



## OFFICIAL MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

Academic Senate President, Luke Lara, respectfully acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory and homelands of the Luiseño/Payómkawichum people. It is also important to acknowledge that this land remains the shared space among the Ipai and Kumeyaay people. In addition, we want to pay respect to elders, both past and present, the respected keepers of history, culture, wisdom, and knowledge. The meeting was called to order at **9:01am**.

### II. Roll Call

**Members present:** Robin Allyn (Coordinating Officer), Ingrid Bairstow, Yessenia Balcazar, Sunny Cooke (ex-officio), Karla Cordero, Zulema Diaz, Jim Julius, Himgauri Kulkarni, Luke Lara (President), Delores Loedel, Tyrone Nagai, Gilbert Neri, Brian Page, Oswaldo Ramirez, Hossein Ravanbaksh, Leila Safaralian (President-elect), Krista Warren

**Others present:** David Bonds, Nery Chapeton-Lamas, Sean Davis, Erica Duran, Jonathan Fohrman, Scott Fallstrom, Maria Figueroa, Anne Fleming, Jacqueline Gomez, Mary Gross, Thao Ha, Steven Moreno-Terrill, Shannon Myers, Al Nyman, Jessica Perez-Corona, Ingrid Phillips, Beth Powell, Jeanine Sepulveda, John Siebelink (ASG representative), John Thomford

### III. Persons Wishing to Address the Senate

Alicia Lopez spoke to provide a status update on AS' resolution on the support of the development of an Ethnic Studies program. She shared that there is a need to develop a genuine Ethnic Studies Department with discipline experts, noting two classes have already been approved for CSU GE Area F (Ethnic Studies). The Ethnic Studies workgroup is now working on a faculty hiring request for one Ethnic Studies full-time faculty member.

Mary Gross, Carl Banks, and Jeanine Sepulveda shared their insights about the academic calendar. Their concerns focused on the direct impact the changes could have on student equity, enrollment, and success which could be detrimental to college completion. It could negatively impact enrollment and places extra stress on associate faculty, full-time faculty, and classified professionals. Concerns were also expressed about Thanksgiving week and the short time between the end of summer and fall Flex week. This is also a concern for classified professionals who use that time to get ready for the fall semester. It was also asked there be more collaboration between AS and CS.

**MSU (Warren / Safaralian)** to extend public comment by ten minutes.

Jessica Perez-Corona and Anne Fleming expressed their concerns as classified employees regarding the academic calendar when it comes to recruiting, hiring, and training classified professionals and students. The Writing Center relies on the non-instructional time and flex week to engage in the foundational training of peer writing consultants.

Erica Duran expressed her full support for an ES program. She also echoed the many concerns about the 22-23 academic calendar noting noncredit faculty, as well as concerns of a possible significant decrease in enrollment due to this early start of the calendar.

### IV. Changes to Agenda Order

Old Business items A. and B. will be pushed back by 10 or 15 minutes.

### V. Consent Calendar

**A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2021**

**B. Approve Minutes of the Retreat on August 13, 2021**

**C. Ratify Updates to Faculty Committee Assignments AY '21-'22**

**D. Ratify Faculty Appointments to Statewide Committees/Workgroups AY '21-'22**

**The consent calendar items A through C are approved by unanimous consent.**

Item D. Ratify Faculty Appointments to Statewide Committees/Workgroups AY '21-'22 was pulled from the consent calendar for discussion.

**MSU (Warren / Bairstow)** to approve consent item D, Ratify Faculty Appointments to Statewide committees/Workgroups AY '21-'22.

It was asked why this item appeared on the Consent Calendar. AS President, Lara, noted that the ASCCC president appoints faculty to the statewide committees in consultation with the local AS president. All faculty are welcome to volunteer to serve on statewide committees by applying at [www.ASCCC.org](http://www.ASCCC.org). This item did appear on the calendar last fall.

## **VI. Reports**

### **A. Academic Senate President**

AS President, Luke Lara, submitted a written report with the agenda. He wanted to acknowledge the heartbreak of war and natural disasters and those trying to escape the horrors of what is going on in Afghanistan, as well as, the victims of hurricane Ida. He shared that AS has scholarships given to students each year and regularly receive thank you letters. Sophia Gonzales and Kari Brayall sent their heartfelt thanks for their scholarships.

### **B. College Superintendent/President**

Superintendent/President, Sunny Cooke, submitted a written report with the agenda. She also thanked Jonathan Fohrman for stepping up to lead the Instructional Division until the new VPI, Denee Pescarmona, starts on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The ACCJC Accreditation process begins now. About 50 people will undergo training on 9/13. The college will take a tri-chair role approach to the four standards. A reminder was given to those instructors who teach on ground to be sure that the students on their rosters denoted with a red mark by their name are cleared to enter class each session. These students have vaccine exemptions and are required to do a Covid test each week. If they do not show clearance, they are to leave the class session until they receive clearance. There has been a significant increase in fraudulent students across the state and nation. Identity theft is involved and financial aid fraud is being attempted. Please be sure that if there are signs that a student is not really in your class to engage, raise that issue. Signs include, failure to attend, failure to participate, and submission of off-topic assignments. Contact A&R with questions and for assistance. Emergency aid to students will begin just after census day. Students will receive money within a week or two. If you know of students in need, submit a CARE referral form and the CARE department will determine what kind of assistance might be needed.

### **C. Classified Senate**

CS Vice President, Ingrid Phillips shared that CS has completed and filled all their committee assignments. They are actively soliciting applicants for the Leadership Program. Faculty are also encouraged to participate.

### **D. Associated Student Government**

ASG Executive VP, John Siebelink, noted ASG is conducting interviews to fill senator and students at large positions. At their meeting of last Friday, they recommended nine students to be appointed to the full ASG. They passed unanimously. Several students were sworn in at that time and others will be sworn in next Friday. ASG will be fully staffed at that time.

### **E. Redesigning the Student Experience**

Faculty Lead, Thao Ha, submitted a written report with the agenda.

## **VII. Old Business**

### **A. AY 2022-23 Academic Calendar**

AAC has forwarded a 2022-23 MCC Academic Calendar option for consideration. This option rearranges flex days to avoid having hanging "Mondays" / "Fridays." In particular, it features an earlier start date for fall flex week, shortened flex weeks in fall and spring, and flex days during the week of Thanksgiving. Note – this version is corrected to reflect 176 days on contract, instead of 177 days: one day of finals is eliminated to account for the extra day that was presented on 8/13/21. This discussion will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> read of three total. Nine senators shared concerns and questions from constituents that reflected those expressed during public comment at the beginning of this meeting. Discussion ensued around student and faculty impacts, whether the changes being proposed are driven by student success, and if we should consider a compressed calendar as a long-term solution. Dr. Cooke clarified that the District has the obligation to negotiate the impacts of changes to the calendar. For future calendars, it was asked to consider a more inclusive approach to developing the calendar with a committee that invites the voices of unions, employee groups, students, faculty, and administrators (e.g., AP4010). AS President, Lara, took an informal poll to assess whether this calendar as presented would be approved, and there was no

support. He asked Bonds to have AAC bring forward another option, a more traditional calendar for the next AS meeting. He also directed Bonds to have AAC broaden the membership of the calendar taskforce and work with administration to begin exploring a compressed calendar.

#### **B. Local AS Goal Setting**

The AS members began discussing and creating SMARTER goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time bound, and have an Evaluation mechanism. This conversation began at the AS retreat. AS members broke up into three groups in breakout rooms to discuss three broad goal themes: Communication, led by Luke Lara; Teaching and Learning, led by Leila Safaralian; and Engagement, led by Robin Allyn. It was asked that the three groups present a rough draft to report out at 11am. Lara, Safaralian, and Allyn each gave a brief report of what was discussed in their breakout rooms. Between now and the next regular AS meeting goals will continue to be refined.

### **VIII. Information / Discussion**

#### **A. Academic Outcomes Assessment Committee (OAC) Handbook – Fall 2021**

Jonathan Fohrman presented on behalf of OAC Chair, Shannon Myers. The Fall 2021 Outcomes Assessment Committee Handbook was presented to Academic Senate.

It was noted that it had been a while since the handbook was updated. It was worked on during the last two years. It is now more streamlined, more relevant, provides more resources, and was looked at with an equity lens. Discussing ensued around Associate Faculty participation in the SLO evaluation and assessment process, and on the need for student service learning outcome examples. They are hoping that as colleagues engage in the learning outcomes process they will bring recommendations to OAC to evaluate.

### **IX. Senator Reports**

Faculty were encouraged to become a member of Faculty Associate of California Community Colleges ([FACCC](#)) for only \$7/month for AF and \$21/month for full-time faculty. FACCC provides weekly updates about their advocacy work for professional work as faculty as well as, advocacy from faculty unions. Bairstow reminded faculty to inform students of the resources and benefits available to them. Allyn announced that there are two committees looking for faculty to join; DEqCC and the Faculty Awards Committee. Reach out to Allyn if interested. Balcazar advised that EOPS is still accepting students. Applications are available online through the student SURF account. Students will benefit from the \$300 book voucher and faculty support. Julius stated that almost 500 students attended his student orientation in the first two weeks of the semester. He asked that faculty recommend their students attend. Many students are still brand new to online learning and need the help. Ramirez noted there is still a great need for access to technology. There have been over 500 technology requests and there is still a limit to what can be done for students. Students need the technology and the right tools to be set up for success. There are students who are struggling to remain in class. Cordero gave praise to Zulema Diaz for her workshop and loved practicing normalizing conversations for self-care and having those conversations with students. It is important to continue the conversations about mental health and to check in with students and yourselves. Safaralian acknowledged the Bookstore for doing an amazing job to support students. They have been a great partner in this hard time. The new manager of the bookstore is Cara Michalk at [c.michalk@follett.com](mailto:c.michalk@follett.com). As well, Kimberly Holmes at [kholmes@miracosta.edu](mailto:kholmes@miracosta.edu) can be reached for questions. The Bookstore phone number is 760-795-6630.

### **X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:27am.**