
Curriculum Committee Agenda

Sub-Committee of the Academic Senate

Fall 2021 Semester

Meeting Thursday, December 9, 2021 2:15 pm via Zoom

<https://marin-edu.zoom.us/j/96427950157>

Membership: Sheldon Carroll, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Rachel Klein, Bob McCoy, Sara McKinnon, Kevin Muller, Lori Michelangelo; Steve Newton, Heather Rahman, Kathleen Smyth, Cari Torres, Derek Wilson, Nancy Willet, Grace Mengqi Yuan, Holly Shafer, Logan Wood

Standing Items

1. Call to Order at 2:15 pm via zoom
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes
4. Chair Announcements

Discussion Items

1. Presentation on new 1 unit communication course

Action Items

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of remote meeting for January 2022

Brown Act

BACKGROUND:

New state law adopted by the Legislature and signed by Governor Newsom (AB 361) allows local agencies to continue to meet by teleconference and internet platform as long as a state of emergency exists and local or state authorities have recommended social distancing measures. In a related provision, the legislative body, by a majority vote, can take action to meet via teleconference in order to avoid meeting in person and therefore reduce imminent risks to the health and safety of members of the public. If a legislative body continues to meet via teleconference, it must take action to renew this declaration every 30 days.

The Curriculum Committee is asked to re-declare a state of emergency still exists, and that it intends to meet via teleconference for the scheduled January meetings, and until such time as local health authorities recommend eliminating social distancing recommendations and mask requirements in indoor settings. Taking action on this measure allows the Curriculum Committee to conduct its meetings via zoom and teleconferencing platforms without worry of violating the public participation requirements of the Brown Act.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to re-declare a state of emergency exists because of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.

DETAIL:

Under the Brown Act and AB 361, the Curriculum Committee by majority vote must find that it reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that one of the following circumstances exist in order to continue to hold regular Board meetings online only and via Zoom: "(i) the emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to safely meet in person," or "(ii) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to propose social distancing." (Gov. Code § 54953(e)(3).)

If the legislative body cannot make these findings by majority vote, then it will no longer be exempt from the physical public access, quorum, and public comment opportunity rules applied to teleconference meetings under subsection 54953(b)(3).