

Foothill & District Academic Senate Minutes November 1, 2021

DRAFT Minutes

#'s represent items numbered on the [Agenda](#)

1. Meeting called to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll call

Executive Committee

Officers:

Kathryn Maurer (President)
Paul Starer (Exec VP)
Eric Kuehnl (VP Curriculum)
Robert Cormia (Sec/Treas)

Division Senators:

Alexis Aguilar
Brian Murphy (absent)
David Marasco
Donna Frankel
Ellen Judd

Frank Niccoli (absent)
Jeff Bissell
Jordan Fong
Katy Ripp
Kerri Ryer
Kimberly Escamilla
Mary Thomas
Matthew Litrus
Mayra Palmerin-Aguilera
Milissa Carey
Patricia Crespo-Martin
Sara Cooper
Stephanie Chan

Tracee Cunningham
Voltaire Villanueva

Extended Exec Committee

Adrienne Hypolite
Ajani Byrd (absent)
Carolyn Holcroft
Fatai Heimuli
John Fox
Kurt Hueg

3. Kathryn reminded everyone that today was a short, 30-minute Foothill-only AS meeting, to be immediately followed by the joint Senate meeting with De Anza College. The joint meetings are timed right before the ASCCC plenary in fall and spring, and they include voting on a resolutions packet on Saturday, which we will review at the joint meeting. For our Foothill-only agenda today, we have just a little bit of business, and time for a short Q&A and debrief about last week's events. The agenda was approved with the change in the typo of the adjournment time reflect 2:30 p.m.

Sara Cooper asked to modify the minutes from the October 25th meeting, and the minutes with those changes were approved by consensus.

4. Public comment (none)

5. Consent calendar appointments were approved by consensus, with one abstention (Hypolite).

6. Only discussion item on the agenda today, about 10-15 minutes to check-in and talk about last week's meeting, and the action taken by the FHDA-CCD Board of trustees not to renew President Nguyen's contract after June 30, Thuy Nguyen will be placed on leave as of today (November 1st), and Bernadine Chuck Fong, president emerita of Foothill College, will serve as acting president through June 30th.

Voltaire Villanueva shared that as a counsellor he has a unique role, listening to students and helping them process this. There is a lot of grieving going on.

Fatai Heimuli was asked to share what might be the best way to support students with questions they have. She explained that ASFC has been doing a lot of processing, and there are many student centered conversations going on. It's important to listen first, try not to "interrupt" or jump in too quickly to correct misinformation or "fill in the blanks". It's important to be allowed to grieve and be heard. She encouraged faculty to refer students to her and the ASFC Campus Council for more opportunity to engage in student discussion about the events.

Kathryn shared that at the noon Town Hall meeting, Acting President Bernadine Fong suggested that we celebrate President Nguyen's accomplishments, and that we "look forward". Kathryn commented that her conversations with Bernadine showed thoughtful consideration of what is going on. Bernadine is very interested in having face to face conversations, in person if possible, and that she's very interested in the return to campus effort. Bernadine shared with Kathryn that her number one priority is to help Foothill become again an attractive campus to a promising presidential candidate.

John Fox commented that he was surprised by Chancellor Miner's remarks at the noon event that she was surprised at many things she had learned this past month. He said that we may need to talk about how information is communicated, meaning that the Chancellor and the FHDA-CCD Board should not have been surprised about the recent events. John also commented that the Board may not have fully understood faculty's fears of retaliation, or negative impact on their programs. Kathryn also commented that she was also surprised at Chancellor Miner's surprise (about recent events), especially given the number of conversations with her going back years.

Paul commented that a larger percentage of our college community now has an appreciation of what we do in the Senate, and the role of faculty in governance. Both the executive committee of Academic Senate and faculty have had to work hard to deter some "falsehoods" recently, and that we (AS) have worked hard to work on equity, and are working hard with ASFC on shared governance, and what shared governance will look like at Foothill going forward. We have a real opportunity to share how we hope and expect consultation will look like. There is pain that we will need to address, but we need to look at the runup to where we are today, and optimism for the future (governance at Foothill College).

Kathryn suggested "let's not wait for conversations to occur" meaning, let's talk with each other now. Reach out to others on senate, colleagues in your division, students, staff and administrators. Let's continue to foster this increased connection.

7. Announcements: It's the beginning of Native American heritage week, faculty should try to attend these events if possible, it's important to the students that they see faculty at this events, whether in person or remote.

8. Foothill's meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m., switched right over into the De Anza Senate meeting.

2:30 p.m. De Anza meeting – [Joint Agenda](#)

Kathryn talked about the joint meeting between Foothill and De Anza prior to ASCCC plenary in fall and spring. Importance of plenary sessions. Cheryl Baum is voting for De Anza, Kathryn Maurer voting for Foothill. Karen Chow, the District Academic Senate president, also has a vote, however she is also currently serving as the Area B representative on the ASCCC Exec Committee, and so she will be voting in that capacity. Therefore, we have agreed to have Mary Pape, VP of De Anza Academic Senate, serve as her delegate. It's meaningful to have conversations about the resolutions so that both Colleges are on the same page.

Went to break out sessions to meet colleagues at other campus, and discuss the resolutions. Came back and had short discussion of just a few of the resolutions.

There was discussion about OER and textbooks, disruption of learning during COVID. Comment that a lot of students dropped out, didn't have access to wifi, had to study and submit documents using a phone.

We then switched to a discussion about the new draft of the Faculty Hiring Procedures. There was significant discussion about students serving on hiring committees, and also about automatically granting interviews to part-time faculty with reemployment preference. John Fox made comments that many part-time faculty don't get feedback about why they don't get selected for a second interview.

Kathryn and Cheryl will get together to discuss next steps with the draft hiring procedures.

The joint meeting concluded at 4 p.m.