

COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE
MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2021

12:45 – 2:00 pm via Zoom Meeting

Senators Present: Meg Pasquel, Peggy Dodge, Patricia Seery, Jeff Cady, Patricia France, Kristin Perrone, Dave King, Maria Coulson, Kofi Opong-Mensah, Kevin Muller

Senators Absent: Shawn Purcell, Becky Brown, Karen Robinson

Guests: Nancy Willet, Tonya Hersh, Gina Cullen

CALL TO ORDER: 12:45 PM – Zoom Meeting

- I. Approval and Adoption of the Agenda – **APPROVED (Muller/Perrone) as amended to move Invited Guests up to after the approval of the minutes by all Senators present.**
- II. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of February 11, 2021 – **APPROVED (Cady/King) as amended by all Senators present with Senator Coulson abstaining.**
- III. Public Requests to Address the Senate on Non-Agenda Items - **NONE**
- IV. Officers' Reports
 - a. President (Meg Pasquel) – President Pasquel reminded Senators of the COM Equity Summit scheduled for 2/19/2021. President Pasquel will participate and highlight the AS contributions including the Curricular Audit, Faculty Mentors, Program Review Equity Facilitators, and Diversity Internship program.
 - b. Vice President (Maria Coulson) – VP Coulson reported that COM got 8000 fraudulent applications this semester. An article in the Marin Independent Journal quoted someone from COM indicating that there had been a surge in applications for a particular major. However, once the fraudulent applications were disregarded, the increase was only 3 students. VP Coulson reminded Senators to get data directly from Director of Institutional Effectiveness Holley Shafer to assure the accuracy of the data.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Curriculum: **NO REPORT**
 - b. Academic Standards – **NO REPORT**
 - c. Other Senate Subcommittee and Governance Committee Reports –
 - i. PRAC met. Reports from the Office of the President, Legal, and Advancement areas were presented. The Office of the President report discussed the emphasis on distance education and had no requests for PRAC. Legal is asking for a Demographer because Board of Trustees members will now be elected by the district. The Advancement Office had no monetary requests at this time, though they discussed a desire to get a grant writer in the future. The Advancement Office report also included discussion of fundraising over the internet. Director of Marketing and Communication Nicole Cruz reported on improved outreach on Spanish and looking forward to other outreach. Assistant Superintendent and Vice President Greg Nelson presented several funding requests. Requests included: \$25,000 for campus police security camera software; \$150,000 for fiber connections to Bolinas Lab and 830 College Avenue property; and \$100,000 for a Police Sergeant. He also noted the need for a tech specialist for IVC. VP Nelson also requested an increase of \$350,000 to their budget for the pool and Jonas Center. The figure represents ongoing costs for permits, chlorine, etc. but doesn't include personnel costs. VP Nelson also reported that the Fiscal Department is looking at upcoming retirements and noted the need for payroll specialists and a night custodial supervisor. It was also reported that the Bolinas project will need \$4.7 million over time. The Technology Committee presented on the new Technology Plan that includes 41 technology initiatives.
 - d. UPM – **NO REPORT.**
- VI. Consent Agenda – **NO ITEMS**
- VII. Invited Guests: Tonya Hersh/Gina Cullen – The Guided Pathways Self-Assessment report highlights include progress on interest cluster and discipline website pages; building out a STEM learning community; and

offering ESL & SAS counseling classes. The report also highlights outreach to students, including calling students on probation/dismissal status and those close to transfer. Intentional efforts to target first generation students close to transfer or degree were also highlighted. Significant revisions to the Program Review template were mentioned. Next steps in the report include: developing a roadmap for interest clusters; evaluating the effectiveness of pilot companion courses related to implementation of AB705; and the need for more professional learning. Software to asynchronously reach out to students is under consideration. COM has been accepted into Cohort 2 of the CA Guided Pathways Project. That project brings together community colleges to share experiences related to guided pathways and equity. The AS conducted an informal poll on approving the report and the sense of the body was to move it forward for approval. Report approval will be on the Consent Agenda for the next AS meeting.

VIII. Action Items

- a) Motion to Approve AP4231 with changes (Dodge/Perrone) -**APPROVED BY ALL SENATORS PRESENT**

IX. Discussion

- a) New Senators – update

Senator Sean Purcell has not responded to communication from President Pasquel. It is possible we may need to replace him. With Joe Mueller leaving the Senate, we no longer have someone designated to provide the UPM update. The AS should appoint a liaison who may or may not need to be on the UPM Executive Committee. President Pasquel will follow up regarding UPM Executive Committee members to determine if there is one who could fill the current AS vacancy. An alternative to have continued UPM report would be to request a written report from the UPM Executive Committee of the minutes for Executive Committee meetings. Written reports would be helpful to the AS but would not fulfill the reciprocal role of AS liaison to UPM. Senator Becky Brown has a schedule conflict this semester and will not be working in Fall 2021. President Pasquel will talk with Senator Brown to determine the best next steps to fill that Senate seat.

- b) DE and Hybrid courses

Discussion centered on options for qualification to teach online courses once we return to normal combination of online and face-to-face course offerings. DE is currently defined as 100% asynchronous and COM has joined a statewide consortium and adopted their standards for online teacher certification. Hybrid classes are defined as having a face-to-face component along with an online component. Synchronous online has been offered during the COVID crisis but does not have a permanent status with the Chancellor's office and no specific standards for being able to teach using that model. Given the development of synchronous online instruction over the last year and evidence of student interest in the model, the AS discussed options for developing synchronous online standards or revising current DE standards to accommodate this new model. Asynchronous and synchronous online instruction are different animals. It seems that without changes from the Chancellor's Office, colleges cannot either offer synchronous online as an option or determine required qualifications for instructors to teach using that model after the COVID emergency. If we want to effect change, it will require advocacy efforts, perhaps beginning with the ASCCC. Senator Dodge volunteered to research this issue further.

- c) Community Hour

President Pasquel raised the idea of the AS as a body hosting periodic COMMunity Hour events. Ideas from Senators included a set piece that we would do each semester, or periodic presentation of sabbatical projects and/or other faculty showcases. President Pasquel will look into possible dates for faculty highlight presentations this semester.

X. New Business

- a) Retiree Gifts - **DEFERRED**
b) Spring Elections - **DEFERRED**

XI. Adjournment: 2:10 pm

For questions or information concerning the Academic Senate Minutes, please contact: Peggy Dodge, Acting AS Secretary:
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