Members present: Frank Accardo, Lupe Alvarado, Robin Babou, Kevin Barman, Robert Bethel, Tammy Camacho, Angela Cheung, Fran Cummings, William Currington, Marie Eckstrom, Yunior Hernandez, Jupei Hsiao, Shirley Isaac, Steve Johnson, George Kimber, Andrea Kirton, Michael Koger, Katherine Lampert, Todd Lim, Jeannie Liu, Sheila Lynch, Carley Mitchell, Marina Markossian, Angelica Martinez, Gerson Montiel, Farrah Nakatani, Katie O’Brien, Tyler Okamoto, Dorali Pichardo-Diaz, Matthew Pitassi, Elizabeth Ramirez, Angela Rhodes, Rudy Rios, Kevin Smith, Stephan Smith, Shelly Spencer, JoAnn Springer, Razvan Stoian, Diana Valladares, Adam Wetsman; Members absent: Delmis Alvarado, Michelle Bean, Michael Dighera, Juana Mora, Tracy Rickman, Matt Schleicher, Irma Valdivia; Ad hoc members present: Dana Arazi, Alyson Cartagena; Guests: Dr. Arturo Reyes

I. Call to Order – 1:03pm

II. Approval of Minutes: September 3, 2019 – approved with no revisions.

III. Public Comment – Persons wishing to address the Academic Senate on any item on the agenda or comment on any other matter are allowed three minutes per topic. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the Academic Senate cannot discuss or take action on items not listed on the agenda. Matters brought before the Academic Senate that are not on the agenda may, at the Senate’s discretion, be referred to the Senate Executive Council or placed on the next agenda.

IV. Welcome: Dr. Reyes, Superintendent/President - Encouraged senators to connect with him and say hello – his office door is always open. Shared that he has received the warmest welcome from Rio Hondo College and those he has met, including the Board of Trustees. He is very thankful for all the work that is done to help student success. Discussed the importance of transparency and ensuring that all are informed on all that goes on in the college, including budget and student success rates. Dr. Reyes expressed that his vision is that all our students can be successful, and we should expect all our students to transfer, or attain a living wage job if they go the CTE route. Our vision is to transform our college community and ensure that our students are taking 15 units per semester to make this a transfer institution. He is certain we can all do this together because we all believe that our students can succeed.

V. Committee Reports

Senate
- Academic Rank – The committee is in the process of approving the application that will be emailed to faculty. Most of the committee work will be online this semester.
- Curriculum – none
- Guided Pathways Steering (GPS) – GPS by-laws are being revised. Voted to recommend adding more committee members including classified members from A&R and IRP, Counseling Dean and Director from A&R. The committee is working on assigning degrees
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and certificates to areas of interest. Dr. Melinda Karp will be facilitating a workshop on 10/24/19. The focus of the day will be to discuss high impact practices.

- Instructional Technology (ITC) – Meeting today after Senate - will be working on by-laws.
- Distance Education (DE) – Trying to get uniformity in online classes. The hope is to provide better training and resources for faculty to be able to access via the online faculty resource center. Looking to allocate some funds to professional development as well.
- Open Educational Resources (OER) – no report.
- Staff Development/Flex – New faculty success seminar is normally offered in the spring for both spring and fall hires. Feedback is that fall hires would like the seminar offered their first semester so a fall session will be offered. A few staff developments workshops which have yet to be finalized will be offered this semester and one of them may be OER focused. Fall grants over $200 are due on Friday. The Reflection & Renewal Retreat will be on November 1st and applications are still being accepted.
- Outcomes – Working on processes and will have a draft to bring back to senate next meeting. November 1st is the deadline for PLO’s. Presented recommendation to GPS to revise all flyers for degrees and certificates to have program uniformity across campus.

Planning and Fiscal Council

- Institutional Effectiveness (IEC) - none
- Program Review – All program reviews will be during finals week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Program reviews and plans are due on October 28th.
- Safety – none

Other

- Basic Skills - none
- Bookstore – none
- Enterprise Systems Advisory – none
- Online Education Initiative (OEI) – none
- Student Equity – none
- Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) – Outreach is hosting the annual Regional Counselor Breakfast on Thursday, Nov 7th. Registration for Fall 2020 will be in April 2020.

VI. President’s Report

a. Guided Pathways - 10/24 with Melinda Karp. Please RSVP as soon as possible. Support Programs will be asked to share high impact practices and the hope is to scale up those practices. Any recommendations made at the event will come back to Senate.

b. New PFC Subcommittee - Policy and Procedure Council (PPC) – PFC has created a new standing committee which will have ten members – three faculty, three classified, three managers and one student. The committee will be tasked with overseeing AP’s and BP’s and ensuring that the right people are involved for key discussion. The approval will remain with PFC. The purpose of the PPC committee is to allow time for PFC to have real planning and fiscal discussions.

c. Budget Debrief - R. Rios discussed the budget forum presentation at the Board of Trustees Meeting. In the past, everything was being reported as combined revenue and
expenses in terms of unrestricted and restricted funds. It is not a common way of separating the funds, but it is acceptable. The combining of funds impacts the reserve level, which is misleading because it includes unrestricted funds. R. Rios shared that according to Dr. Reyes the college is not in a financially distressful situation and the purpose of the forums is to let everyone know where we stand financially. A. Wetsman announced that there is a new bond in March, which if passed, will bring two billion dollars to community colleges. Also, another initiative is coming in November, which may bring in significant funds, as well. K. Smith reminded all that PFC is an open meeting and invited all to attend.

d. Distance Education - Accreditation Concerns – In preparing for accreditation, the Distance Ed committee is reviewing the accreditation report from 2014. In the past, the ACCJC Accreditation Team was given access to classes at random on blackboard and there were some issues with the quality of some of the courses. The Distance Ed committee will be bringing forth some ideas to Senate to help ensure that there is quality uniformity in online courses. M. Pitassi shared that the thought is to have more accountability with professional development to ask faculty to do something with the training rather than simply attend.

e. Congrats for faculty appointments! Jose Lara, ASCC Transfer, Articulation and Student Services Committee; Celeste Candida, ASCC Basic Skills Non-Credit Committee; Elizabeth Ramirez, ASCC Curriculum Committee; Sheila Lynch, ASCC OEI Liaison; Carol Sigala, First 5 LA Commission.

f. Copy Room Concerns – Faculty members have expressed concern with coverage in the copy room and slow turnaround time. It was requested that the copy room have at least one-person staff the copy room during the day and at the beginning of the evening classes to deal with any technical issues that may occur. Faculty concerns will be addressed with administration as an initial attempt to resolve concerns. F. Cummings shared that she has found exams in the room and reminded all not leave exams behind because students may be able to access the room.

VII. Vice Presidents’ Reports

a. 1st Vice President – AB 595 was passed. This bill will allow undocumented students to use an ITIN (Individual Taxpayer Identification Number) in lieu of their social security number. Students can use this number to obtain an apprenticeship, or internship.

b. 2nd Vice President – reported on the following student events:

   i. Social Justice Leadership Institute on 9/27 at 10am
   ii. Open Mic on 9/24 at 5pm
   iii. Study Jam from 9/23-9/26 from 11am-2pm - snacks and a quiet study area will be provided.
   iv. Coming Out Night on 10/10 at 4pm
   v. Selena Appreciation Night on 11/14
VIII. Unfinished Business: None

IX. New Business
   a. Parliamentarian Elections – Sheila Lynch is the new Parliamentarian
   b. AP 7217: Faculty - Employment of Contract

   **Background:** Faculty Hiring AP needs to be reviewed as the AP has noticeable holes such as no adjunct hiring AP. Committee makeup and selection process needs to be cleaned up and clarified.

   **Executive motion:** The Academic Senate shall establish a taskforce to examine changes to AP 7217.
   i. Motion passes unanimously
   ii. K. Smith will send out email for to sign-up for taskforce

X. Announcements - A. Wetsman shared that a FACC bill passed, which allows transfer of sick leave from other institutions. The law may not take effect until January 2020. If you think you may have time that can be transferred, please contact HR.

XI. Adjournment – 2:06pm