

ACADEMIC SENATE COUNCIL MEETING**NOVEMBER 9, 2021****APPROVED**

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and SB 751, minutes of the DVC Academic Senate Council record the votes of all committee members as follows: Members in attendance will have their votes recorded including names of members voting in the minority or abstaining is recorded.

PRESENT: John Freytag (President), Lisa Smiley-Ratchford (Vice President), Sangha Niyogi (Social Sciences), Alan Haslam (Representative-at-large), Daniel Kiely (Corresponding Secretary), Bridgitte Schaffer (SRC), Emily Moss (Library), Susan Parkinson (Biology/ Health Sciences), Craig Gerken (Physical Sciences), Carolyn Seefer (Business), Anthony Gonzales (English), Kris Koblik (Professional Development), Concha Gomez (Math/Computer Science), Taylor Harrison (Counseling), Jackie Ponciano-Babb (Kinesiology), Leo Bersamina, (Applied and Fine Arts), Joann Denning (CE (Career Education)), John Matthesen (Adjunct), Gargi Kulkarni (Adjunct)

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Kim Schenk, Anne Kingsley, Colleen Shipp, Kim Taugher, Patrick Moe, Robert Hawkins, Lisa Orta, Crystala Button, Lindsay Kong, Jason Mayfield, Kristin Cochico, Brandon Ignatius

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 9, 2021 AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

It was MSC to approve the agenda of November 9, 2021. The following members all voted aye: Smiley-Ratchford, Schaffer, Kiely, Moss, Parkinson, Gerken, Seefer, Gonzales, Koblik, Niyogi, Gomez, Harrison, Ponciano-Babb, Bersamina, Denning, Matthesen, and Kulkarni. No abstentions. No nays.

It was MSC to approve the minutes of October 26, 2021. The following members all voted aye: Smiley-Ratchford, Schaffer, Kiely, Moss, Parkinson, Gerken, Seefer, Gonzales, Koblik, Niyogi, Gomez, Harrison, Ponciano-Babb, Bersamina, Denning, Matthesen, and Kulkarni. No abstentions. No nays.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick Moe told Council a new state law AB928, has passed that on the surface looks like it is supportive of colleges aligning curriculum requirements across the community colleges, CSUs, and UC's. In Communication Studies this will be a catastrophic threat to not just our program but programs across the state at all levels. However, CSU (California State University) and UC (University of California) (University of California) have different GE requirements. In the CSU GE pattern, all students are required to take an oral communication class which is a public speaking class. The UC GE pattern does not require that, and it contains fewer units. The law says that you cannot add any additional units to a GE pattern. So, what that means is that the path of least resistance to comply with this law is to eliminate the oral communication requirement from all California Community colleges and all CSU's. That will decimate communication studies programs.

If we eliminated the requirement for our students to take public speaking, the Communications schedule would be reduced by half and we would be looking at laying off every single part-time faculty. It would be that way at every community college that has a communications program and CSU's. Moe said every faculty group in the state and the ASCCC (Academic Senate of California Community Colleges) opposed this law but the

Assembly, the Senate and the Governor signed it anyway. It is now is going to a committee of 16 appointed people who are going to try and resolve this. His colleagues from around the state as well as the CSUs (California State University) are adamantly opposed to getting rid of this requirement.

But the UCs (University of California) are in no hurry to add it because they do not have it right now and many UC campuses do not even have a Communication Department. That leaves us in a terrible position of if we comply with this law, it will devastate our departments or you find a way to not comply with this law, which is likely not to happen. He asked Council to use whatever influence they may have at the state to press back.

Kimberly Taugher said they were informed at their last Deans and Chairs meeting they were informed of a new way in which the schedules will be created and with a goal to make them more student-centric. She said she and her colleagues support this approach. However, the timeline is short. We are already in November, and we have barely 2 weeks in December to craft our schedules for next fall. She said the presentation offered very few details. She is concerned that we have not had a well-thought out, well-discussed faculty-driven conversation about what a change in the schedule would look like and what sort of ramifications, we might see from that. What are the unintended consequences of making these shifts? There is the potential for a lot of problems like we saw when we shifted from the 18-week to the 16-week semester and lost our finals week and it caused a lot of problems, especially for our STEM students. This innovative approach could potentially increase our enrollment, but our enrollment is down for a variety of reasons. The solution to such a dip in enrollment needs to be multifactored, well thought out, and faculty driven.

3. COUNCIL COMMENT

Gomez relayed a statement from a colleague who has courses with zero textbook cost. She said there is no support for faculty who have the zero textbook cost badge because then the faculty must pay out of pocket for a copy of their textbook. She said she asked that the College support faculty by giving us a one-stop method for getting a hardcopy. Program Review is not an appropriate place to ask for it because of the long timeline for that process. She has asked for division funds several times and has been turned down. She said if the College is asking us to do the challenging work of decreasing textbook costs for our students, it should be willing to reimburse instructors for a hard copy textbook. She said it is ironic that removing the textbook cost for students puts the cost on her instead. If you adopt a publisher textbook, the instructor can get a copy for free. But if it is an online book or a PDF that students can get for free the faculty member still has to pay for their own copy.

Gonzales said a small group of faculty met to discuss nominations for the Hayward award. The nomination deadline is December 10 and needs the backing of the Senate Council. They said they would like to nominate Anne Kinsley for all her leadership and work she has done and is doing to help us pivot to online teaching. Council agreed she is a great nominee for this award. Freytag said we can make it official with a motion at the next meeting and will start working on the nomination requirements and forms.

Gerken said Claudia Hein, the current Curriculum chair, told him the following, “For 100% of face-to-face classes there is typically no mention of computer scanning capabilities required in the section notes. How much information needs to be shared for students, so that they understand the use of Canvas and the equipment needed? Can instructors require students to submit scans of their homework or other work without stating the requirements in the section notes? How about access to all the material that will be posted on Canvas for 100% face to face and hybrid sections? There are faculty who pre-pandemic never used Canvas for more than an electronic bulletin board and now want to have students submit work via Canvas on days that they do not meet for in a face to face section. Would that be allowed? Access to computers and scanners are more prevalent now that services are more available on campus but does that become an equity issue? We need more guidance around this.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Colleen Shipp representing the Sabbatical Committee said they will be hosting a workshop on November 12 from 1-2:30. They will have another one during January Flex on the 20th from 1-2:30.

Matthesen said his next Community Education wine class will be on December 4 from 2-5pm. They will be learning about Italian wines and making salumi (charcuterie) and gnocchi. He said they are working to revitalize our Community Education program. He said the seats are filling up quickly but there are still a few left.

Sangha said the next Equity Speaker will be on Wednesday, November 17 at 1pm. Dean Spade will talk about what it means to imagine a world based on mutual aid rather than extraction and exploitation.

Freytag reminded Council nominations for the 2022 DVC Faculty Lecturer are due December 3. He said we have received one so far. He reminded them that he hoped we can get a nomination from all divisions. He asked Council to please remind their divisions and encourage nominations.

5. APPOINTMENTS

District-wide Study Abroad Selection Committee

Naomi Nezuka

The following members all voted aye: Smiley-Ratchford, Schaffer, Kiely, Moss, Parkinson, Gerken, Seefer, Gonzales, Koblik, Niyogi, Gomez, Harrison, Ponciano-Babb, Bersamina, Denning, Matthesen, and Kulkarni. No abstentions. No nays.

6. VPI REPORT

Kim Schenk said at the Chancellor's cabinet that morning, they talked about our enrollment recovery efforts. The District has contracted with two companies to help us with these efforts. There are two parts to the campaign. One is the marketing and branding part. And the other part is to help us analyze the processes that we use to encourage students to enroll and to move through this journey to completion. We are embarking on a series of activities with those companies to support the efforts beginning with marketing efforts focused on increasing Spring '22 enrollment. There is a district-wide digital advertising campaign that is designed to drive people to our website, to fill out a query card, so that we can follow up with them to generate more applications for enrollment. There is going to be another campaign to aimed at students who have stopped attending over the past five years and letting them know that we have a lot of other opportunities in our schedule for them to participate in now. We are also revising our website to simplify the steps to enroll. The overall goal for the enrollment recovery campaign is a 15% increase in our FTES (Full Time Equivalent Students) for the District. So, we will be working towards that goal by 2024. We will be measuring the increase from our 2017-2018 enrollment.

Freytag asked for confirmation that the timeline for shifting the approach to scheduling to a full-year student-centered approach and to start looking at the Fall '22 schedule this December. Schenk said there has been some misunderstanding about this timeline. She said as we build our schedules, there are questions we need to ask ourselves to make sure that what we do have scheduled is student-facing and meets their needs, to the extent possible. There will need to be some analysis done and make tweaks as needed. This is part of our continuous improvement that we do all the time. We must write the summer and fall schedule as soon as we come back after winter break, so we need to start engaging in those discussions in a much more granular way. Schenk said

we need to take the opportunity to look and see how we offer the courses required for majors in a consistent way over one to two years, so a student could complete their program in one or two modalities. We need to look at if it is possible for an evening student, for an online student, or for a day student. And we need to share that information in a way that is public and transparent. Freytag said that is a significant date because that is pre-pandemic rate and we had started to see enrollment declines before the pandemic.

7. DISTANCE ED. UPDATES

District-wide Distance Education Strategic Planning

Anne Kingsley and Crystala Button presented an update on the process for writing the District-wide Distance Education Strategic Plan. On November 18 from 2-3:30, there will be a district-wide strategic planning Town Hall event as an opportunity to bring everyone together to review the timeline and discuss the goals and objectives in breakout groups split up by goals. For those that cannot attend or just want to continue in the discussions, we will have asynchronous participation after the event for those that cannot attend. They provided a link to the last Strategic Plan to see what the document is and what does it contain. They reviewed the draft of the 5 Goal with links to the objectives for each. Next steps in the fall, we will have DVC based discussions on DE vision, challenges, and needs. In Spring we will complete the final draft and bring it to Senate for approval.

Freytag said it is important that we are participating and bringing our voices to this event because it is going to inform strategic planning and how we approach DE for the next five years.

8. PLANNING AND SUPPORTING OUR RETURN TO ON-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION AND SERVICES

Freytag reviewed that the Scheduling Committee had asked areas to shift away from predominantly or entirely online and asynchronous section offerings for spring. He said the areas had their discussions and came back with a schedule that offers more of a range of modalities.

Freytag noted that it was mentioned at our last meeting that we had a lot of support when we had to pivot in March 2020 very quickly. Now we need to ask for the same level of support as we return to on-campus teaching and learning. There are many questions such as the percent of sections that should shift back from online to on campus and relative percentages of modalities. We need to look at what is preventing faculty from coming back and how do we encourage them to do so. We are not saying we are asking people to go back to how we were before the pandemic. We are trying to envision what our new normal will be not only in spring but, next academic year and in the future.

Gomez said one concern faculty have is about safety. Not just their own but household members safety. We have the vaccine now but there are still some lingering concerns among some faculty who have a household member who is immunocompromised, but the faculty member is not eligible for an ADA accommodation request. In August, the District said they are working on another process for people who did not qualify for the ADA accommodation, but the Union is in negotiations on that. So, the concern is that there is no transparent process for a faculty member saying they really want to teach this class, but they really do not want to be in person.

Schaffer said there needs to be some coordinated intentional organizing around getting us ready to work with the students who are going to be in our classrooms in spring and fall when new students are coming in. She said she has been thinking about what should be in the schedule notes to inform students who have not been in a college classroom before or at least not for a long time.

Matthesen said he talked with Moultrie about those that teach at night but do not feel secure about it and a lot of those are adjuncts. So, Moultrie committed to several things about making sure that the campus police are informed and making sure the doors are open for buildings and restrooms. An idea came up to have “Goodie bags” with supplies such as dry erase markers and other things they may not have access to in the evening. There will be postings near telephones about how to dial the campus phones and how to dial police services in emergencies and other things that may come up that they need assistance with. He said to let him know if there are other things that are needed to welcome faculty back to campus, in the day and the evening.

Bersamina said in his division meeting, they have been discussing unexpected situations such as a part-timer is offered an online course and they do not want to do it. Are we obligated to give them an in-person course? They would like guidance for this type of thing.

Bersamina said a concern they have is about listing of hybrid classes in the schedule. A couple of years ago his area had started doing classes in hybrid mode. When we shifted to the 16-week calendar we went ahead and started a hybrid mode. Even though those classes are 90% in-person, they do not show up as in-person in the schedule, so students are not seeing them.

Harrison said we have not had a survey of how we feel as faculty members coming back in a long time and so it is hard to get a pressure point on what people’s feelings are. Freytag said the UF (United Faculty) has done a survey. If we are to get one out to inform us for spring and fall, that is a tight timeline.

Gonzales commented that we are having conversations about Measure E funds and the future of our facilities at the same time we are talking about returning to campus. This is a missed opportunity if we go back to campus and our classrooms and the technology in the classrooms have some of the same problems as when we left. He said he has taught some online classes before but during the pandemic, he learned all these different tools and that is going to change the way he teaches even in face to face. Will our facilities enable us to be able to use these tools and strategies?

Sefer said another issue with facilities is actual classroom size. In her division they have large classes, and they can accommodate them in online classes. But there is a lot of concern not just for the faculty but for the students who will be sitting in these cramped classrooms on top of one another.

Kiely mentioned that if students or faculty must quarantine, it would be good to have some sort of protocol for how class would continue. Would we switch to online for a week or would it become a synchronous online class or something else?

Freytag said it would be good to have many people already on campus ready to greet those coming back and help with connections to support.

Sangha Niyogi there are two distinct kinds of needs that we are looking at. One is just the technical issues such as what if we need to make this asynchronous very quickly. How do we teach with mixed modalities when 15% to 20% of our face-to-face classes are missing? The other need is emotional support. We are teaching in a different world that is still feeling the effects of collective trauma from the pandemic.

Moe said that although there are so few of us on campus but the Student Centers have people right at the doors greeting students, offering support and even snacks and just giving them a place to hang out and reconnect. The more we can bring life back to the campus, that is going to make a significant difference because right now campuses are ghost towns where no one would want to hang out. We need more student life events and activities on the campus and make it a place where they want to go to and interact with each other.

Schaffer said she is hearing manageable small steps she can take back to her division. She is wondering about some of the bigger things and what is doable. What would the timeline be for getting a survey of faculty done before we leave this semester? Freytag said he will be talking with Smiley-Ratchford, Lamb and Schenk about what is doable this term in preparation for spring moving forward after that. He asked Jason Mayfield if they could turn a survey around in 4-5 weeks. Mayfield said he will talk with Jeffrey Michels if that will be possible

Gomez said she is concerned about learning loss in students. She said they see it in math and every math class is a pre-requisite for another math class. We need support on what and how we can remediate students to get them back up to speed and on track. This is especially an issue for STEM students and she is worried we may start losing those students.

9. SENATE GOALS

[Academic Senate Goals 21-22 Final](#)

Haslam said it would be great if we could look at the goals the way they are now and just make sure we are okay with them now, language wise and content wise. And then the action items are ongoing that we can work on later.

Matthesen said he does not understand what scaffolding means and finds the term a little off-putting and there are others who do not understand what that means in this context.

Haslam reviewed the document with Council. He said he did not get any real feedback on the first section about our collective work toward becoming an Anti-racist institution so he assumed we should keep it in the document. The next section is on Academic Excellence and the Student Experience. The third section is College Operations.

Haslam then reviewed the action items that were created through aggregating the document.

Schaffer suggested the inclusion of links to things like the EEOAC (EEOA Committee) and the Chancellor's Call to action so people will know what we are referring to.

It was MSC to approve the goal with suggested changes/additions, with the understanding we will come bck to the action items. The following members all voted aye: Smiley-Ratchford, Schaffer, Kiely, Moss, Parkinson, Gerken, Seefer, Gonzales, Koblik, Niyogi, Gomez, Harrison, Ponciano-Babb, Bersamina, Denning, Matthesen, and Kulkarni. No abstentions. No nays.

10. DEPARTMENT RENAMING REQUEST: PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

[Public Health Name Change Request](#)

Kristen Colchico told Council the Health Sciences Department are requesting to change their department name from Health Sciences to Public Health for the following reasons:

1. Public Health was primarily housed under Kinesiology, Health Sciences, and Health and Human Services, however, today there are 17 CSUs that have a Public Health Department, while the discipline of Health Science is aligned with Exercise Science, Allied Health, and Kinesiology. Most of the courses they offer particularly those that are part of the AST-Public Health Science and the AS Health Education, articulate with the discipline of Public Health. Three new courses in Public Health are currently in the curriculum committee approval process, and all three will satisfy both degree programs and articulate with the CSUs. Transfer will be easier for students when CSU and CCC (California Community Colleges) departments, degree programs, and courses all share similar names.

2. Three of the four full-time faculty in the Health Sciences department have a graduate degree in the discipline of Public Health, the courses they teach align with the Public Health discipline.
3. Public Health is a growing area of study that examines the social determinants of health that cause health, racial, cultural, and socioeconomic disparities, particularly among minority populations, and focuses on developing strategies to bridge gaps and improve health equity. Public Health educators and specialist are in great need, especially in today' sociopolitical climate.
4. The Public Health discipline reflects their department's core values emphasized in the public health practice, including equity, social justice, participation, efficiency, effectiveness, acceptability, affordability, and accessibility of health services, healthcare, and health education resources for all populations.
5. They anticipate this new name will attract more students and helps them determine their interest area.

It was MSC to approve the request to change the name of the Health Sciences Department to the Public Health Department. The following members all voted aye: Smiley-Ratchford, Schaffer, Kiely, Moss, Parkinson, Gerken, Seefer, Gonzales, Koblik, Niyogi, Gomez, Harrison, Ponciano-Babb, Bersamina, Denning, Matthesen, and Kulkarni. No abstentions. No nays.

11. ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Freytag said he attended the State Senate Plenary the previous week. Smiley-Ratchford and Kiely also attended. He said he does not have the list of resolutions in front of him but there were two resolutions that were referred to the Executive Committee because people wanted clarity on their impacts. All the other resolutions were approved. He will send out the list when he receives the amended language.

Freytag said Rosa Armendariz and Frank Ortega will be at our next meeting in relation to a request that we heard earlier in this semester about seeing our senate goals in action and spending some time learning more about our students and how to support our students and they are going to be discussing with us ways that we can support our undocumented students. He asked the Council to please watch a short film that he sent the link to before the next meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24.