

SCC Academic Senate Business Meeting Minutes – DRAFT v1
June 1, 2021, 1:30-3:15 pm, ConferZoom

Senators Present

Aguilera, Leonor
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
Umali Kopp, Christine
Valdos, Yanina

SCC-AS Executive Board Present

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

Senators Absent

Cummins, Shawn
Oase, Daniel
Salcido, Andrew
VanDyke-Kao, Rita

ASG and SAC-AS Representatives

Isbell, Jim
Sarfraz, Aqsa
Yi, Nathan

Guests

Breeden, Emma
Martin, Linda
Smith, Mark
Stringer, Martin
Voelcker, Aaron
Wagner, Joyce
Lemen, Katherine
Proppe, Jean
Rivera, Tamara
Chris ?
Ms Carrie

I. Welcome

Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate (SCC-AS) President Craig Rutan called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, 1 June 2021.

II. Public Comments

Senator Ricardo Chavez spoke about the limitations of VARS data, ultimately concluding the correlation is not causation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

18 May 2021 approved unanimously. (Moved by Gates, seconded by Johnson.)

IV. SCC-AS Executive Board Reports

SCC-AS President Rutan

SCC-AS President Rutan discussed the controversy surrounding Board Policy 5215, expressing dismay at the short time frame provided to discuss such an important topic. President Rutan pointed out that the current version of the policy only suggests vaccination.

SCC-AS President Rutan pointed out the significant decline in enrollment for the 2020-2021 academic year, and discussed the negative effect on faculty hiring. President Rutan indicated that even with the retirements in response to the Supplementary Retirement Plan 2 (SRP2), SCC is over its Faculty Obligation Number (FON). Rutan also explained that by the time faculty hiring is resumed, the SCC-AS will need to complete a new faculty prioritization scheme.

Finally, President Rutan reiterated his previous statements about the budget model negotiations, and again stated that he anticipates no change from the status quo.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor discussed committee assignments for Fall 2021, and indicated that a review of the governance structure was in order due to the decrease in faculty members.

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott attended the SAC-AS meeting on 18 May 2021, and generously left the report to SAC-AS President Elect Isbell.

CIC Chair Evett

CIC Chair Evett extended her sincerest thanks to the CIC for a successful year of work, and offered her best wishes for the new CIC Chair and committee for Fall 2021.

V. SAC Report

SAC-AS President Elect Jim Isbell reported that SAC-AS discussed the possible continuation of the RemoteLIVE! Format after December 31, 2021, and if so continued, what kind of distance education certification would be required.

VI. ASG Report

ASG Vice President Nathan Yi introduced Aqsa Sarfraz, who will be the ASG representative for the SCC-AS in Fall 2021, and had no other report, succinctly stating “Dude, it’s finals!”

VII. Summary Reports

SCC-AS President Rutan indicated that the SCC-AS and various governance committees will work towards an increased completion rate for summary reports.

VIII. Action Items

Final Reading

A. Resolution 2021.21 – Support Applying for Title III Grant

Moved by Evett, seconded by Aguilera, approved unanimously.

Second Reading

A. 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, approved unanimously.

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

Moved by Gates, seconded by Evett, approved unanimously.

SCC-AS Vice President Taylor stated that the last sentence of recommendation #12 had been struck by agreement of the task force.

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

Moved by Castellanos, seconded by Gates.

SCC-AS President Rutan began the discussion by pointing out that there have been extensive changes to every part of BP 5215 since we discussed it at our SCC-AS meeting on 18 May 2021. President Rutan described the Board of Trustees meeting on 31 May 2021, including a couple of hours of public comments and no indication of unanimity among the board members. Data from a student survey showed that 75% of noncredit students were in favor of a mask mandate, while 70% of credit students were in favor. The current proposed BP 5215 encourages vaccination and requires students to wear masks according to three options to be chosen by the administration of the colleges.

Senator Kimberly Johnson asked if this would take effect before July, and what the options for the mask requirement are up to teacher preference.

Senator Christine Umali Kopp pointed out that in her role as department chair for psychology, she had met with her dean to strategize about class numbers to allow for acceptable social distancing.

Senator Phillip Crabill asked if we were doing a first or second reading, considering the extensive modification to the previously presented policy.

SCC-AS President Rutan stated that the options will be covered in the corresponding academic regulation.

Senator Christine Umali Kopp, focusing on a vaccine mandate, asked how the faculty would know if a particular student has been vaccinated. Senator Umali Kopp also pointed out that a student not wearing a mask would be singled out, contrasted RSCCD's response to CSU/UC's response, reiterated concerns about social distancing, and queried about the student vs employee mandate for masks/vaccines.

SCC-AS President Rutan pointed out that our concern is focused on our district/college.

Senator Ralph Castellanos asked about the applicability of the policy in non-emergency situations—President Rutan replied that it will not apply—and brought up the possibility of forced exposure if we must admit students who refuse to wear a mask. President Rutan pointed out that the faculty has the right to determine the modality for their course.

Katherine Lemen, a member of the public, asked why the discussion is about requiring masks for unvaccinated students to protect vaccinated students, seemingly forgetting that masks will help protect other unvaccinated students who are the responsibility of the Board of Trustees.

Senator Phillip Crabill pointed out that the faculty has a safety net and hopes that student services can provide the same to our students. In addition, Senator Crabill pointed out that while classroom faculty can socially distance themselves as they see fit, the student services faculty are required to continue meeting with students in a face-to-face setting.

Senator Kimberly Johnson pointed out that online is not her modality of choice for lab classes, that she desires to return to face-to-face classes on campus, and that all concomitant concerns deserve to be heard before a policy is finalized.

There was some general discussion about postponement versus approval or rejection.

SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott moved to postpone the vote on Resolution 2021.18, which was seconded by Senator Ricardo Chavez. There was 1 ayes and 13 noes with the remainder abstaining, so the motion postpone was rejected.

President Rutan called the question. There were 9 ayes and 0 noes with the remainder of the senators abstaining, so Resolution 2021.18 Endorse the approval of BP 5215 is adopted.

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

Moved by Evett, seconded by Gonzalez, adopted unanimously.

This resolution has been recommended by the CIC. SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer Scott expressed concerns about the intrusiveness of a similar training plan presented at SAC-AS. CIC Chair Evett explained the differences in approach to

training between the two colleges and indicated that SCC will provide training to build on what the individual faculty member chooses to implement. Secretary/Treasurer Scott seemed reassured.

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

Moved by Evett, seconded by Gates, adopted unanimously.

First Reading

A. Resolution 2021.22 – Support for a Variety of Class Modality Offerings in the Class Schedule

Moved by Evett, seconded by Taylor.

FARSCCD President Mark Smith pointed out that faculty has the right to choose course modality.

IX. Discussion Items

A. Annual Committee Evaluation

SCC-AS President Rutan led the Senate in a discussion of and completion of the form for annual committee evaluation. Conclusion: We survived a full academic year working through a pandemic and no one burst into spontaneous human combustion.

Meeting adjourned, 3:19 pm. (Moved by Gates, second by Gonzalez, approved by simultaneous clicking of the “Leave Meeting” button.)

Submitted by Randy Scott, SCC-AS Secretary/Treasurer