

COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2021

12:45 – 2:00 pm via Zoom

Senators Present: Maria Coulson, Peggy Dodge, Meg Pasquel, Kristin Perrone, Caitlin Rolston, Kyle Beattie, David King, Patricia Seery, Kevin Muller, Cara Kreit, Jessica Park, Patty France, Kofi Opong-Mensah

Senators Absent: NONE

Guests: NONE

CALL TO ORDER: 12:45 PM – Zoom Meeting

- I. Approval and Adoption of the Agenda – **APPROVED (Coulson/Beattie) by all Senators present**
- II. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of August 26 – **APPROVED (Coulson/Kreit) by all Senators present with Senator Opong-Mensah abstaining.**
- III. Public Requests to Address the Senate on Non-Agenda Items - **NONE**

- IV. Officers' Reports
 - a) President (Meg Pasquel) – President Pasquel reported that the COVID Oversight Committee meets on Monday. President Pasquel will be bringing AS concerns regarding COVID communication and in-person testing. President Pasquel also reported that Dr. Coon will have a Town Hall meeting during COMMUNITY HOUR on Monday when lots of information will be shared. President Pasquel encouraged all Senators to attend the Town Hall and to urge colleagues to attend. President Pasquel also urged Senators to share student concerns that they become aware of regarding Proctorio. The primary concerns expressed so far regard privacy considerations and how instructors enable settings that students find onerous.
 - b) Vice President (Maria Coulson) – VP Coulson reported that she is aware that students are stressed out about Proctorio and that she is concentrating on getting in-person testing available as an alternative to Proctorio.

- V. Committee Reports
 - a) Curriculum (CC): **NO COMMITTEE REPORT.** President Pasquel announced that she and Senator Muller, VP Coulson, and CC Chair Gina Cullen are meeting to discuss recommendations for CC reorganization.
 - b) Academic Standards – **NO REPORT**
 - c) Other Senate Subcommittee and Governance Committee Reports – President Pasquel request that Senators connect with her to help recruiting new faculty members for all governance committees.
 - a. Technology Committee(TC) (Senator Caitlin Rolston) - Senator Rolston updated the AS on the work of the TC. Most of the last couple of years were spent working on the Technology Plan. It was finished last semester and then Proctorio concerns dominated the agenda for the rest of Spring 2021. Senator Rolston reported that TC priorities this semester are to review the Technology Plan and be sure that it is being implemented. Senator Rolston noted that the TC will have a role in the development of the Strategic Plan for the next 3 years that is currently being developed. Senator Rolston also noted that the TC wants to work with COMCares to respond to as best they can to technology concerns reported through COMCares. The TC wants to understand more about how COMCares works. Senator Rolston also reported that the TC wants to have input soon into the New LRC technology considerations. She also reported that the TC has learned a lot over the last 2 years about how COM technology is serving or hindering student success. Senator Rolston noted that we still have laptops available for loan through the library but are out of hot spots. Senator Rolston concluded by noting that the TC needs more faculty to serve on it.
 - b. SLOAC (Senator Cara Kreit) – Senator Kreit reported that SLOAC held a retreat to start the semester. Data indicates that we are holding at about 250 SLO assessments reported each semester which keeps us on track for the goal that each class has SLO's assessed every 3 years at minimum. Senator Kreit also reported that SLOAC focused last semester on mapping course level SLO to Program and College-wide SLO. Through the process, SLOAC recognized that the mapping data is actually a dynamic, living document and that SLOAC will need to check in annually on the fidelity of the maps. SLOAC also noted that lots of SLO data is now available and the committee wants to now hone in on how to make that data more meaningful. Senator Kreit reported on a FLEX session offered this semester where information on how faculty have used SLO data to impact instruction was shared. Reactions to the FLEX session were positive. Senator Kreit reported that some Elumen issues have emerged that get in the

way of giving data back to faculty, and that ways to integrate Elumen and Canvas are of interest. Senator Kreit is a member of a statewide group that is discussing those two systems and how to integrate them. It is early in the conversation, but Senator Kreit and SLOAC will continue to participate in the conversation and will keep the AS updated on the progress of those efforts.

VI. Invited Guests: **NONE**

VII. Consent Agenda – **APPROVED (Muller/King) by all Senators present**

a) Educational Planning Committee – Emily Fox

VIII. Action Items - **NONE**

IX. Discussion

- a) DEC – The AS had a lively discussion regarding how DEC is moving forward with recommendations in light of experiences over the last 2 years. It was noted that we are just finishing the 3rd week of teaching this semester and that all considerations may not have yet surfaced. Topics raised by Senators included:
- Student interest in continued online synchronous class delivery opportunities was noted.
 - The need to identify faculty needs relative to DE was noted. A suggestion was made to survey faculty and identify themes of faculty questions. With that data, Stacey Lince and her team could perhaps make videos to add to the Faculty Resource Canvas shell addressing issues identified in the survey. It was noted that faculty surveys have a notoriously low response rate and ideas to improve that outcome for this survey were raised.
 - It would be useful to suggest ongoing professional development topics to continue supporting faculty regarding DE delivery.
 - There is a need to assess the state of technology in campus facilities that has not been used over the last two years. It was suggested that an audit of classroom technology be conducted by IT to ensure that each classroom technology is up to current standards and that the audit information be communicated broadly.
 - Envisioning new ways to teach and the technology needed to keep up with it should be considered by DEC and the Educational Planning Committee (EPC) together to inform the development of the new Strategic Plan
 - Concerns were expressed about a rush to incorporate the “latest and greatest” technology into COM instruction. The need to consider the equity issues that arise for basic skills and ESL students with advancements in technology incorporated into instruction and the need to differentiate between various discipline needs was raised.
 - A figure of 40% DE classes offered at COM has been mentioned in some forums. AS members raised concerns about that figure and the lack of adequate consultation and planning that would be necessary to move such a goal forward.
 - If 40% DE instruction is an agreed upon goal, the failure to prepare infrastructure and plan for effective execution will mean that students will go elsewhere.

President Pasquel and VP Coulson reported that the Chancellor’s Office is reconstructing DE definitions. ASCCC has a Technology Committee that could be an avenue for the COM AS to participate in advocacy for our DE visions. President Pasquel will circulate ASCCC Technology Committee information to Senators as it crosses her plate. It was noted that the certification standards approved in 2016 by the AS included joining the statewide consortium and adopting the standards of the Consortium for certification of DE offerings. The benefits that informed the 2016 decision included having all participating colleges in the same place relative to DE certification and the broad dissemination of available DE classes through the Consortium. Consortium membership is regarded as similar to licensure in that it guarantees a shared set of standards. Prior to the development of the Consortium, DE at community colleges was a mess and the Consortium improves DE offerings and enhances transparency. The Consortium is not anticipated to recommend changes as they wait for direction from the state. Changes to Title 5 may be required to revise the current definitions.

- b) PT Mentorship (Senators Caitlin Rolston and Kyle Beattie) – Senators Rolston and Beattie have been meeting to develop ideas for an Adjunct Faculty Academy. They noted that sharing of “Tips and Tricks” with Part-time faculty is needed. Consideration of a combination of workshops, mentoring, and compensation for participating part-time faculty need to be addressed. Senators Rolston and Beattie also noted that the sense of competition among part-time faculty who may be soon competing for full-time jobs could be a barrier and potential conflict of interest for part-time faculty mentoring other part-time faculty and recommended that full-time faculty be enlisted as mentors. They also noted that there is a lack of clarity and transparency for expectations for part-timers. For example, does service to the district through participation on committees get part-time faculty

anywhere in terms of considerations for full-time positions when they become available? Senators Rolston and Beattie identified several topics that would benefit part-timers if included in an Adjunct Faculty Academy. Topics identified included: Personal and pedagogical development; COM cultural expectations for supporting students; how to navigate the job and who to turn to for specific questions; and what part-timers need to be successful at COM. Expectations for part-time work as a path to full-time positions need to be considered and the process for moving from part-time to full-time employment needs to be transparent. Most of the issues that Senators Rolston and Beattie identified involve UPM negotiable topics. President Pasquel noted that there was some discussion during recent contract negotiations about these issues and that VP Jonathan Eldridge had made commitments to finding money to support an Adjunct Faculty Academy. Consensus was emerging that the Adjunct Faculty Academy be integrated into the Full-time Faculty Mentor Program.

c) AP 6520 – Security for District Property (Surveillance) - **DEFERRED**

X. New Business - **NONE**

XI. Adjournment: 2:00 pm

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