

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2025

The Academic Senate of Foothill College convened its meeting on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 2:03 p.m. The session took place in the Krause Center for Innovation (Room 4006) and via Zoom.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Senate President Voltaire Villanueva called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Secretary Robert Cormia conducted the roll call, confirming a quorum. Noting several absences, Cormia acknowledged those attending both in person and remotely.

Adoption of Agenda

Voltaire opened the discussion to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Ben Kaupp moved to adopt the agenda, with Michael Chang seconding the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously by consensus. Villanueva took the opportunity to introduce new senators joining the executive committee for the winter quarter and welcomed them warmly. He also reminded the faculty that the ongoing events in Southern California might have an emotional and academic impact on students and encouraged faculty to keep an open line of communication with students during this period.

Public Comments

No public comments were received during this time.

Approval of the December 2, 2024, Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the December 2, 2024, meeting were presented for approval. Evan Gilstrap proposed a slight amendment to his earlier comments in the minutes, suggesting the phrase "program review" be replaced with "common course numbering" to better reflect his point. After the amendment was made, Eric Reed motioned to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Ben Kaupp. The motion passed unanimously by consensus, with no further discussion on the matter.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

President Villanueva presented the consent calendar, which included several updates and appointments:

- **Vacancy:** A representative from DRC/VRC was still needed for the Teaching with Technology Committee.
- **Appointments:** Destiny Rivera, Jeremy Peters, and Sally Baldwin were added to the OER Workgroup.
- **Recognition:** The SLO workgroup received positive feedback for its strong faculty involvement, with 11 members actively participating.

Voltaire also mentioned that with the upcoming conclusion of hiring committees this spring, attention would soon shift to forming tenure review committees in the fall. There was a brief comment from Stacy Gleixner, expressing satisfaction with the enthusiastic faculty participation in the SLO workgroup, which she felt demonstrated a commitment to ongoing improvements in the institution's processes.

Patrick Morriss moved to adopt the consent calendar as amended, with Eric Reed seconding. The motion passed without opposition.

Updates from the Foothill-De Anza CCD Police Department

Chief Daniel Acosta provided an extensive update on safety initiatives and emergency preparedness across the Foothill-De Anza campuses:

- **Emergency Management:**
 - Chief Acosta discussed the ongoing efforts to improve emergency management protocols, including plans for a district-wide emergency drill. He highlighted the challenges of maintaining consistent training for staff, as turnover rates often lead to gaps in preparedness. There was a push from the Chancellor for a county-wide emergency management drill, and Acosta emphasized the need for coordination.
 - He noted that, despite challenges, emergency response systems were continuously evolving to ensure better safety and quicker response times in the event of a disaster. Acosta specifically pointed out the difficulties in managing emergency evacuations, referencing the 1,500 students who had to be evacuated during a recent power failure. While the evacuation was

successful, the situation highlighted some of the chaos that can arise in emergencies. He remarked on the need for better tools and protocols to prevent incidents such as students running red lights during such evacuations.

- **Emergency Communication Tools:**

- A large part of the discussion focused on improving communication during emergencies. Chief Acosta advocated for replacing outdated blue emergency phones with more modern fiber optic systems and emphasized the importance of reliable communication, especially when cell towers might fail. He suggested incorporating a system that would allow text messages to direct people during emergencies.
- Destiny Rivera asked whether fire alarm systems on campus were tested routinely. Chief Acosta acknowledged that while routine testing is crucial, there have been instances where the fire alarms at De Anza failed to alert students properly. He also emphasized the importance of training in order to ensure that faculty and staff understand how to use these systems effectively.

- **Sanctuary Campus Policy:**

- Chief Acosta clarified the district's stance on sanctuary campus policies, explaining that, in most cases, administrative warrants on campus are handled by the president, not campus police. He reassured the Senate that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers are not allowed to enter classrooms. He spoke at length about the district's commitment to creating a safe environment for all students, especially undocumented individuals, acknowledging the stress these issues may cause for students and faculty alike.
- Patrick Morriss asked for clarification regarding administrative versus criminal warrants, and Acosta confirmed that only criminal warrants would involve the police directly. Administrative warrants require a different process, and the police's role in those cases is limited.

- **Taser Use and Security Infrastructure:**

- The conversation also turned to the use of tasers as a less lethal means of subduing individuals during crises. Chief Acosta detailed the extensive training that goes into using tasers effectively and explained that they are

primarily used to de-escalate situations. He highlighted that there are thorough investigations into every use of force, including taser deployment, to ensure accountability and safety.

- The discussion concluded with a focus on upgrading security infrastructure, such as door locks and cameras, which have proven invaluable for both security and facilitating emergency responses.

Foothill's Institutional Values Revision Proposal

President Villanueva initiated a thoughtful discussion on the potential revision of Foothill College's institutional values. He presented a slide deck highlighting the current values and proposed additions to ensure that they align more closely with the College's mission and strategic goals.

- **Current Values:** The College's existing core values include integrity, honesty, transparency, openness, trust, forgiveness, and sustainability.
- **Proposed Values:** Additional values such as innovation, equity, community, grace, and love were suggested to guide the institution's evolving vision.
 - Fatima Jinnah raised an important question: Are these values aspirational or reflective of the behaviors currently practiced at the College?
 - Ajani Byrd emphasized that "equity" could be better defined as "equity-mindedness" to make it more actionable and focus on specific behaviors rather than being an abstract concept.
 - Robert Cormia shared concerns that sustainability, while a critical value, has not yet become a fully integrated principle influencing all decisions at the College. He stressed that the College must keep sustainability at the forefront of its strategic planning.
 - Patrick Morriss noted the importance of "love" as a value, pointing out that it mirrors the guiding principles of the Emoja program, which fosters a culture of care and inclusivity.

The discussion on values concluded with a motion to further explore these proposed values in subsequent meetings.

President Villanueva led a discussion on Foothill College's efforts to develop the **Foothill 2030 Educational Master Plan (EMP)**, which aims to guide the College's direction over the next five years:

- **Collaborative Process:** Villanueva outlined the importance of involving a wide range of voices from various divisions and departments. The College is hosting hybrid sessions to engage both in-person and online faculty in the planning process.
 - Stacy Gleixner commented on the challenge of engaging the entire faculty, emphasizing that although these hybrid sessions encourage participation, it's essential to get active involvement from more than just the vocal minority.
 - Fatima Jinnah raised concerns about where counselors fit into the planning process. Stacy responded that the CAPs, the College's new academic program framework, were more suited to degree programs but acknowledged the importance of incorporating counselor input as part of the overall educational landscape.
- **Student Participation:** There were discussions about how to best include diverse student voices, with Stacy noting that the ASFC (Associated Students of Foothill College) was organizing their own session. She emphasized the need to strike a balance between listening to the more vocal student leaders and ensuring that the perspectives of a broader student population are captured.

Board Policies: BP 3430 – Prohibition of Harassment

The Senate reviewed updates to **Board Policy 3430**, which concerns the prohibition of harassment. Patrick Morriss raised a concern about the potential conflict between the legal language of the policy, which is based on the California Community Colleges Legal Advisory, and the College's interests, particularly with faculty.

Ben Kaupp also raised concerns about certain phrasing regarding relationships among faculty members and how these policies might be perceived. Voltaire Villanueva committed to taking these concerns to the Board during their next review session.

Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Robert Cormia provided a detailed report on the Academic Senate's finances, noting a current bank balance of **\$6,780.38**, which includes a **\$4,000 donation** to the **FHDA Foundation**, recent faculty dues of **\$393**, and **\$4.77** in interest earned. Cormia

noted that the Senate was in a strong financial position to make additional scholarship donations in the spring and to fund a part-time faculty appreciation event.

Standing Items

- **MIPC Updates:** Patrick Morriss shared a report from the **MIPC**, emphasizing the ongoing work to address the issue of food deserts in the local community. He mentioned that KJs at PSEC would remain open late this week to better serve students.
 - **SLO Workgroup:** Updates from the SLO Workgroup indicated robust participation, with synchronous and asynchronous meeting formats to accommodate faculty schedules.
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Announcements

- **Upcoming Workshops:** Destiny Rivera announced several professional development opportunities, including an **OER workshop**, a **computer science seminar**, and an **AI-focused event** in San Diego this February.
 - **Community Event:** David Marasco reminded attendees of the **Ohlone Tribe Flag Raising ceremony**, which was scheduled for the following day, January 14, 2025.
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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at **3:57 p.m.** The next meeting of the Academic Senate is scheduled for **January 27, 2025.**

Attendance Winter 2025

Nate Vennarucci	Apprenticeship	Zoom
Stephen Schnell	Apprenticeship	absent
Mona Rawal	BSS	4006
Kerri Ryer	BSS	Zoom
Fatima Jinnah	Counselling	Zoom
Tracee Cunningham	Counselling	4006
Ana Maravilla	DRC/VRC	absent
Eric Kuehnl	FAC	4006
Hilary Gomes	FAC	4006
Lydia Daniel	HSH	Zoom
Brenda Hanning	HSH	?
Katy Ripp	KIN	Zoom
Rita O’Laughlin	KIN	Zoom
Stephanie Chan	LA	4006
Ulysses Acevedo	LA	?
Eric Reed	LRC	4006
Destiny Rivera	LRC	4006
Rachel Mudge	STEM	Zoom
Ryan Pugh	STEM	4006
Julie Jenkins	FA Rep	4006
Allison Lenkeit Meezan	Teaching and Learning	4006
Michael Chang	23-25 PT Rep	4006
Lynette Vega	24-26 PT Rep	Zoom
Paulo Verzosa	ASFC Rep	absent
Doreen Finkelstein	Classified Senate Rep	4006
Carolyn Holcroft	Prof Dev Coordinator	4006
Evan Gilstrap	Faculty other roles	4006
Ajani Byrd	Dean of Equity	Zoom
Stacy Gleixner	President’s cabinet	4006
Robert Cormia	Secretary-Treasurer	4006
Patrick Morriss	Executive VP	4006
Ben Kaupp	VP of Curriculum	4006
Voltaire Villanueva	President	4006
David Marasco	Senator Emeritus	4006