

**SCC Academic Senate Business Meeting Minutes – FINAL (Approved 2020-09-29)
September 15, 2020, 1:30-3:00 pm, ConferZoom**

Senators Present

Castellanos, Ralph
Chavez, Ricardo
Crabill, Phil
Danova, Veselka
Dela-Cusack, Lisa
Gates, Alana
Gonzalez, Sara
Govea, Melissa
Graham, Song
Henry, Amanda
James, Scott
Johnson, Kim
Kramer, Jessica
Murphy, Ryan
Oase, Daniel
Salcido, Andrew
Umali Kopp, Christine
Valdos, Yanina
VanDyke-Kao, Rita

Senators Absent

Aguilera, Leonor
Cummins, Shawn

ASG Representative

Langseth, Destiny

Guests

Martino, Danny
Smith, Mark
Stringer, Martin
Wagner, Joyce

SCC-AS Executive Board Present

Rutan, Craig, President
Taylor, Mike, Vice President
Scott, Randy, Secretary/Treasurer
Evelt, Corinna, CIC Chair

I. Welcome

Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate (SCC-AS) President Craig Rutan called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm on Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

II. Public Comments

Senator Scott James spoke of his concerns about distance education modalities for Spring 2021. The current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiated between the Faculty Association of Rancho Santiago Community College District (FARSCCD) and the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) sets standards for Fall 2020 but does not apply to Spring 2021 and beyond. In the absence of an updated MOU, it is likely that all faculty will need the complete Online Teaching Certification (OTC).

Senator James also expressed the view that remote blended instruction is an ambiguous categorization and called for either the elimination of remote blended instruction or requiring that faculty using remote blended possess the OTC.

Senator Christine Umali Kopp shared her constituents' concerns about faculty evaluations for the academic year 2020-21. Some communications seem to be

contradictory with regards to some of the details. Senator Umali Kopp asked if evaluations of full-time tenured faculty can be postponed until Spring 2021 and for unambiguous clarification on who is qualified to evaluate those faculty that are evaluated during this academic year.

III. Approval of the Minutes

1 September 2020 approved (moved by Gates, seconded by Govea, abstentions by James and Salcido) with minor abbreviations.

IV. SCC-AS Executive Board Reports

SCC-AS President Rutan

President Rutan reported the Fiscal Resources Committee (FRC) meets on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 to review the proposed budget. The expectation is for a challenging budgetary situation for the next couple of years.

Retirees who took the early retirement package could be replaced within 18 months, but are not expected to be replaced for at least five years to maximize the cost savings.

Evaluations of tenure-track faculty must continue as scheduled in the FARSCCD contract. Evaluation of tenured and adjunct faculty will continue per the FARSCCD contract unless a new MOU is negotiated between FARSCCD and RSCCD.

SCC-AS and SAC-AS presidents met with RSCCD Chancellor Martinez and discussed the need for clear, unambiguous, district-wide communication. As a step towards that goal, RSCCD will be offering town halls this semester. President Vargas may also offer town halls to hear from all constituent groups.

Senator Leonor Aguilera has been selected to serve on the California State University General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC). Senator Aguilera will be one of only two faculty from the California Community Colleges.

The Board of Trustees (BOT) would like to see additional classes to be held on campus, including classes to be held outdoors.

Student headcount for Fall 2020 is down 9% from Fall 2019. Speculation is that this is reaction to classes in remote learning modalities.

As our college community moves forward through the pandemic towards a return to work, keep in mind that the SCC-AS are the faculty leaders. We need to clearly distinguish between facts, speculation, and opinion as we provide our constituents with fact-based information about the myriad issues facing our college.

SCC-AS will next meet on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor

No report.

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott

Secretary/Treasurer Scott attended the SAC-AS on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The SAC-AS discussed the possibility of faculty hires in 2020-21, and the proposal of a new SAC-AS faculty hiring prioritization process that includes a “2nd minimum qualification.” This 2nd minimum qualification would require experience working with diverse populations.

CIC Chair Evett

CIC Chair Evett reported that the next meeting of the Curriculum and Instruction Council (CIC) is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2020.

The deadline for the Distance Education Addenda (DEA) to be added to our course outlines of record is September 25, 2020. Send a copy of any DEA to the department chair and be certain to include the course title, course ID, and course number. A copy of the Distance Education Addendum Approval Procedure is included at the end of these minutes.

V. ASG Report

Associated Student Government (ASG) representative Destiny Langseth reported that 50-70% of students responding to an ASG survey would like to return to face-to-face instruction.

Club rush is scheduled for September 21, 2020 and the application period for new clubs is now open.

ASG is preparing a campus-wide mailing to encourage open communications between students, faculty, and administration.

Constitution Day is September 17, 2020.

There will be some changes over the next few weeks in the ASG personnel, and ASG training will take place on October 2, 2020.

VI. Summary Reports

Summary report from the Professional Development committee is attached to the agenda for the September 15, 2020 SCC-AS business meeting.

VII. Action Items

Second Reading

A. Resolution F2020.02 – Creation of Task Force to Review and Revise Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate Constitution and Bylaws

Task force members: Mike Taylor (chair), Melissa Govea, and Randy Scott.

Approved unanimously with no abstentions.

First Reading

A. Resolution F2020.03 – Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate Priorities for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

Moved by Gates, second by Danova.

Scott complimented the work of Taylor in successfully distilling the various ideas and suggestions from the retreat and the previous business meeting into six succinct statements.

Senator Govea suggested inclusion of an additional priority focused on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on faculty. Govea referred the SCC-AS to an article from *Inside Higher Ed* that is attached at the end of these minutes.

VIII. Discussion Items

A. Report from College Council Task Force on Spring 2021

The College Council Task Force on Spring 2021 is co-chaired by SCC-AS VP Taylor and SCC Vice President of Academic Affairs Martin Stringer. The task force was formed to gather information helpful for scheduling classes for Spring 2021 and beyond, with a focus on appropriate protocols for returning to face-to-face instruction.

SCC-AS VP Taylor reviewed the information collected to date. It is “Important to note that teaching face-to-face is based on the faculty members comfort level

and concern for safety and that no one is being forced to teach face-to-face in the Spring.” SCC-AS VP Taylor’s notes from the task force are attached to these minutes.

SCC VP Stringer emphasized the importance of maintaining the scheduling grid while allowing time for cleaning of rooms and equipment between classes.

SCC-AS Sec/Treas Scott asked that once the semester begins, that the teaching modalities being used not be subject to a mandatory change during the semester, unless face-to-face classes must return to remote modalities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FARSCCD VP Mark Smith and SCC-AS President Rutan reiterated the statement that faculty will not be forced to return to face-to-face instruction.

Senator Govea expressed concerns about the potential for crowding in hallways; SCC-AS President Rutan pointed out that Administrative Services have already installed direction markers in hallways and numerous hand sanitizer station throughout the classroom buildings.

B. Syllabus Statement for F2F Instruction During Emergencies

SCC-AS President Rutan led a discussion of a standard syllabus statement for face-to-face instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The current syllabus statement is an interim document prepared during the summer of 2020 and supported by the SCC-AS in July 2020. The discussion centered on suggestions that may be incorporated into the syllabus statement before it is formally adopted for use in all classes with a face-to-face component.

Senator James expressed concern about directions requiring student to “contact your primary care provider for assessment of symptoms and/or COVID-19 testing.”

SCC faculty member Danny Martino indicated that the statement “Your instructor will provide information on alternative assignments that can be completed out of the classroom.” is highly prescriptive.

Senator Johnson shared her concern that these recommendations may be implemented at the instructor’s discretion.

Attachments:

Distance Education Addendum Approval Procedure

Inside Higher Ed article

Scheduling Consultation Task Force Notes