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**District Academic Senate**

**District Academic Senate Meeting MINUTES**

**Dec. 5, 2023 – 2:30PM to 4:30PM**

**Zoom Link:** [**https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96574845924**](https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96574845924)

**Present: VOTING – List full name below, identify which constituency group each individual represents (place X in box adjacent to name when present)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| X | Matthew Goldstein, DAS President | X | Leslie Blackie, Laney Senate President, DAS Vice-President | X | Andrew Park, DAS Treasurer, COA Treasurer (via Zoom) |
| X | Jennifer Fowler, COA Senate President | X | Matthew Freeman, BCC Senate President | X | Thomas Renbarger, Merritt Senate President |
| X | Carla Pegues, COA Senate Vice-President (via Zoom) | X | Dan Lawson, Merritt Senate Vice- President | X | Nate Failing, Laney Senate Vice- President |
| X | Gabriel Martinez, BCC Senate Vice President | X | Joseph Bielanski, BCC DAS Representative | X | Chris Weidenbach, Laney DAS Representative, DAS Recording Secretary |
| X | Lowell Bennett, Merritt DAS Representative | X | Jayne Smithson, COA DAS Representative (via Zoom) |  |  |

**Guests: List full name below, identify which constituency group each individual represents (place X in box adjacent to name when present)**

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| X | Chelsea Cohen, District Staff Development Co-Officer (via Zoom) | X | Matthew Silverberg, COA | X | Jennifer Shanoski, Merritt College faculty |
| X | Seja Barbieri (SP??) PFT | X | Jeffrey Sanceri, PFT President, faculty COA | X |  |
| X |  | X |  | X |  |
| X |  | X |  | X |  |
| X |  | X |  | X |  |

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| **AGENDA ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **FOLLOW UP ACTION** |
| 1. **Call to order:** **Agenda review –** (5 minutes) |  | Motion to approve the agenda.  Moved by: Matthew F.  Seconded by: Joseph B.  Motion Passed 10-0 |
| 1. **Approval of minutes from Nov. 21, 2023 meeting –** (5 minutes) | Approving these minutes was ‘tabled’ and will be taken up on Feb. 6. | Motion to approve minutes from Nov. 21, 2023.  Moved by:  Seconded by:  Motion Passed |
| 1. **Public Comment –** (3 minutes) | (No public comments were made.) |  |
| 1. **For Action and/or Consideration –** (40 minutes) | (No action items were on the agenda.) |  |
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| 1. **Standing Items –** (15 Minutes) |  |  |
| 1. Staff Development Officer Report, Marla Leech &/or Chelsea Cohen | Chelsea Cohen shared that Spring Flex is a heavy schedule. One detail she shared is that incoming Chancellor Gilkerson will present and lead an interactive session from 10-11:30am.  Chris W asked if district-wide discipline meetings were in the plan, or if time for them might be added, and Chelsea responded that they were not part of the plan but would likely be added for mid-spring or certainly for Fall ‘24. |  |
| 1. Treasurer’s Report, Andrew Park | Andrew reported that the treasury holds $ 10-14000 |  |
| 1. CE Liaison Report, Karl Seelbach &/or Eleni Gastis | Leslie B stood in for the CE Liaisons and said Eleni and Karl plan to revive the CE committee in Spring ‘24. |  |
| 1. DE Liaison Report, Adrienne Oliver | POCR badge program is enjoying increasing participation at all four Colleges.  Academic calendar will now appear in the Canvas calendar  A new Canvas blueprint will help faculty align their course design to the POCR rubric. |  |
| 1. BOT1 BP4 AP2 Review/ recommendation/updates/proposed revision |  |  |
| 1. CIPD, Heather Sisneros | Tom R stood in for Heather and reported about repeatability of work-experience courses.  The Common Course Numbering effort (AB111) is behind schedule and would be postponed at least a year.  Joseph mentioned that in his opinion, the CCI proposal looks like it will require a large amount of work for faculty. -- Matthew G raised the fact that funding is promised by the CCCCO, but will likely need to be ‘bird-dogged’ to ensure that the funding comes to us to support this arduous work.  Tom also reported that a number of state initiatives are being proposed that may involve significant curriculum changes. |  |
| 1. **For Discussion and/or Information –** (40 minutes) |  |  |
| * 1. Carceral language & higher ed. (Martinez) | Gabriel spoke about the growing focus on eliminating ‘carceral language’ throughout the CCC system (and beyond), including “academic probation” and “academic dismissal”. Upcoming webinars (“Destigmatizing Academic Probation” this Friday the 8th and another in January) will feature steps faculty senates can take at our Colleges.  <https://www.asccc.org/events/destigmatizing-academic-probation>  The work being proposed includes:   * Changing language * Changing policies * Revising procedures and forms * Revising work-flows relating to these   Leslie asked if advocates of such changes are facing resistance, and if so, where from? -- Gabriel answered that no tangible resistance has been observed.  Matthew F voiced full support and shared his own observations of data and concept presentations at the recent ASCCC Plenary. Academic Probation correlates strongly with academic failure, and the very term “probation” carries sigma that can be very damaging.  Joseph inquired about potential PD on this topic – Gabriel responded that it is unlikely for January Flex, but more likely for the mid-Spring Flex Day.  CW raised a related concern about policies around academic honesty and how to deal with ‘cheating’ consistently and fairly, with student and administrative support.  Andrew mentioned an ‘Honor Council’ concept that is in place at some other colleges, wherein students are involved in student conduct matters. |  |
| * 1. Enrollment Mgmt. ad hoc Advisory Comm. update (Bennett, Park, Shanoski) | Jennifer Shanoski reported on a proposal being developed by the ad hoc team, which would revise the faculty contract and the process of scheduling class sections and setting cancellation policy with data-driven input from Chairs, and with a ‘commitment’ to the schedule they build, I.e. eliminating cancellations in nearly all situations. -- The proposal is modeled after the Chabot College faculty contract.  Matthew F. raised the possibility of bringing this proposal to the District Education Services Committee on Friday Dec. 8.  Tom R. expressed the importance of revising the ‘Functional Map’ (the document that ‘holds’ who is responsible for various functions).  Jennifer mentioned the possibility of making a three-year schedule integrated into the Program Review process.  Leslie recommends that we bring this solution-centered proposal to the Board so they can see us working to build something that works rather than perhaps being seen as solely complaining about poor processes. |  |
| * 1. Districtwide tutoring IT support (Santana) | Matthew G stood in for Isela Santana, reporting that Learning Resource Center and Tutoring Center personnel around the District got together recently to discuss whether DAS ought to consider a resolution to support maintaining the SARS platform for Tutoring. -- Matthew says the District is ending its contract with SARS, yet Colleges can pay for SARS on their own, as well as finding their own tech support for SARS. Relevant personnel are looking at new platforms that might be adopted and supported at the District level. Matthew thinks it is likely that the District will adopt ConnexEd, which might present short-term problems for some. Stay tuned for future developments. |  |
| 1. **New Business/ Announcements** | Matthew G is planning to invite Chancellor Gilkerson to the Feb. 6 DAS mtg.  And Matthew G plans to agendize possible appointment of Faculty Senate to district-wide committees. |  |
| 1. Next Meeting | Feb 6, 2024 |  |
| 1. **Adjournment** |  | Motion to adjourn the meeting not needed because we covered everything on the agenda -- in record time, btw! |

Abbreviations:

* DAS – District Academic Senate
* PCCD – Peralta Community College District
* BOT – Board of Trustees
* DAC – District Administrative Center
* AP – Administrative Procedure
* BP – Board Policy

Title 5 §53200 DEFINITIONS [Source: <http://www.asccc.org/communities/local-senates/handbook/partI>. Retrieved 10/28/11.]

Academic Senate means an organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters.

Academic and Professional matters means the following policy development matters:

1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites.2. Degree and certificate requirements.3. Grading policies.4. Educational program development.5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success.6. College governance structures, as related to faculty roles.7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes.8. Policies for faculty professional development activities.9. Processes for program review.10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development.11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.

Consult collegially means that the district governing board shall develop policies on academic and professional matters through either or both of the following:

1. **Rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate**, OR2. The governing board, or its designees, and the academic senate shall reach mutual agreement by written resolution, regulation, or policy of the governing board effectuating such recommendations.

§ (SECTION) 53203 POWERS

A) The governing board shall adopt policies for the appropriate delegation of authority and responsibility to its college academic senate.

B) In adopting the policies described in section (a), the governing board or designees, shall consult collegially with the academic senate.

C) While consulting collegially, the academic senate shall retain the right to meet with or appear before the governing board with respect to its views and recommendations. In addition, after consultation with the administration, the academic senate may present its recommendations to the governing board.

D) The governing board shall adopt procedures for responding to recommendations of the academic senate that incorporate the following:

1. When the board elects to rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate, the recommendation of the senate will normally be accepted, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations not be accepted.