

Academic Senate Minutes May 1, 2020

Senate roll call spring 2020

Eric Kuehnl (Senate VP/CCC Faculty Co-Chair)
Robert Cormia (Senate Secretary/Treasurer)
Isaac Escoto (Senate President)
Mary Thomas (LIBR)
Tracee Cunningham (CNSL)
Voltaire Villanueva (CNSL)
Kate Jordahl (FA/COMM)
Robert Hartwell (FA/COMM)
Sara Cooper (BHS/Faculty Association Liaison)
Rachelle Campbell (BHS)
Kathryn Maurer (BSS)
Maria Dominguez (BSS)
David McCormick (LA)
Amber La Piana (LA)
David Marasco (PSME)
Matthew Litrus (PSME)
Mimi Overton (SRC)
Donna Frankel (Part Time Rep)
Mary Anne Sunseri (Part Time Rep)
Rita O'Loughlin (KA/ATHL)
Dixie Macias (KA/ATHL)
Carolyn Holcroft (Professional Development Coordinator)
Kristy Lisle (Cabinet Liaison) (absent)
Leonardo Blas (ASFC President) (absent)

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Emergency Senate meeting

Short agenda: discuss the decision-making document and feedback from division faculty

Agenda was approved by consensus, there was no public comment

Reminder that senate exec was asked by senate rep constituents to formulate a letter, sharing concerns and offering next steps. This letter represents sentiments from our college wide colleagues.

Call attention to the specific asks of the letter/formal communication regarding decision making processes

Isaac read some of the asks in the letter

1. Reaffirm a college-wide commitment to the spirit of shared governance. This includes a commitment to ensuring planning and decision-making conversations are happening in councils and committees where faculty already serve. Those councils and committees should be fully informed with modeling, data, and all necessary details so we can all be effective thought partners. If current campus councils and committees are inappropriate for that role, communicate to faculty where decisions are being made and actively enlist faculty to serve and participate in those spaces.
2. Include faculty leadership in manager's meetings and president's cabinet, and/or where decisions of consequence are being discussed and informed to ensure affected stakeholders are being engaged in an appropriate and timely manner, and that decisions are being communicated in the same way.
3. Task the Revenue & Resources Council with the central role in budget discussions, including initial conversations, modeling, planning, and developing strategies for any potential need for organizational restructuring or hiring freezes and/or holds, in anticipation of the impending budget crisis.
4. Work with the college to create a new shared governance body dedicated to enrollment management, charged with strategic planning for enrollment and scheduling, balancing face-to-face, hybrid and online offerings, and informing class cancelation discussions.
5. Continue to engage with campus stakeholders via regular updates such as the Parliament and direct communication to the Senate that acts to keep the campus informed and to solicit broad input and participation.

Amy Edwards mentioned she is one of the Advisory Council faculty reps, and will represent the spirit of this letter at the Advisory Council meeting later today. Faculty did want the letter to have a collegial feel, and there is a request for a response by May 24th. Collegial tone, these aren't demands, but are very strong recommendations.

We have a need for communication. Wanted to avoid a situation where we were so specific in demands that all we received was a response to those demands. Want to start a process where we can build systems, and improve partnerships, so as to help address our overall ongoing concerns re: decision making.

There was a motion that we approve and adopt this letter, and forward to the Advisory Council.

There was an acknowledgement of the time and effort put into this letter, that the vast majority of faculty feel this letter was needed. We want to heal and fix the relationship between faculty and executive administrators, not break it. There was strong support for the letter, and a recommendation that the letter be signed by all faculty and not (just) the executive body.

Discussion to include Judy Miner in the distribution, but exclude the FHDA-CCD Board at the moment. The signature of the executive committee would refer to all that serve on the academic senate executive committee.

To Thuy with cc to Judy Miner, response by 5/24/20 to discuss at June senate meeting.

A motion to forward the letter to Foothill College President Thuy Nguyen and the FHDA-CCD Chancellor Judy Miner was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.