

SCC Academic Senate Business Meeting Minutes – FINAL
May 18, 2021, 1:30-3:15 pm, ConferZoom

Senators Present

Castellanos, Ralph
Chavez, Ricardo
Crabill, Phil
Cummins, Shawn
Danova, Veselka
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

SCC-AS Executive Board Present

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

Senators Absent

Aguilera, Leonor
Dela Cusack, Lisa
VanDyke-Kao, Rita

ASG and SAC-AS Representatives

Isbell, Jim
Yi, Nathan

Guests

Gause, Tiffany
Stringer, Martin
Voelcker, Aaron
Wagner, Joyce
Andrews, Darla
Harrison, Kelly
Lemon, Katherine
Quiniano, Gina
Plavkasta, Maya
Ragland, Pam
Schultz, Vanessa
Antonia ?, Dawn ?, Marie ?, Sarah ?
He Who Is Risen... (Not *that* one! The one
from Orange County.)
Five others by phone

I. Welcome

Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate (SCC-AS) President Craig Rutan called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm on Tuesday, 18 May 2021.

II. Public Comments

Marie ? opposes mandatory vaccination.

Dawn ? opposes mandatory vaccination.

III. Approval of the Minutes

4 May 2021 approved unanimously. (Moved by Gates, seconded by Gonzalez.)

IV. SCC-AS Executive Board Reports

SCC-AS President Rutan

SCC-AS President Rutan offered his congratulations to the Dr. Pamela Ralston, who has been selected as the new president of SCC. Dr. Ralston will assume her duties on 2 August 2021.

SCC-AS President Rutan pointed out that the next RSCCD Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for 24 May 2021. President Rutan encouraged the Faculty and members of the public to attend the meeting and make public comments if they feel strongly about an issue. Faculty and members of the public must register on the RSCCD Board of Trustees website to present a public comment.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor had no report.

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott attended the SAC-AS meeting on 11 May 2021. Topics discussed before he had to excuse himself included the proposed "Equity-minded Teaching and Learning Institute."

CIC Chair Evett

CIC Chair Evett reported that the CIC had approved the operational class capacity process and the petition to change class capacity.

CIC Chair Evett also reported that the CIC approved additions/revisions to the latest edition of the CIC handbook.

V. SAC Report

SAC-AS President Elect Jim Isbell reported that SAC's "Equity-minded Teaching and Learning Institute" will begin during Fall 2021.

VI. ASG Report

ASG Vice President Nathan Yi reported that ASG representatives are slowly wrapping up the remaining 2.5 weeks of the semester.

VII. Action Items

Second Reading

A. Resolution S2021.10 – Adoption of the SCC Regular and Effective Contact Policy

Moved by James, seconded by Gonzalez, approved unanimously.

B. Resolution S2021.13 – Revision to Timelines for Program Review and Educational Master Plan

Moved by Castellanos, seconded by Gates, approved unanimously.

First Reading

A. Resolution S2021.14 – Support Applying for NSF Grant

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Gates.

This resolution is supported by the Educational Master Plan Committee (EMPC), the Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee (PIE), and the President's Cabinet.

Motion by Cummins to suspend the rules and waive the second reading, seconded by Gates was approved unanimously.

Resolution S2021.14 approved unanimously.

B. Resolution S2021.15 – Support for Approval of AR 4110

This resolution supports the implementation of honorary degrees and completes the implementation of posthumous degrees which was begun in 2019.

Moved by Gates, seconded by Gonzalez.

C. Resolution S2021.16 – Support for Approval of AR 4232

Moved by Evett, seconded by Gates.

This resolution implements modified rules for Pass/No Pass and is jointly recommended by SCC's and SAC's articulation officers.

Motion by Evett to suspend the rules and waive the second reading, seconded by Scott was approved unanimously.

Resolution S2021.16 approved unanimously.

D. Resolution S2021.17 – Adopt Recommendations from COVID-19 Task Force

Moved by Gates, seconded by Evett.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor thanked the members of the COVID-19 Task Force.

Pam Ragland asked if the COVID-19 Task Force had considered the unique requirements of special needs students. SCC-AS President Rutan responded that the college offers many options and many modalities for all students.

E. Resolution S2021.18 – Endorse the Approval of BP 5215

Moved by Castellanos, seconded by Gates.

SCC-AS President Rutan began the discussion by describing the work of the RSCCD Board Policy Committee in the creation of BP 5215, requiring mandatory vaccination by a U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved vaccine. The committee justified the proposed BP 5215 by referring to a lengthy legal opinion issued by the general counsel of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Questions that are related to the proposed policy include:

If I've already had COVID-19, do I need a vaccine?

If I've already had a vaccine, but that vaccine hasn't been approved by the FDA, do I need to get another vaccine?

How will the requirement impact student progress towards their educational goals?

How will RSCCD monitor who is vaccinated and who is not?

Senator Kimberly Johnson presented a number of additional questions from her constituent Morrie Barembaum including:

Who will ensure students enrolled in face-to-face classes are vaccinated?

How will we handle students wishing to enroll who are between their first and second dose?

How will this plan affect enrollment?

Can a student with one dose of an approved vaccine enroll in face-to-face classes?

How will we ensure compliance?

What exceptions will be made for medical/religious reasons, and how will the Board of Trustees ensure a safe environment if some are vaccinated and some are not?

Isn't vaccine education a more reasonable approach than mandatory vaccination?

Senator Sean Cummins brought up the possible limited duration of vaccine efficacy and questioned if students and employees would have to get vaccinated each year or semester.

Senator Daniel Oase stated that he is not in favor of a mandatory vaccination policy.

Senator Scott James asked:

Do distance education students need vaccination?

Who does this protect; students and employees or the revenue stream from enrollment?

James concluded his part of the discussion by stating that he is not in favor of mandatory vaccination.

Senator Sean Cummins brought up vaccine-related health concerns for young females, pointing out that many of our female students fit into the age range for potential complications.

Dawn ?, a member of the public, stated that she is completely opposed to a mandatory vaccination policy because there are too many unresolved questions about safety and efficacy.

Maya Plavkasta, a member of the public and mother of future SCC students stated that her family would be forced to look for enrollment in schools without mandatory vaccination policies, even if those schools are located in “red states.”

Pam Ragland, a member of the public, pointed out that there is evidence of virus transmission from those who are not yet fully vaccinated to those who are vaccinated. In addition, Ms. Ragland stated that it would be a travesty against the constitution to approve mandatory vaccinations. Finally, Ms. Ragland pointed out that COVID-19 is treatable, and thus there is no need for vaccination.

Senator Christine Umali Kopp stated that science should always be part of the conversation about vaccination, and that if the faculty must be vaccinated, then students must also be vaccinated.

Senator Kimberly Johnson pointed out that this policy is just being formed, and that we all—students, faculty, and staff—want to be safe.

SCC-AS President Rutan clarified how some of the challenges with responding to the proposed board policy were related to timing—the Board of Trustee’s stated goal of implementing this policy for Fall 2021 is challenged by lack of an FDA-approved vaccine, the short time window for any unvaccinated students to become fully vaccinated, and the fact that students have already begun registering for classes in the Fall 2021 semester.

Senator Yanina Valdos expressed dismay about “unscientific statements about vaccination” but also stated that there are many important unanswered questions about the board policy.

Senator Andy Salcido expressed his disappointment at how readily some faculty are willing to give away our freedom of choice to protect ourselves and that is not right for the district/state to dictate how students, faculty, or staff care for their health.

SCC-AS President Rutan reminded the assembled body that the RSCCD Board of Trustees will be meeting on 24 May 2021 and again encouraged productive participation at that time to express any remaining concerns.

F. Resolution S2021.19 – Create Cultural Curriculum Audit Program

Moved by Evett, seconded by Gonzalez.

This resolution has been recommended by the CIC.

G. Resolution S2021.20 – Endorse the SCC Institutional Self Evaluation Report and Quality Focus Essay

Moved by Evett, seconded by Gates.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor offered his compliments to all who worked to develop the draft of the SCC ISER for the upcoming accreditation.

Meeting adjourned, 3:03 pm. (Moved by Scott, second by Gates, approved by pedestrian affirmation.)

Submitted by Randy Scott, SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer