

Academic Senate Minutes

September 7, 2021 1:00 p.m.

Location: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/95574669469>

Members Present: Frank Accardo, Sheila Lynch, Margaret Griffith, Irma Valdivia, Kevin Smith, Rebecca Green, Juana Mora, Kelly Lynch, Rudy Rios, Jeannie Liu, Farrah Nakatani, Dave Lindy, Tyler Okamoto, Wendy Carrera, Angela Rhodes, Marina Markossian, Libby Curiel, Michael Koger, William Curington, Dorali Pichardo-Diaz, Jose Lara, Jorge Huinquez, Diana Valladares, Andrea Kurtin, Tanja Baum, Razvan Stoian, Mike Hinze, Steve Johnson, Gerson Montiel, Fran Cummings, Erin Irwin, Shirley Isaac, Matsuno Ryan, Jupei Hsiao, Matthew Pitassi, George Kimber, Diego Silva, Tammy Camacho, Murad Saakyan, Lanyi Peng; **Members**

Absent: Carley Mitchell, Katie O'Brien, Robin Babou, Angelica Martinez, Shelly Spencer; **Ad-**

hoc Members Present: Elizabeth Ramirez; **Guests:** Don Miller, Alyson Cartagena, Anabel Rodriguez, Anthony Ortega, Cindy O'Neil, Claudia Romo, Eric Ceasar, Francisco Sotelo, Kevin Barman, M. Galvan, Steven Yee, Vic Kowalski, Lisette Acevedo

1. **Call to Order:** 1:03pm
2. **Approval of Minutes:** May 18, 2021- approved (Kevin Smith moved and Wendy Carrera seconded). Motion passes.
3. **Public Comment – None**
4. **Guest:** Welcome from Dr. Don Miller VPAA- Excited to be at Rio Hondo College and support the work. Mentioned that he was a faculty member in foreign languages for over twenty years before becoming a full-time administrator. As a faculty member, he served in areas such as the curriculum committee and academic senate. Believes in cooperation and collaboration between the administration and senate and working together to move forward on behalf of students.

5. **President's Report**

- a. **Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic-** Occurred on Wednesday, September 1st on RHC campus. 65 first doses were administered. 2nd dose will occur on Wednesday, September 29th. At this point, it is not clear whether individuals who need a first dose will be able to participate on September 29th but it has been requested. Also, as of now there is no guidance from the CDC regarding booster shots. Dorali will look into this.
- b. **Covid-19 Taskforce-** In a report for buildings, Mario Gaspar let us know that Merv 13 ventilation has been installed in all buildings. Gives about 85% filtration of particles. The goal is to also have campus wide ionization air. The current buildings equipped with this are Science, CDC, Admin, and AJ Buildings. This week will be Technology then Business building. All classrooms that are currently

in use have been equipped with masks, disinfecting wipes, and desks have been spaced 3ft apart. In August, the Board of Trustees approved for all employees and students to be vaccinated. On Thursday, we will be working with PPC to revise AP/BP 5210 which discusses communicable diseases.

Some faculty members discussed their experiences teaching on campus:

Rebecca- Impressed with students adhering to mask mandates. Students are mindful of not moving desks to maintain 3ft distancing.

Rudy- Students have been respectful, responsible and both student and instructor are happy to be back.

Michael- echoed what Rebecca mentioned

Since Dr. Don Miller VPAA was present, questions regarding Covid-19 were asked. Dr. Don Miller mentioned that the goal is to be back to as close to normal as possible in Spring 2022 and to plan accordingly. However, the administration is keeping an eye on the new variants so a back-up plan will be in place.

Emphasized the importance of the enrollment process running smoothly. So he wants to make a final determination with the faculty leaders and deans before enrollment starts. Nov 1st is the start of Spring 2022 registration. Mentioned that various colleges are working on AP/BP's just like we are. We will move forward in discussing this at PFC in the next several weeks.

Sheila expressed that we are currently getting reports for positive cases (by Rene Gallegos) but it is unclear as to where the positive case originated from. Asked if specifics would be shared.

Dr. Don Miller stated that we are adjusting to more students being on campus and mentioned that Sheila had a valid point and will bring this issue up to the taskforce and President's office. Will find out what is the level of detail we can share.

Kevin said we are currently handling contact tracing on a small scale and is somewhat manageable but come Spring 2022, we will be at a larger scale and that should be addressed. Mentioned we will need to scale things up in a large way. Says mask wearing is good in classrooms but not hallways.

Diego asked if someone would follow-up with individuals in the Student Services Building if a student tested positive and the student was in that building.

Dr. Don Miller stated that the college is following protocols to adhere to contact tracing.

Razvan brought up a concern for Spring 2022. If a student is trying to add a class/does not want to be dropped from a class, the student may show up to class even if they are positive or have symptoms to ensure a spot. Dorali re-

emphasized that we be flexible with students and if they are positive to encourage students to email instructors as to why they cannot make the first day of class.

Steve asked for clarification regarding the Oct 16th deadline to be vaccinated. Dorali mentioned a student can finish Fall 2021 semester but will not be able to register for in-person courses in Spring 2022 without vaccination.

Steve and Kevin are concerned about not being contacted by HR when there is a positive case.

Gerson mentioned he had one student who did not want to put on a mask and began yelling odd things.

Kevin circled back to Diego's question and does not believe individuals in a specific building would be contacted because a close contact is defined as someone who has been with someone who was maskless with another individual for more than 15minutes or more.

Dr. Don Miller said this could be reviewed/confirmed at the next taskforce meeting.

Libby asked if there is any discussion about how our vaccine mandate policy will impact our enrollments since other local institutions have less restrictive policies including options to regularly test and mask indoors. She expressed that offering many of our courses online/remote may be the best option until the threat of infection and spread are more under control, especially since the vaccine is not fool proof protection against infection or spread, as per evidence shared by the CDC.

Dorali has been advocating that in Spring 2022 there is something for everyone. That classes are offered remote, online, and in person and should be advertised this way. This allows for all students to have options to continue their education.

- c. *Brown Act update*- We are still in an emergency state but expires on October 1st which has allowed us to conduct meetings via zoom. More information to follow.
- d. *Admin re-organizations (appendix A)* - Loy Nashua has left to be VP of HR at LBCC. Yolanda Emerson is the current acting dean of Student Affairs. Currently Dr. Miller is helping in the KDA area but expects to have Steve Herbert who was the former dean of KDA. In HR there was a reorg and they will add two new positions. We are upgrading the executive director of HR and creating a VP of HR role and Assistant Director of HR. Aligns with what most of our surrounding campuses have. Hoping that it offers the HR office the support that it needs.
- e. *RFP for Presidential Search Consultant* - Process began over summer and the committee reviewed presidential search consultants and the committee by

consensus recommended that 4 firms be forwarded. The firms are Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), Arterberry Blue & Associates, Community College Search Services (CCSS), and Gold Hill Associates.

6. Vice President's Report

- a. *1st Vice President* - Bill 928 has a lot of people concerned and would commingle the ADT's for CSU but would also be applicable to UC. It would require every student that starts at Rio to be placed into an ADT. It is being opposed by multiple groups such as FACC, California State Academic Senate, University of California System and the Chancellor's Office. Bill is written quite poorly.

FAAC sponsored bill- AB 375- Has to do with part-time faculty. Currently can teach up to 67% of a full time faculty's load. This bill would increase it to 80-85%.

- b. *2nd Vice President* - None

7. Unfinished Business

- a. None

8. New Business

- a. *Credit for Prior Learning Taskforce* - Dorali reminded us that last year a taskforce was created to add language to our AP 4235 which not only reviews Credit by Exam but also includes work experience as a means to evaluate credit to be awarded for students through portfolios and prior credentials. We now need a mechanism to initiate the implementation of that process such as logistics and forms for students to use in order to request CPL. We will include faculty from AS, AR director, and evaluators in this taskforce to come up with a process that is seamless and is easy to follow.

Motion to create a taskfore to initiate the implementation process, logistics and forms for students to request CPL. Moved by Kevin and was seconded by Wendy. There were 34 yes, 0 no's, and 2 individuals abstained. Motion passes.

9. Committee Reports

Dorali shared the names of individuals who have been appointed to committees. Trying to make sure it is diversified and wants to be transparent. See below:

Committee/Appointment	Name	Division	
PT Senate Representative	Murad Saakyan	Communications and Languages/Speech	
PT Senate Representative	Lanyi Peng	Library	
Facilities Committee	Jodi Senk	KDA	
Facilities Committee Chair	Scott Jaeggi	Public Safety/EMT	
FT DE Committee	Angela Rhodes	Communications and Languages/English	
FT DE Committee	Abbie Perry	BSS/History	
PT DE Committee	Chelsea Martinez	MSE/Chemistry	
PT DE Committee	Lawrence Seymore	Business/CIT	
PT DE Committee	Dr. Angela Sadler Williamson	C&L Mass comm and speech	
PT DE Committee	Alison Holmes	Arts/Art History	
PT DE Committee	Angel Ho	C&L/Spanish	
IEC Representative	Jose Millan	CTE/Architecture	

a. *Senate Committees:*

- i. Academic Rank- Applications open in mid-October through the end of November. Goal is to revise applications to see if they can make it easier/faster for faculty. They will host a zoom meeting to answer questions from faculty. Committee needs volunteers.
- ii. Curriculum- Had their first meeting last week. Revisions and new proposals for the 2022-2023 catalog should be launched in CurriQunet by Nov 5th (with all required approvals by noon on Wednesday, Nov 10th) and be ready for the Nov 17th agenda. GE requests (along with division approval) need to be received by Nov 1st.
- iii. Instructional Technology (ITC)- None
- iv. Online Education (OEC)- None
- v. Open Educational Resources (OER)- Wendy mentioned that they met on Thursday and have submitted their QFE but didn't get to review due to time constraints. There are currently 9 teams working on OER. OER libguide is on the website for you to access. They need discipline leads. Next meeting is Oct 7th from 1-2pm.

ASCCC OERI is currently seeking a discipline lead for 13 different disciplines. Those interested may apply by visiting the ASCCC-OERI website. It will provide interested faculty with min quals, expectations, and

how to apply. There is also a \$500 stipend per term. The term was not provided at the meeting.

- vi. Staff Development/Flex- None
- vii. Outcomes- Alyson stated that this year they will be continuing to focus on faculty resources to meet goals, diving into outcomes when it comes to program reviews, and helping those that are going through program review to really link their resources, their goals, their mission to their outcomes. There will be 3 outcomes training sessions. Next on is Friday about closing the loop form which is due on October 15th and this year's outcomes will be an online submission.

b. *Planning & Fiscal Council Committees:*

- i. PPC- Kevin mentioned there will be a special meeting this week to talk about communicable diseases. Two different BP's and AP's. We have one under student services area which is student centered and one under human resources area which is staff and faculty centered.
- ii. Institutional Effectiveness (IEC)- Juana informed us that the 1st meeting will be held next week.
- iii. Program Review- None
- iv. Safety- None

c. *Other Committees:*

- i. Basic Skills- None
- ii. Bookstore- None
- iii. Enterprise Systems Advisory- None
- iv. Online Education Initiative (OEI)- None
- v. ASCCC OERI- Hosting a webinar this Friday, Sep 10th from 10:30am-11:30am to see how the \$115 million in funding to California Community Colleges will be spent. ASCC OERI is looking for discipline needs and stipends will be available.
- vi. Student Equity- Juana shared that Dr. Paul Ortiz, author of An African American and Latinx History of the United States, will present via zoom on Sep 13th.
- vii. Student Success and Support Services Program (SSSP)- William mentioned they met last Friday and discussed goals for the semester during their meeting.

10. Announcements

Sheila mentioned that there is a faculty exhibit occurring at the art gallery.

Dorali mentioned that moving forward our agenda will list the 10+1 along with our senate committee chairs for everyone to reference.

11. Adjournment: 1:53pm