



Academic Senate 2020-21

Minutes

September 15, 2020

Location: Zoom

1:00 PM

Members present: Frank Accardo, Dana Arazi, Robin Babou, Michelle Bean, Robert Bethel, Tammy Camacho, Melissa Chandra, Angela Cheung, Fran Cummings, William Currington, Marie Ekstrom, Rebecca Green, Yuniol Hernandez, Jupei Hsiao, Jorge Huinquez, Erin Irwin, Shirley Isaac, Steve Johnson, Andrea Kirton, Michael Koger, Matt Koutroulis, Sheila Lynch, Marina Markossian, Angelica Martinez, Gerson Montiel, Juana Mora, Farrah Nakatani, Katie O'Brien, Doralí Pichardo-Díaz, Matt Pitassi, Angela Rhodes, Rudy Rios, Matt Schleicher, Diego Silva, Kevin Smith, Stephen Smith, Razvan Stoian, Steve Tomory, Irma Valdiva, Diana Valladares, Adam Wetsman; **Members absent:** Michelle Bean, Angela Cheung, Margaret Griffith, George Kimber, Jeannie Liu, Carley Mitchell, Tyler Okamoto; **Ad hoc members present:** Elizabeth Ramirez; **Guests:** Alyson Cartagena, Julio Flores, Jim Sass

- I. **Call to Order** – 1:02pm
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** September 1, 2020 – approved
- III. **Public Comment** – none
- IV. **Guests:** Julio Flores, IEC Co-Chair and Jim Sass, Institutional Research and Planning – RISC Survey
 - A. Jim thanked the Senate and faculty for their support for previous surveys.
 - B. The RISC (Revealing Institutional Strengths and Challenges) Survey is a student survey that focuses on student experiences related to success, including the challenges and barriers that students experience on campus. The survey is an online survey designed for completion on a cell phone and typically takes students about seven minutes to complete. The survey will be administered over 2-3 weeks starting in late October with results due to come back in early 2021. The results will be shared with all constituencies to develop professional development and informing campus policies and procedures.
 - C. The last campus-wide student survey was administered in 2016 when historically surveys were administered every year or two. IRP planned on conducting a climate survey for spring 2020, but the pandemic occurred, and the survey plans came to a halt.
 - D. The RISC Survey addresses students' academic and campus experiences. It provides insight to their academic lives and is consistent with the Flex Day theme of "Care". Although the package usually costs \$2500, it is free for this academic year.
 - E. IEC is in the process of developing questions for the survey and they will be consistent with the Flex Day "Care" theme. These proposed questions will be sent to IEC and PFC for feedback. In addition to administering the survey in the classroom, the college can select five student offices in which the survey will be administered. The offices selected are: Admissions and Records, Counseling Center, Financial Aid, Library and Learning Assistance Center.
 - F. Sampling course sections and administering the survey in the virtual classroom is what IRP hopes to do since this modality of administering a survey has a 65% response rate. If the survey is emailed to students and students are instructed to complete it on their own time, the response rate is 10-20%. IRP will randomly select 40 course sections in which instructors



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will be contacted and asked to set a date and time for the survey. Although IRP's preference is that students take the survey in the class, they understand that completing the survey in a "live" Zoom class is the instructor's choice. The recommended class time will be 20 minutes to be completed. The survey process is completely online and handled by the survey company. Jim asked senators how administering the survey in an asynchronous class would work best and how students would be encouraged to complete the survey. A senator shared that he would offer extra credit or make the survey an assignment. Another suggestion was to let students know the purpose of the survey and to encourage them to complete the survey. Discussion ensued regarding varied options to encourage students to complete the survey and suggestions were made. Links with more information on the survey were shared. (see attachment A)

V. President's Report

- A.** Title V Grant – Rio Hondo College has been awarded a STEM-focused, 5-year Title V grant in the amount of \$2.8 million. As part of the grant, there will be a summer STEM program, discovering STEM conference, professional development for students and faculty, supplemental instructions and Student Success Team support.
- B.** Credit for Prior Learning – Credit by Exam and Title V has been broadened to now be Credit for Prior Learning. This encompasses Credit by Exam and external exams, such as IB, AP and CLEP. This also includes new areas that many colleges do not have a policy in place, such as giving credit for student portfolios, industry certifications, volunteer experience, work experience, etc. The minimum requirement is that our AP and BP are updated to be in line with what the Chancellor's Office has outlined. Areas such as Public Safety, CTE, Health Science and Business have been identified by the Chancellor's Office as some areas that may need to revisit how they award credit for prior learning. A committee which includes academic and counseling faculty has been assembled to work on this effort. S. Lynch asked that Arts be included in the discussion because portfolios are an important evaluative component of the visual arts. K. Smith will follow-up with an email to the Arts Division to ensure they are involved in the discussion.
- C.** Calendar Committee Union/Senate Workgroup Report Out – the Senate/RHCFA group met last week to discuss the three calendar proposals. The district has not provided data to substantiate the reasons for requesting the proposed calendar changes. With the information provided, the group voted to maintain the status quo, but will reconsider if the district can bring forth data and rationale for changing the calendar.
- D.** Hiring Update – Biology was stalled when the campus went to remote learning in the Spring. President Dreyfuss has indicated that the committee can pick up where the process left off. There is discussion of some of the other committees that were paused to pick up where they left off. A senator asked how it will be determined which committees will be allowed to pick up where they left off. Human Resources is creating a report that lists the status of all hiring committees that were paused and President Dreyfuss will determine which committees can move forward with the hiring process.



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VI. Vice Presidents' Reports

A. 1st Vice President – legislative updates including:

- i. AB 1930 – student eligibility policy oversight at the CSU and UC. Required the UC and CSU System to coordinate student eligibility requirements and to utilize protocol for assessing the impact of the proposed changes to student eligibility.
- ii. AB 2341 – Rising Scholars Network at CCC's
- iii. AB 2884 – CCC Funding for Student Support Services – allows community college districts to use restricted lottery funds to provide housing and food assistance directly to students.
- iv. AB 2972 – CCC, CSU and UCs to create an online training program for campus administrators related to undocumented student support.
- v. ACA 5 – repeal the affirmative action ban in California. Would establish a ballot measure in November election.
- vi. AB 1460 – Requires that the CSU System require an Ethnic Studies course to graduate for students completing degrees beginning in 2024-2025.
- vii. AB 331 – requires student in 9-12 grades to complete a semester-long ethnic studies course to graduate from high school and would be implemented for class 2029-2030.
- viii. PROP 15- if passed will generate 8 to 12.5 billion of revenue with much of it's funding going to schools and community colleges.
- ix. Prop 16 – repeals proposition 209 (which banned affirmative action in CA). Passage of this initiative allows colleges and public employers to consider race, gender, ethnicity and nationalities in their hiring practices.

B. 2nd Vice President – no report.

VII. Unfinished Business – none

VIII. New Business

A. Accessibility of Campus Videos

Executive Motion: All campus-wide videos or trainings that are posted to the campus website or sent out via email to our staff/faculty will have a staff member familiar with accessibility standards review and confirm appropriateness of their captioning.

Background: There is a concern with the accessibility of videos that are sent out to the campus because the videos lack captions or have captions that are not accurate. There is not a software program which transcribes accurately so the recommendation is that a staff member should review the transcription to ensure the accuracy of the captions.

Motion to amend the executive motion: All campus-wide videos or trainings that are posted to the campus website or sent out via email to our faculty will have a staff member familiar with accessibility standards review and confirm the appropriateness of their captioning in order to be disseminated to the campus, made by S. Lynch and 2nd by D. Arazi

- i. **34 yea, 0 nay – motion to amend**
- ii. **31 yea, 0 nay – amended executive motion passes**



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IX. Committee Reports

- **Academic rank** – waiting for approval for the academic rank process. Should go to the Board of Trustees in October.
- **Curriculum** – November 4th is the last day to submit for guaranteed inclusion in next year’s catalog. Working on a list of courses that do not have an emergency addenda. Courses that do not have the completed form will be made aware either via the dean or directly to faculty.
- **Guided Pathways** – Student Success Teams kicked off on September 4th and the work is scheduled to begin on September 14th. New streamlined graduation petition has been delayed and will go live in the spring semester to support the work of student success teams’ completion effort. PLO’s are being added to the Guided Pathways maps.
- **ITP** – no report
- **Distance Education** – want to ensure that faculty feel supported. Specific issue with Proctorio and may be a bigger need in some divisions. Proctorio may not be supported beyond December as it is expensive.
- **OER** – there is discussion at the administration level of the possibility of applying for a grant. The application process has not started, as the request for proposal (RFP) has not been published. At this point, faculty members have not been a part of the discussion.
- **Staff Dev** – no report.
- **Outcomes** – looking at alternatives to the assessment reporting that will better serve the college. Looking at a tiered system that will serve all faculty members.
- **IEC** – no report.
- **Program Review** – program review plans are due September 25th. Between September 25th and November, they will be asking for volunteers to serve on the peer review committees.
- **Safety** – no report. A senator shared a concern regarding all the dry brush on the hills being a fire hazard. Asked if the issue could be addressed. K. Smith will follow-up.
- **PPC** – many updates relating to processes for different forms of harassment. AP’s and BP’s are very long and require a lot of work to review. Those areas that are relevant to Academic Senate are brought to Senate.
- **Bookstore** – no report.
- **Equity** – no report.
- **SSSP** – no report.
- **ASCCC OERI** – sent an email for a webinar to be held on September 16th at 12pm. This webinar, “Decolonizing the Course”, is about addressing social injustices through open educational resources.

X. Announcements

- A. The third campus-wide BLM conversation is on Friday. An invitation with the link was emailed to all staff. The topic will be racist practices or experiences at Rio Hondo College.

XI. Adjournment: 2:12pm



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Attachment A: RISC Survey Links:

<https://www.risc.college/>

<https://www.risc.college/administering>

https://www.risc.college/sites/default/files/2018-05/gotham_tech_report_0.pdf

https://www.risc.college/sites/default/files/2019-01/RISC_Spring_2017_survey_two_year.pdf