



ACADEMIC • SENATE

Minutes

Thursday, April 25th, 2024

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Present: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Karen Marrujo, Hanaa Alkassas, Dan Curtis, Jane Gazale, Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Karla Gutierrez, Sahar King (as proxy for Camille Jack), Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Raad Jerjis, Jonathan Martin, Carlos Ortiz, Joan Rettinger, Miriam Simpson, Jennifer Tomaschke, Asma Yassi, Alessandra Zuniga

Absent: Rita Ghazala, Rachelle Panganiban

Other: Kim Dudzik, Barbara Gallegos, Alexis Brown, Jessica Hurtado

Recorder: Aiden Lovewell

The Senate minutes are recorded and published in summary form. Readers of these minutes must understand that recorded comments in these minutes do not represent the official position of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate expresses its official positions only through votes noted under "Action." In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act guidelines, Senators voting "nay" or abstaining will be identified. All other present members will be assumed to have voted "aye."

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- I. Call to Order/Introductions:** Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:03pm and the visitors, Alexis Brown, Barbara Gallegos, and Kim Dudzik introduced themselves. Manuel also noted that this is Alessandra Zuniga's first meeting in person.
 - II. Approval of Minutes: April 11th, 2024** – Senate reviewed the minutes from April 11th, 2024. Senate to approve minutes with minor changes. **Motion/Second:** Dan Curtis/Jonathan Martin. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** Joan Rettinger. **Motion Passes.**

III. Announcements –

A. Nominations for SOC officers' election:

Kim Dudzik reviewed the nominations for the SOC officers' election. The election will open tonight at 4pm after this meeting is over. Nominations for vice-president are Raquel Jacob-Almeida and Miriam Simpson. The Part-time Faculty Officer-at-large nominees are Hanaa Alkassas and Debra Hills. The Full-time Faculty Officer-at-Large Student Services nominee is Rachelle Panganiban. The Full-time Faculty Officer-at-Large for Instruction are Raquel Jacob-Almeida and Miriam Simpson. The PT senator nominations are open and are set to close May 13th after this round of elections. This current election round ends next Friday, May 3rd. Only PT can nominate and only PT can vote on PT elections. The terms for every position that is not the Academic Senate President, is for one year.

- B. Nominations for Outstanding Faculty Awards:
Karen Marrujo reviewed the nominations for the Outstanding Faculty Awards. This has been extended and Academic Senate is being asked to spread the word. This is open until May 3rd.
- C. Nominations for Part-time Senators:
Manuel Mancillas-Gomez briefly reviewed the nominations for part-time senators.
- D. Palestine Film:
Rachel Jacob-Almeida and Karen Marrujo reviewed the presentation of the Palestine film event. There was an event in the digital theater featuring a 1hr panel of three community activists and the event was well received. The film will be on April 30th and is called 1848: Creation and Catastrophe. On that Tuesday the 30th at 5pm there will be dancers outside of the B building to start the event that will then transition to the digital theater at around 5:30pm for the film. The directors and producers will be staying after the film has completed for discussion.
- Manuel noted that over 30 campuses are protesting this issue now.
- E. Spring 2024 Senate Fundraiser:
Rachel Jacob-Almeida reviewed the spring 2024 Senate fundraiser. Launched annual senate fundraiser and we are asking full-time faculty to consider donating \$10-\$20 to the fundraiser. PT are not being asked to donate. Anyone who donates any amount will be invited to the coffee and pan dulce event on Thursday May 9th. Some of the funds that are raised will be used for the pavers in the Honor Court for emeriti.

IV. Action –

- A. Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee Spring 2024 Faculty Ranking:
The Senate reviewed the Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee spring 2024 ranking and had no additional comments.
- Vote to approve the Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee Spring 2024 Faculty Ranking.
Motion/Second: Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks/Asma Yassi. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** None.
Motion Passes.
- B. Emeritus designation for Patricia Santana:
The Senate reviewed the emeritus designation for Patricia Santana. Karla Gutierrez noted that Patricia started in 2007 and was the department chair for World Language. Patricia gave everyone the opportunity to do more than just teaching and helped promote the growth of the department. Jane Gazale noted that Patricia was a great and very kind professor that acted like a mother to faculty and would take very good care of newcomers like Jane. She earned several awards for teaching excellence and more as well as co-created Words and Music for professional development activity. Patricia also contributed extensively to the college in several committees and councils. If this designation is approved, it will be taken to the board at their next meeting for final approval.
- Vote to approve the Emeritus designation for Patricia Santana. **Motion/Second:** Rachel Jacob-Almeida/Asma Yassi. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion Passes.**

V. Information (First readings and updates for future action) –

A. Fraud Information:

Barbara Gallegos reviewed the fraud information. This was presented to Grossmont's senate last week. Fraud has been and continues to be an ongoing issue. Spring of 2020 fraudulent attempts from bad actors to use stolen identities to portray themselves as students started increasing dramatically. The district efforts to combat this have improved, there is a Fraud Detection and mitigation group now that is comprised of key stakeholders and led by Alexis Brown. Faculty representatives are on this group including Bri Brown. Alexis Brown gave background to this issue. The CCC tech center handles applications for students who apply and they have their own fraud efforts in place. Potentially fraudulent students are filtered out and addressed. Students are encouraged to verify their identity when they go through the CCC application. Our safeguards include all applications being ran through a fraud rubric that looks at specific patterns from past fraud activities. Students will get flagged and receive a notification that tells them that they have some type of issue and will need to verify their identity to fix it. There is also a monthly fraud review that looks at every application that is received line by line to flag any additional people. Some of these patterns are brought forward by faculty that are noticing some type of discrepancies which is helpful. Once the holds are placed students can't register for classes or get financial aid until it's cleared which helps protect against some of the fraudulent activity. Prior to the start of every semester and before the second 8-week classes, the flagged students will be dropped if they don't clear it. Occasionally, a few will make it through, and this is where the faculty become crucial in helping with fraud. This fraud is mainly coming from bad agents disguised as online students.

Sahar King noted that this fraud issue also happens in online counseling and asked for guidance on how to proceed with issues like this, who would this be reported to, and what questions should counselors be asking to gather good information for reporting fraud.

Alexis noted that this is a growing issue, and the Fraud Detection and Mitigation group is going to be discussing and addressing this issue further.

Dan Curtis asked if it would be possible to have a presentation on fraud during Professional Development week for guidelines.

Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks asked if bringing this to ILAT would be helpful as well.

Barbara Gallegos noted that the ESS website under notifications has resources for faculty.

Asma Yassi noted that there is also student-supported fraud which is another issue.

Alexis and Barbara agreed that this does happen, and it is still fraud and will need to be included in the broader conversation as well.

B. College Technology Ranking:

Jessica Hurtado reviewed the college technology ranking. Requesting approval of the 2023-2024 CTC Ranked Resource Request List. These were submitted with program review and there is a rubric involved with these requests so that faculty know the costs for these requests as well as the potential maintenance costs. There are several categories that assist in the rankings of the requests. The committee includes staff, faculty, and administrators. This list has been approved by ROC and Classified Senate and now comes to Academic Senate for approval and

then will continue in the approval process. Requestors are encouraged to communicate if there are any questions or concerns. This will return as an action item at the next Academic Senate meeting.

Moriah noted that #16 says HyFlex technology and asked if the college still has any unused equipment to fill this for Auto.

Jessica Hurtado noted that the request is to upgrade the other “wing” of Auto with HyFlex technology and that there is no additional Hy-flex equipment to use for this. This request would require a contractor to install this equipment on top purchasing the equipment.

VI. President’s Report –

A. Faculty Evaluation Workgroup update:

Manuel Mancillas-Gómez reviewed the update for the Faculty Evaluation Workgroup. The workgroup met this last Monday and information was presented by Grossmont and Cuyamaca Instruction departments. Data was presented on student survey completion rates. Currently, all sections are being evaluated and the response rate of below 30% is very low and will need to be addressed in future meetings. Another goal is to have the committee choose co-chairs but there were no volunteers so it will continue to be chaired by the Academic Senate presidents from both colleges.

B. ASCCC Plenary and Resolutions:

Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Karen Marrujo and Jane Gazale went to the ASCCC Plenary. No one is questioning 1705 and they are asking for pre-census data. The only resolution that didn’t pass was the bill opposing SB 1287 which criminalizes students that are protesting what is happening in Palestine.

Dan Curtis noted that data is being collected on all of the students that get put in a class higher than they would’ve placed and they discovered that they have higher completion rates.

C. ZTC Grant Project Management:

Manuel reviewed the ZTC grant project management. There was a meeting this morning with the VPI on this issue and another meeting is being requested to see where we are at with the ZTC grant. The goal is to create a clear understanding of expectations for recipients as there are questions and concerns on whether the recipients fully understand the scope of this project.

D. Camera Placement Update:

Manuel explained that everything is being paused on the camera placement issue. The district is finding cameras that are already in place that they were unaware of and the Chancellor is asking for a total inventory of current cameras. There is no information on who has access to these cameras and where the videos are potentially being stored.

E. Emeriti Tiles in Honor Court:

There are three new emeriti tiles in the Honor Court and there will now be 1 additional tile for Patricia Santana. The tiles come out of the funds from Academic Senate fundraising.

F. Future of Academic Senate office:

Manuel reviewed information from district regarding the new F-building for Cuyamaca College. The current price of new F-building to replace old F-building plus renovation to the A-building is roughly \$53 million. The state has committed \$16 million, and we would have to

come up with the rest. Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks noted that we have some of the money but we don't have enough for new F-building and renovations to the A-building so the A-building renovations are being paused and reevaluated. It will cost about \$90,000 for the assessment of the current facilities to be evaluated by the state. This is necessary to receive funding from the state. We are moving forward with the F-building to keep the state funding and avoid being "blacklisted". The new F-building will be built across from the B-building. The current proposal for the server issue is to move it to the H-building, which will cost about \$6 million. We have asked for an itemized cost analysis to review. The academic senate office will need to be moved as well.

VII. Vice President Report –

Karen Marrujo shared her Vice President's report. We were asked to write a report for the board regarding AI. Mira Costa is developing a degree in AI, and we are developing a certificate. A report has been created stating that we are committed to doing our due diligence on this. We are asking what the policy implementations, the limitations, and parameters are around AI. Each division will have unique experiences and interactions and we need to make sure all disciplines are respected and represented with this and ensure that there is fair compensation for this work. There is also concern around some dialogue that expressed using AI to assist with burnout issues at the ASCCC Plenary. There is also a new appointment, Christopher Torres, Counseling, to the Curriculum Committee. Two faculty have also been appointed to hiring committees. There is two more days to nominate for faculty awards.

VIII. Part-Time Officer-at-Large Report –

None

IX. Committee Report –

Jane Gazale discussed what has been happening and what the plan is moving forward with GE. Jane shared the timeline for the GE Taskforce. The taskforce first met on January 25th and have met a few times since then. On March 4th there was a campus-wide GE forum to receive feedback. This was brought to the curriculum committee and there will be another campus-wide listening session on May 1st serving as another opportunity for faculty to provide feedback. This will then be brought back to curriculum and Academic Senate for approval and will hopefully be included in the December Board Packet.

X. Public Comments –

Asma Yassi wanted to bring to the attention of Academic Senate that there is a slideshow that will presented to students when they are waiting during graduation and Asma is requesting that faculty give any words of wisdom they would like to share with the students for the slideshow.

Dan Curtis noted that when students enroll they are put in canvas and there is a setting where they can change their enrolled name to a preferred name but it does not always use the preferred name and will instead use enrolled name. District has a setting that can be turned on to use the preferred names instead.

Meeting adjourned at 3:49pm.