



ACADEMIC • SENATE

Minutes

Thursday, December 14th, 2023

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Present: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Karen Marrujo, Hanaa Alkassas, Lindy Brazil, Tania Jabour (as partial proxy for Lindy Brazil), Guillermo Colls, Rita Ghazala, Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Raad Jerjis, David Lizarraga, Jonathan Martin, Rachelle Panganiban, Joan Rettinger, Miriam Simpson, Jennifer Tomaschke, Nicole Keeley (as proxy for Asma Yassi)

Absent: Dan Curtis, Camille Jack, Asma Yassi, Jane Gazale

Other: Lisa Kakos, Marissa Salazar, Tonie Campbell, Barbara Gallego, Kerry Kilber, Tonette Salter, Bri Hays

Recorder: Aiden Lovewell

The Senate minutes are recorded and published in summary form. Readers of these minutes must understand that recorded comments in these minutes do not represent the official position of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate expresses its official positions only through votes noted under "Action." In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act guidelines, Senators voting "nay" or abstaining will be identified. All other present members will be assumed to have voted "aye."

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- I. **Call to Order/Introductions:** Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. Several guests then introduced themselves to the Academic Senate.
 - II. **Approval of Minutes: November 16th, 2023** – Senate reviewed the minutes from November 9th, 2023. Senate to approve minutes. **Motion/Second:** Rachelle Panganiban/Tania Jabour. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Joan Rettinger. **Motion Passes.**

III. Announcements –

A. Academic Senate President election results:

The senate discussed the results for the Academic Senate President election. With a vote of 78-74 (152 total), Karen Marrujo has been elected as the next Academic Senate President starting in June for the fall 2024 semester. Karen will shadow Manuel for the spring semester and attend all the meetings that the Academic Senate president would go to. Karen Marrujo gave a brief speech thanking everyone and addressed what her goals are for her time as AS president. Manuel noted that Lamia Raffo did a very thorough job with this election and that there will be a callout for her position next semester at the beginning of the New Year.

B. Kumeyaay Winter Solstice Celebration at the Village:

The senate discussed the Kumeyaay Winter Solstice Celebration. The event will take place tomorrow, 12/15 from 1pm to 4pm at the Kumeyaay village behind the A building. There will be food, music, games, crafts, and some work to do around the village that is not mandatory. Everyone is encouraged to attend and have enjoy themselves.

IV. Action –

A. New Degree Audit Issues:

Rachelle Panganiban reviewed the updated resolution regarding the degree audit issues. The resolution was brought back to the counseling division and they were very thankful for the feedback. The resolution has been updated based on that feedback. Guillermo asked questions regarding whether there are any colleges that have successfully used this new proposed Degree Audit system. Barbara Gallego said that one college is currently using this, and another college is in the middle of implementation. Moriah asked about concerns regarding consulting with end-users and noted that End-users are essential for feedback on these decisions. Moriah further recommended being intentional in the consultation with faculty will help ensure student success. Barbara gave context to this issue and why it's happening. The decision to implement this system was made when this was purchased awhile back. Barbara believes that because this is an integrated system it is essential to functionality. Barbara asked for a .3 release to work with the team to give input and address concerns and further committed to collaborating with end-users. Rachelle appreciated that there is now more inclusion in the process but noted that this discussion is only happening because of a coincidental realization that this new degree audit plan was in the process of being adopted. The senate then asked what guarantees are there going forward for inclusion in all projects from conception. Barbara Gallego clarified that there was a kickoff meeting that included the chairs of counseling from conception. Barbara further explained that degree audit as a product stemmed from financial aid and that the intention regarding this information has always been to share as much as possible but there are times when things are missed with transparency with end users, faculty, and constituents as the goal. Guillermo questioned the necessity of a new degree audit system when we have DARS. Barbara noted that DARS is a good degree audit system but it is not integrated and the district is moving away from non-integration. Guillermo noted that the District has been using DARS successfully up until now reiterated his question regarding why there is a sudden need for a new system. Barbara explained that DARS will be used simultaneously with the new system because there is tons of data in there and that the new Degree audit system will be phased in and will be configured and slowly integrated as opposed to a sudden switch with the earliest that these changes would go into effect being 2025-26. Barbara conceded that in its current state, the degree audit system would not impact the students in a positive way and further explained that new catalogs will be built in degree audit. Rachelle asked what will happen with the old data from DARS. Barbara explained that DARS data will have to be moved to colleague. Rachelle noted that the reason this resolution was created was in response to the demonstration that was given to Cuyamaca counselors that made it seem as though the product will be used all at once in spring 2024. Barbara explained that the evaluators may have to start using it in 2024 but it is a large complex project that will be implemented in steps and not be all at once. Raad noted that rolling a new system to students is chaotic and detrimental at best. Barbara explained that this change is happening to be in compliance with federal requirements and we will need the new system in case of a federal audit, other colleges are also trying to figure this issue out as well. There are limitations that are business processes related unique to our district such as course history not being in our system so we cannot go back and build old catalogs in audit. This must be implemented alongside DARS so that students can still guarantee their catalog rights.

Rachelle asked how students will be notified if there are errors and the degree audit comes out incorrectly when financial aid runs course plan of study or how financial aid will know that the course of study is incorrect to notify students of a potential need for an override. Barbara agreed that will need to be considered and business processes need to be developed for that. Rita Ghazala asked whether there were multiple demos. Barbara explained that colleague came out in 2008 with multiple demos. Rachelle noted that the 2017-2018 ed plan had multiple demos and that end-users did not want Ellucian due to its limitations. However, the district did not go with recommendations from end-users, and we are being told that Ellucian is the only choice. Barbara said those decision came from the previous set of individuals that are no longer here. Having Shasta college come in to give us an opportunity to ask questions and find some solutions would be beneficial. College of the Canyons could also come in to give information. Moriah noted that collegial consultation on this and all future projects is a huge concern. Barbara explained that there will be a project assistant that will assist in communication across the board. Moriah noted that the concerns over denying financial aid to students over potential errors is very significant. Rachelle noted that this system was designed for a 4-year college and this doesn't work well for transfer students as it would not recognize correct GPA or unit requirements. Nicole, EOPS counselor noted that every single student will be affected by this system and could be denied financial aid. We appreciate Barbara Gallego for coming in and answering these questions for us.

Motion to approve the degree audit resolution. **Motion/Second:** Raad Jerjis/Raquelle Jacob-Almeida. **Nays:** None. **Abstentions:** Lindy Brazil. **Motion Passes.**

V. Information (First readings and updates for future action) –

A. Budget Update:

This item is being tabled due to the forums for VPSS being currently held. Manuel noted that there is no pause around hiring. At DEC Jim Mahler asked a question about the FON, in November 2021 there was a contractual obligation to get to 310 and Sahar said we are at 304. FON is a floor not a ceiling. On Tuesday Manuel went in front of the board to ask them for help on the Puente hire. There are now conversations to find ways to fund this.

B. Short-term session deadline update presentation:

Barbara Gallego gave a presentation on the short-term session deadline update. This is a change that is in line with Title 5 regulations that will impact all faculty that teach short term courses. This information is essential and an email will be sent out to all faculty to inform them of the changes. This doesn't affect the primary term, but all short term sections will be changing. Regulations require that the census date for Short-Term classes be calculated at 20% of the actual class meeting dates and Add/Drop will be the day immediately preceding that. Student will have to be dropped the day before census or the student will be receiving a W. Withdrawal deadline is the student's last day to drop and receive a W and is calculated at 75% of all the days in the section. P/NP deadline is the last day a student may submit to receive a pass/no pass grade option and is the last day of the section. Refund deadline is the last day to drop and receive a refund which is calculated at 10% of the section days. This will positively benefit students but is a big change for faculty. These are all state regulations and these deadlines are up on the Cuyamaca website on the deadlines page.

- C. Student Success and Equity Council Coordinator job description:
Marissa Salazar reviewed the job description update for the SSEC coordinator. Her term is up at the end of the academic year, job description will go up in spring. Currently reassigned at .4 but is being advocated for a .8. A lot of this work is pathways related and other colleges have a full-time position for this.
- D. Final December Board Packet item list:
Manuel briefly reviewed the final December board packet item list. This packet was approved by the board.
- E. EEO Plan Revision:
The Academic Senate reviewed the EEO plan revisions. This is the current iteration and was received a week ago. Contains some suggestions that our Academic Senate recommended but a lot were included in the appendix. The narrative is that white is underrepresented however this is due to the Middle Eastern population being forced to mark white instead of having their own option. This item is being pushed through urgently and we are being told that this can and will be updated later.
- F. ZTC Grants:
Academic Senate reviewed the ZTC grants. Academic Senate reviewed the awards that were granted, Jennifer Tomaschke, Hanaa Alkassas, Keenan Murray, James Sepulvado, Amy Huie, all receiving 200k funding. Miriam Simpson, Steve Weinert, Karla Gutierrez, and Moriah Gonzalez awarded Coordination Cohorts funding to work with others. Still questions on how this funding will be allocated and Manuel will ask the chancellor for clarification on how these funds are being used. There will be one training day in flex week for all the people that were awarded grants. Hanaa added that the faculty will need facilitators/coordinators for these ZTC grants regarding questions and concerns.

VI. President's Report –

- A. Joint Senate Retreat (Spring Flex week):
This item was tabled.
- B. ASCCC Fall Plenary Resolutions:
This item was tabled.
- C. Academic Calendar for 24-25/25-26:
The senate discussed the academic calendar for 24-25 and 25-26. Taken to the board on Tuesday, suggestion to take the add/drop dates and put them on the narrative.
- D. Faculty Evaluation Workgroup:
This item was tabled.

VII. Vice President Report –

Karen Marrujo gave her Vice Presidents report. Appointed 8 to hiring committees.

VIII. Part-Time Officer-at-Large Report –

This item was tabled.

IX. Committee Report – None

X. Public Comments – None

Anthony Campbell and Jennifer Tomaschke asked to publicly comment on the camera issues that have been discussed at Academic Senate in several meeting and how AKHE uses cameras in their division. AKHE must submit game films and the Synergy camera system was purchased to scout and review this film. AKHE is requesting that the Synergy filming not be included in the broader discussion of camera placement because it is mandated. The camera would be utilized for practice sessions and ES classes and are not in public viewing areas or sensitive areas and focus solely on the court of play. VEO would hopefully also be purchased for the soccer field but only follows the ball. This would not have intrusive capabilities. The Academic Senate thanked Anthony and JT for coming to discuss this and noted that the camera placement issue has not and will not target the cameras used in the AKHE division.

Adjourned at 3:52pm