FOOTHILL COLLEGE

Academic Senate

https://foothill.edu/gov/academic-senate/ | Office: Admin 1929

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 20, 2024
Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Location: Krause Center for Innovation room 4006 (or via Zoom)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM by Senate President Voltaire Villanueva

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was conducted by Secretary/Treasurer Robert Cormia

Officers	Location
Voltaire Villanueva	4006
Patrick Morriss	4006
Ben Kaupp	4006
Robert Cormia	4006
Senators by Division	
Apprenticeship	
Stephan Schnell	absent
BSS	
Brian Evans	4006
Mona Rawal	4006
Counseling	
Tracee Cunningham	4006
Leticia Serna	4006
DRC/VRC/SRC	
Ana Maravilla	absent
Fine Arts & Communications	
Robert Hartwell	4006
Kate Jordahl	online
HSH	
Rachelle Campbell	absent
Brenda Hanning	4006
Kinesiology/Athletics	
Dixie Macias	online
Rita O'Loughlin	online
LA	
Stephanie Chan	4006
Rocio Giraldez Betron	online (address posted)
LRC	
Destiny Rivera	4006

Eric Reed	4006
STEM	
Sara Cooper	4006
Vacant	vacant
Professional Development Coordinator	
Carolyn Holcroft	4006
Faculty Chair of COOL	
Allison Lenkeit Meezan	4006
Ensuring Learning Coordinator	
Stephanie Chan	4006
Kerri Ryer	absent
FA Rep	
Julie Jenkins	Online
ASFC Rep	
Joshua Agupugo	absent
Classified Senate Rep	
Adiel Velasquez	absent
21-23 P/T Rep	
Roxanne Cnudde	Online
22-24 P/T Rep	
Michael Chang	4006
Advisory Members	
President's Cabinet	
Stacy Gleixner	absent
Dean of Equity	
Ajani Byrd	4006
Guests	
Fatima Jinnah (faculty), Kurt Hueg (AVPI), Evan Gilstrap (articulations), Lynette Vega (PT Rep-elect), and Ann Penalosa (De Anza student)	

3. Adoption of Agenda

Item #10, 11, and 12 are being rearranged to accommodate late arrival of the presenter for #10 (Kurt Hueg)
Motion: Adopt agenda with above described amendments Ben Kaupp first, Michael Chang second **Result:** adopted by consensus

4. Public Comment

Fatima Jinnah highlighted Nakba Day, which she described as a commemoration of the events of 1947-1948, culminating on April 15, 1948, when Israeli militias expelled over 80% of the native Palestinian population. She referenced Ilan Pappe's book, "The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine," as a must-read. Fatima argued that the Nakba, meaning catastrophe in Arabic, is ongoing, with current events in Gaza being live-streamed on social media. She mentioned a recent screening of the documentary "1948: Creation & Catastrophe" at Foothill and invited those interested to contact her for a viewing link.
Janie Garcia emphasized that the College, particularly the Academic Senate, should acknowledge the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis in Palestine. She noted that Palestinian students have spoken out about the situation in Gaza.
Clifton Der Bing announced an event on Wednesday, June 5th, at the District Office, featuring a flag ceremony to raise the inclusive Pride flag.

5. Approval of Minutes

April 8 Meeting:
Robert Cormia requested that Patrick Morriss re-send email with text of Dr. King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail" so that the minutes could properly reflect those comments.

Motion: Adopt minutes with above described pending amendments
Ben Kaupp first, Eric Reed second
Result: adopted by consensus.

6. Consent Calendar

The updated consent calendar was presented. Ana Maravilla (DRC/VRC), Rachel Mudge (STEM), and Mona Rawal (BSS) will continue in the academic year 2024-25.

The Summer Cabinet was discussed and will consist of officers.

Curriculum committee members will be updated after the last CCC meeting.

Academic Senate is still actively collecting names for Tenure Review Committee at-large members for those entering 2024-25 Phase 1. Patrick Morriss was added to the at-large faculty pool along with David Marasco.

Ben Kaupp announced that rumors have again floated that we may be the only district in the state still on the quarter system and emphasized the need for representation in the ASCCC regarding common course numbering. Evan Gilstrap highlighted the importance of attending three upcoming online meetings. He noted that all meetings will include a stipend.

Motion: Adopt Consent Calendar with above-described amendments
Ben Kaupp first, Alison Lenkeit Meezan second
Result: adopted by consensus.

7. ASFC President Updates

Joshua Agupugo was not present to provide an update.

8. Vision Statement Update

Tracee Cunningham commented on the slides presented, highlighting the collaboration over several months. She mentioned a Microsoft Office form was used to solicit input. The proposed vision statement reads: "Our vision is a future where students from our community form a sense of belonging and agency to thrive in Silicon Valley and beyond."

Lety Serna remarked that Silicon Valley consists of multiple communities, and the term "community" might be too limited, especially as people are leaving the Valley. Additional comments suggested that the term "Silicon Valley" could be restrictive and that the "greater Bay Area" might be a better term. Lety noted the importance of not limiting their scope to a specific place and time.

Ajani Boyd commented that the primary focus should remain local rather than international.

There were additional suggestions to explicitly include the term "students" and to mention "members of a community" in the vision statement.

Tracee reminded us that the mission statement was approved last year, and the vision statement will be approved this year.

9. Housing

Eric Reed, the facilitator for the affordable housing group, reflected on the last board meeting, noting that only 4% of the bond had been spent over four years. He presented a slide from the Volz Group and discussed the definition of affordability (15%). The Board expressed interest in having employee housing on the Foothill campus and student housing on the De Anza campus. Options included spending $200 million on housing from the bond and possibly more through public-private partnerships. Due to post-COVID inflation, there isn't enough funding for both employee and student housing.

There was a comment questioning the low expenditure (4%) over four years and the lack of funding for housing. The FHDA housing survey indicated a lack of urgency to spend money, with costs increasing daily.

At the last board meeting, concerns were raised about all Measure G projects. If other projects require additional funding, there is a possibility of tapping into housing funds.

Ben Kaupp suggested that if major changes were made to how Bond funds were utilized (versus what was told to voters), FHDA might struggle to secure another bond measure, emphasizing the need to spend the current funds carefully and transparently.

10. Accreditation Update (on agenda as item 11)

Elaine Kuo provided an overview of the timeline and emphasized the need for faculty involvement in the core inquiries.

Elaine discussed the next steps, mentioning that between now and Labor Day, there is an opportunity to gather more evidence for the report. There are three core inquiries:

1. Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):
    a. Part of Foothill's inquiries.
    b. Focus on communication plans and accountability measures related to the assessment cycle and process outcomes.
2. Regular Substantive Interaction (RSI):
    a. Related to federal compliance.
    b. Significant work has been done this year in this area.
3. Board Policies and Administrative Procedures:
    a. Involves participation from the Academic Senate.

During the next site visit on September 30th, faculty will be interviewed. These faculty members may be identified through the Academic Senate. There was a question about how many of Foothill’s Canvas classes would be sampled. A 5% sample of asynchronous sections offered in the spring will be sent to the peer review team. The College is involved in selecting this 5%.

Regarding SLOs, there was a question about the assessment cycle. They will be looking for evidence of SLO reflection. If there isn’t enough evidence by fall, a follow-up visit may be necessary. Emphasis was placed on the need for training, structure, and practice.

11. Opening Day PD (on agenda as item 12)

Alison Lenkeit Meezan presented a diagram that included Program Review, Professional Development (PD), SLOs, Curriculum, RSI, and Equity. She noted that these areas are often seen as administrative tasks but should be recognized as core components of instruction. Alison read a resolution on continuous improvement in teaching, proposing that Foothill set aside at least one day for training and the adoption of continuous improvement practices.

Alison argued that Foothill should dedicate at least one day for training and adopting continuous improvement practices. She commented that it's crucial to advocate for this effort as it represents a significant cultural shift requiring substantial effort. However, there is concern that the accreditation team might not fully appreciate the work invested.

Elaine Kuo emphasized that the College is not "in trouble" due to the efforts already made, but the focus should be on the impact on student learning. She highlighted the need to see tangible improvements in student outcomes, stressing the importance of connecting meaningful conversations to these outcomes.

Janie Garcia highlighted the importance of including classified staff in this effort, noting that staff often have more direct contact with students in areas such as admissions, records, and financial aid.

Elaine added that the focus should not be on achieving immediate, dramatic results but rather on showing consistent, incremental progress over time in key areas.

12. AY24/25 Schedule Planning (on agenda as item 10)

Kurt Hueg discussed the need to align District enrollment with constrained budgets. He noted that despite efforts, the District couldn't grow out of the "hold harmless" status and now faces a two-year "step-down" process. The challenge is funding the schedule with existing funds using one-time money.

Kurt showed data on Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES) and load, illustrating the total load for this year and the reduction planned for next year. He emphasized the necessity to reduce FTES and showed the impact of decreasing Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (FTEF) load allocations. Each division is determining how to reduce their schedules. He mentioned efforts to add seats to classes through Career Technical Education (CTE) and non-credit courses but highlighted a projected loss of nearly 500 FTES in the upcoming academic year.

Ben Kaupp read a question from Julie Jenkins about the decision to add a new Vice Chancellor at the District level when College budgets are strained. Kurt responded that he would bring the question to the appropriate parties.

Sara Cooper inquired about different funding sources, such as the 1320 budget and the full-time faculty budget, and whether these funds could be combined or managed to mitigate funding reductions. Kurt explained the reallocation of funds over the past few years and the lack of the usual carry-forward budget funding.

Kurt mentioned discussions with Bret Watson about the 1320 and full-time budgets. Sara expressed concerns about making projected cuts now and then potentially adding funds back at the last minute, highlighting the chaos this process creates. She advocated for a more strategic approach to managing class sizes and supporting students in multi-year programs.

Kurt clarified that the goal is not to make cuts and then add funds back later but to be consistent in planning the schedule and avoid the "whiplash" effect.

13. BP 5110 (First Read)

The board policy on counseling services was provided for the information of those present for a first read.

14. Constitution & Bylaws Revision (Second Read)

Patrick outlined the overall goal to revise the constitution by moving representation on committees, duties and responsibilities of senators, a list of all committees, and procedures for conducting meetings into six pages of bylaws.

A motion was needed to approve the proposed amendments and move them to the elections committee.

Motion: Advance amendements to elections committee, after edits for mechanics and flow.
Sara Cooper first, Ben Kaupp second
Result: approved by consensus.

15. 13-55 Strategic Vision for Equity Issue 7

The Senate plan aims to elevate the work done by divisions and departments. The Apprenticeship division is working on support services. This effort highlights a deficit in the strategic plan for equity, specifically addressed in Issue 9 (Lack of a college-wide retention plan for students of color to progress through their academic careers at Foothill).

Implementation teams from each academic division have identified how this issue manifests in their areas:

Apprenticeship:
Ensuring students at the Sunnyvale Center receive the necessary student services.

Business & Social Sciences:
Promoting racially informed pedagogy.

Fine Arts and Communication:
Creating a welcoming environment for LatinX and Black students and ensuring timely access to instructional materials.

Counseling:
Strengthening the connection between the Office of Retention Services and instructional faculty.

Health Sciences & Horticulture:
Increasing representation of Black and Latinx students in Health Science programs.

Kinesiology & Athletics:
Focusing on racially predictable retention, success, and persistence in KINS online classes.

Language Arts:
Concentrating on racially predictable retention, success, and persistence in English 1A and 1B.

Library and LRC:
Helping students identify transferable information, values, and skills beyond their basic transactional needs and creating a sense of belonging within the library spaces.

STEM:
Addressing the lack of diverse representation of contributors to the field in course materials.

A poster session will be held on Wednesday, June 12th, at the Library Quad from noon to 1 PM. Every division, including student support, will have a presence there.

16. Curriculum Updates

Ben Kaupp reported that, with input from the Academic Senate and various other sources, the lifelong learning requirement has been reduced to one course. Additionally, largely due to the research and advocacy by Geoff Matthews, the lab requirement will be retained. Geoff informed the Curriculum Committee that the two courses affected were those most likely to be pursued by students aiming for a local AA degree. For math and quantitative reasoning, efforts are being made to move as many courses as possible from Area V to the new Area 2. Ben is scheduled to meet with his counterparts at De Anza to compare progress on these changes.

17. Nominations for District Academic Senate President

De Anza and Foothill take turns selecting the Academic Senate President. Last year, De Anza nominated Kathryn Mauer. This year, it's Foothill's turn to nominate, and Kathryn Mauer has expressed interest in serving a third term.

Motion: Nominate Kathryn Maurer for President of District Academic Senate.
Lety Serna first, Tracee Cunningham second
Result: approved by consensus.

18. Resolution on Sustained Dialogues (Second Read)

Ben Kaupp presented the resolution on sustained dialogues, noting that the first "whereas" statement was removed. He further reminded that the resolution was intended to be a starting point for discussion and edits by this body.

Stephanie Chan read a long letter from Suzy Quezada, who expressed concern that all conversations about certain topics might be moved to meetings outside the Academic Senate. Stephanie will forward Suzie's letter. Suzie questioned who determines whether an issue is geopolitical.

Nurzhamal Akybekova, a classified employee (TEA), spoke about the resolution as discussed at the last meeting. She commented on the authors of the ceasefire resolution and discussed the "Open Dialogue" resolution in light of recent overruling. She argued that labeling the issue as "geopolitical" ignores the US tax funding of Israel and the US-Israel police exchange program, which she linked to the militarization of US policing. Nurzhamal criticized the "Open Dialogue" resolution as a suppression tool under the guise of equity and noted the lack of communication with the authors of the ceasefire resolution, fostering distrust among BIPOC communities. She urged the Senate to stop using silencing tactics and to address these issues within the body.

Sara Cooper expressed concerns about the resolution, stating that the group hasn't settled on whether to have political or non-political conversations within the Academic Senate. She believed the resolution's purpose is to move difficult conversations out of the Senate.

Lety Serna added that the resolution did not encourage dialogue between the group and the authors of the first resolution.

Ben asserted that the April 8th meeting showed the Senate's inability to have difficult conversations, and the purpose of sustained dialogues is to provide a space for these discussions.

Destiny Rivera mentioned that the library is creating a facility to host these conversations.

Fatima commented that the President's Advisory Council was tasked with finding a space

for these conversations. She emphasized the importance of dialogue between the authors to ensure meaningful discussions. She noted that 400 students and alumni had requested a resolution for a ceasefire, which did not involve asking for money.

Patrick acknowledged the complexity of the resolution's resolves.

Destiny also commented on hiring processes, equity, and diversity.

The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

19. For the Good of the Order

Fatima mentioned an upcoming meeting.

Carolyn noted that the last conversation on shared values is scheduled for Wednesday at noon. She suggested contacting her for more details. The theme will be "Food and Joy to Transform Systems."

Voltaire requested that this Academic Senate meeting be dedicated to Foothill College Marketing Supervisor, Laura Wigod, who passed away unexpectedly this past weekend.

20. Close of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned by President Voltaire Villanueva at 4:15 p.m. The final regular meeting of the 2023-24 academic year is scheduled for 2 p.m. June 3rd.