Emergency DE Addendum](#)**. S. Martin withdrew concerns about accessibility that he had noted earlier in the meeting but stated a preference for requiring a single method of regular and effective contact (REC) in online courses instead of two methods. After further discussion of the merits and demands of multiple methods of REC, the "two or more" phrase was removed from Section IV of the Emergency DE Addendum, and the document was approved.

INFORMATION:

1. **[D.E. Professional Development Update](#)**. T. Jacobson explained that the College is required to state to the Chancellor's Office our plan to address professional development needs for faculty and staff during transition to distance learning. The report to the Chancellor's Office is a compilation of the professional development that is currently offered and also what is planned for the summer and PDA Day. It is a comprehensive list. The Professional Development coordinators, T. Jacobson and L. Larsen, also surveyed the faculty regarding distance learning professional development needs and have scheduled professional development to respond to needs expressed in the survey.
2. **[Farewell & Welcome of Senators](#)**. E. Thompson expressed his thanks to outgoing senators, noting especially the service of Nora Wheeler as parliamentarian, and welcomed new senators.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. by E. Thompson.