

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Executive Committee members present: Daniel A. Montez, Jaclyn Miller, Richard Buchli, Mark R. Murray and Nicholas Hinojosa

Senators Present

Liberal Arts: Rachael Brown, Silvia E. Herrera, Annie Liss, Melissa Terry, Micah Bailey, Robert Miller

Nursing and Allied Health: Sharon Rice, Blanca Herrera, Alexia Trigo, Layman D. Miller

Bachelor's Program: Laura Garcia

Business and Public Safety: Ruby Campuzano, JoAnna Martinez, Jesus Amaya,

Math, Science, IT: Adrian Gonzalez, Fidel Rodriguez, Courtney Galle, Dr. Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller, Juan Luna

Social and Behavioral Science: Ana Riojas, Nihan Kayaardi Hinojosa, Tim Weber, Pooja Rishi

Lecturer Representative: Celina Jorge

Adjunct Representative: Rebecca Lynch

Senators Absent

Victor Fonseca, Jennifer Rosillo, Guadalupe V. Sanchez?

Meeting Agenda

Welcome (5 minutes)

Motion to allow minutes approval virtually (5 minutes)

- Minutes approval JoAnna Martinez motioned to approve the minutes at 5:05 p.m., seconded by Dr. Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller. The motion carried.

Pablo Hernandez, Dean of Student Affairs (17 minutes)

Update on incompletes and pregnancies with difficulties

Faculty role in helping students, referred to Title IX

Faculty should not ask for medical records

The student in question should have the official form from the Title IX office

Presentation completed at 4:22pm

Dr. Matthew S. Hebbard, Vice President-Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (16 minutes) started at 4:23pm

STC students receive some \$60 million in Pell Grants

Share letter from the acting undersecretary of education

Met with US Senator John Cornyn and US Representative Vicente Gonzalez

Senator Cornyn said he supports community colleges

Undocumented students may be charged out of state tuition

Constitutes between 300-500 students historically at STC

HSI program (Carla Rodriguez - grants)

Valley Promise is open to all low-income students

Daniel encourages students to fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible

Presentation completed at 4:39pm

(Zachary Suarez, Executive Director-Human Resources and Talent Development (15 minutes)

Zachary Suarez presented PowerPoint slides on numerous topics

He has policy updates tonight with the Board of Trustees

TASB structure is near to completion for STC

Scheduled to be adopted today, DMD approved in February

Substantial changes made but lead to positive changes

Policies are available under the TASB portal

Timely notice of resignation used to be rigid now more discretion for re-hire

Drug and alcohol testing approved in February-needed clear procedures

Employee grievance policy to be presented tonight-clearly defined and similar to TASB

Employee standards of conduct-expect it to be approved tonight

Term contracts renewal-vote tonight -not entitled to a hearing

Employee can submit (a repeal?) an appeal-grievances for review

Daniel mentioned that biweekly pay changes are coming in September. Zachary talked about next meeting giving more information about changes from semi-monthly pay to bi-weekly which would be every other Friday

Presentation completed at 4:59pm

(Samantha B. Uriegas, Director-Project Alignment (18 minutes))

Samantha Uriegas discussed the parenting population. A new care packet is being prepared

\$26 k has been raised for the quiet room or mental health room at the Mid Valley campus

She said it takes a village to keep the money coming

Pooja Rishi said faculty should respond to help achieve these needs

Presented was completed at 5:17pm

Open Discussion (13 minutes)

Mark Murray

The faculty Senate still needs a president-elect, a secretary candidate and at least one senator from liberal arts so that the election information can be sent to RAS

There was a grammatical error in the Constitution

SB37 affects how faculty senates operate

Board of Trustees must govern elections and tenured faculty?

There cannot be more than two members per division?

The president of STC gets to appoint one senator? and the faculty senate only has an advisory role. According to Mark, this is the current role at STC of the faculty senate.

This applies to universities but how or does it affect community colleges?

Presentation completed at 5:25pm

Dr. Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller requested that we include an update on the college-wide classification committee. The discussion should cover the current provisions under review following extensive deliberations. Dr. Geller also noted a factual error in a PowerPoint presentation that suggested the transition period from Associate to Full Professor had changed from 10 to 5 years. In reality, the original policy set this period at 2 years. The proposed revisions now extend the waiting period from Assistant to Associate Professor from 1 to 2 years, and from Associate to Full Professor from 2 to 5 years.

Adjournment (5:30 p.m.)

- Micah Bailey motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller

. The motion carried.