



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
ACADEMIC SENATE
Virtual Meeting
May 17, 2021: 2:20PM – 4:20PM
MINUTES**

Present:

Academic Senate President M. Vélez, E. Adelson, C. Allbee, I. Arguelles-Ibarra, J. Braun, M. Brewer, H. Browne, J. Crocitti, N. Dougherty, H. Eskew, R. Fremland, V. Gerace, A. Gurganus, M. Gwin, A. Hoffman, S. Hughes, C. Huynh, H. Jagielinski, G. Johnson, I. Kanevsky, C. Katungi, J. Keller, G. Kim, T. Kohlenberg, K. Lacher, D. Miyoshi, K. Naimark, R. Nichols, A. Primoza, A. Reuss, R. Sanchez, J. Sardo, K. Secor, L. Seiger, S. Shi, I. Stojimirovic, G. Svoboda, O. V. Torres, K. Wait, W. Wesley and **Guest** E. Evans

Absent:

R. Escamilla (Proxy to R. Rodrigo), L. A. Gibson (Excused), J. Johnson, C. López (Excused) and J. Sundayo (Proxy to A. Reuss)

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME by Academic Senate President Manuel Vélez @ 2:21PM.
Parliamentarian – Veronica Gerace/Speaker Coordinator & Timekeeper – Veronica Gerace

II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:
Motion to approve with the addition of Public Comments from Toni Parsons and Carlynne Allbee:
M/S Allbee/Crocitti

2 Abstained
Primoza
Shi

III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
A. Associated Student Government (ASG) Representative: No Report
B. Classified Senate Representative: No Report

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. Toni Parsons - Credit for Prior Learning Workshop:

1. The workshop will be held on August 12, 2021 an August 13, 2021.
2. The Palomar College Credit for Prior Learning Coordinator and Articulation Officer will be in attendance.
 - a. Palomar College has taken the lead in California regarding Credit for Prior Learning.
3. We will look at what does Credit for Prior Learning look like for Mesa College on August 13th.
4. The San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) approved updated an Administrative Policy and a Board Policy for Credit for Prior Learning last year.

B. Carlynne Allbee – Social Security Benefits for Adjunct Faculty:

1. Carlynne is concerned about Social Security Fairness.
 - a. Adjuncts Faculty paid into Social Security when they worked at jobs outside the district.
2. Adjunct Faculty only receive one quarter of the PERS/STRS benefits that Contract Employees receive.
 - a. Adjunct Faculty must receive Social Security benefits.
3. We need a certain number of sponsors in order for a vote to be held on the legislation to provide Social Security benefits to Adjunct Faculty to take place.
 - a. Carlynne will forward to link to sponsor the bill.
4. Carlynne Allbee's May 17 2021 Adjunct Report to Mesa College Academic Senate:
 "Please do what you can do to help repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) provisions of Social Security. Both of them adversely affect all instructors, particularly Adjunct instructors. WEP can severely reduce the amount of Social Security benefit by up to 50%. The GPO can entirely eliminate the benefit a spouse can collect. Both are based on faculty member retiring and collecting from STRS. One Adjunct had his Social Security benefit reduced from \$400 to \$200. Another had his reduced by WEP from \$550 to \$99 after the Medicare deduction. Some teachers start collecting Social Security as soon as they can, knowing it will be reduced or eliminated once they start collecting STRS retirement. The BIG losses are under the GPO where a surviving spouse can have their Social Security benefit reduced to zero if their STRS is greater than their Social Security survivor benefit, possibly costing them around \$2,000 in lost survivor benefits. THAT is scary!

To put this into perspective, State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) has stated that the average pension they pay out is \$4,300. I know that a Contract Instructor retiring from SDCCD may collect over \$5,000 per month. In contrast, even

though I have worked for our District for over 30 years, and taught a 50% or 60% load, my monthly STRS pension is \$1,100 which is one fourth or less of a full timer's STRS, even one who taught fewer years than I taught. We need the full amount of Social Security benefits that we earned. There are currently three bills in Congress to address these problems: HB 82, 142 and SB 1302. Please join California Retired Teachers' Association, CalRTA and the San Diego Adjunct Faculty Association (SDAFA), in their fight to eliminate the WEP and GPO. Go to calrta.org/advocacy-action and sign up to join the fight. Other organizations working for WEP and GPO elimination include Social Security Fairness, California Federation of Teachers (CFT) and the national office of American Federation of Teachers (AFT)."

V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES: April 19, 2021

Motion to approve with clarification from Curriculum Review Committee Faculty Co-Chair Andrew Hoffman that all courses that received Emergency or Non-Emergency Distance Education Authorization can be scheduled online during fall 2021.

Motion to approve:

M/S

Crocitti/Nichols

UNANIMOUS

VI. GUESTS:

A. Cara Smulevitz & Katie Palacios – Distance Education Committee:

1. The Learning Opportunity for Transformation (LOFT) recently sent out a survey.
 - a. We want to determine what Distance Education support Mesa College needs for 2021-2022.
2. Mesa College does not have a dedicated Distance Education team.
3. Distance Education Committee Chair Cara Smulevitz only receives .3 release time.
 - a. The reassigned time is only available for two years.
4. Distance Education only represents a portion of Katie Palacios' duties.
5. We want Mesa College to create and institutionalize a Distance Education Team.
 - a. We want the team members to receive reassigned time on an annual basis.
 - b. We will send out a call for team members.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Senate Executive Committees:

1. Academic Affairs Committee: Chair Oscar V. Torres
 - a. I sent a document to the Academic Affairs Committee Members that highlights district events and campus developments with links to the related YouTube Channels and meeting recordings.
 - Please let me know if you would like a copy of the document.
2. Professional Advancement Committee (PAC):
 - a. The last spring 2021 submission deadline was last Wednesday.
 - b. Faculty can continue to submit their proposals during the summer.
 - c. We still need Faculty Representatives from Arts & Languages and Health Sciences & Public Service.
3. Committee of Chairs (COC): Chair of Chairs Elect Paula Gustin
 - a. Paula Gustin is the Chair of Chairs Elect.
 - Her term begins on July 1st.
 - b. The Fall 2021 Schedule is our highest priority.
 - We are waiting for more information from the district and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).
4. Curriculum Review Committee (CRC): Faculty Co-Chair Andrew Hoffman
 - a. We held the final spring 2021 Curriculum Review Committee and Curriculum Instructional Council meetings.
 - b. We have processed a ton of curriculum documents since the pandemic began.
 - Thank you to Chris Kinney, Juliette Parker and Arlis Svedberg for making all the curriculum changes possible.
 - c. We are preparing the appeal documents for the Black Studies and Chicano/Chicana Studies courses that were not approved for meeting the California State University (CSU) Ethnic Studies requirements.
 - d. We are also working to squeeze in approvals for Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs).
 - e. Academic Senate President Manuel Vélez said the CRC has done an amazing job getting so many courses approved for Distance Education.
 - f. Manuel Vélez reported the possible CSU reconsideration for the rejected Ethnic Studies courses will take place during June 6th – June 10th.

5. Program Review Committee (PRC): Acting Faculty Co-Chair Dina Miyoshi
 - a. We will resume work on Program Review in fall 2021.
 - b. We still need Faculty Representatives from Art & Languages, Career Technical Education, Exercise Science and Health Sciences & Public Service.

B. Other Committees:

1. The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE): Chair Judy Sundayo (No Report)
2. Mesa Pathways Committee (MPC): Co-Coordinators Marisa Alioto/Howard Eskew/Toni Parsons
As reported by Marisa Alioto:

Mesa Mixers: Meta-Majors Update:

- The results of the vote are IN, and MPC has adopted the following::
 - Meta-Majors new name is: Academic and Career Pathways
 - The framework utilized will be the Passions/Interests Framework.
- A full presentation of these results, including next steps, will be given at the May 18 PCAB Meeting, where a vote will also take place.
- THANK YOU to all of the senators who participated in Pathways this year!

Upcoming Summer Project: Student Success Teams:

- A group is being formed to begin work on Student Success Teams

Next MPC Meeting*: Wednesday, May 26th, 12:45pm – 2:15pm

**this will be our final meeting of the semester*

Comments/Questions from the Academic Senate:

- a. Paula Gustin asked if there are currently insight or projection regarding who will maintain all the information that has been gathered.
 - Toni Parsons said we are waiting to advertise the next steps for the Guided Majors and Mapping Work Group.
 - Toni Parsons said we still need feedback from Faculty who did not participate in the spring 2021 mixers.
 - b. Rusty Nichols said he recently tried to enroll in a Continuing Education Piano class.
 - I was sent a survey with very intrusive questions.
 - The Instructor links are not working.
 - I was not able to enroll in the class.
 - c. Academic Senate President Manuel Vélez thanked Ian Duckles and Cynthia Rico for their work on Academic and Career Pathways.
3. Other Committee Reports: None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **UPDATED Resolution 2021.4.1 – Condemning Anti-Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Racism and Affirming Faculty Defense of Mesa College’s AAPI Community**: John Crocitti/Black Lives Matter Task Force/Gloria Kim (Second Reading)

1. Gloria Kim has updated the document.

Motion to approve the updated resolution:

M/S

Seiger/Primoza

UNANIMOUS

B. UPDATED Resolution 2021.5.1 – Add Latin American Studies to the CCC Minimum Qual. Disciplines List: Crocitti (Second Reading)

1. John Crocitti reported he has been working with Carlos Guerrero from Long Beach Community College on the resolution.
 - a. Carlos requested that we include the mention of masters and doctoral degrees in our resolution.
 - The changes to the resolution were approved by the mover Geoff Johnson and seconder Irena Stojimirovic,

Motion to approve the updated resolution:

M/S

Nichols/G. Johnson

UNANIMOUS

C. Ethnic Studies Task Force (ESTF) Final Report: Katungi (Approvals)

1. Candace Katungi reported the final report is not currently posted on the Academic Senate website.
2. Parliamentarian Veronica Gerace reported the Academic Senate can call an emergency meeting to vote on the document after the Senators are given sufficient time to review the final document.

Motion to call an emergency meeting to vote on the document on Monday, May 24, 2021 @ 2:20PM:

M/S

G. Johnson/Kim

UNANIMOUS

D. UPDATED Resolution 2021.5.2 – Create Graduation Requirement for Ethnic Studies in Alignment with the CSU:

Katungi/Kim (Second Reading) The final version of the resolution was not included in the May 17th draft meeting document link.

1. John Crocitti asked if three (3) units will need to be removed from another area of the Mesa College graduation requirements.
 - a. Gloria Kim reported the Ethnic Studies Task Force has not thought through that element.
 - The resolution represents a request for consideration.
2. Counselor Anthony Reuss asked if the resolution represents an addition to the multicultural requirement.
 - a. Gloria Kim said the intention of the resolution is not to overshadow other disciplines.
 - b. John Crocitti said Multicultural Studies courses do not necessarily align with Ethnic Studies courses.
 - They are separate.
3. Curriculum Review Committee Faculty Co-Chair Andrew Hoffman said the real problem has not been solved.
 - a. Satisfying the CSU Area F Ethnic Studies Requirement may not satisfy the American Studies Requirement.
 - There are a lot to be determined (TBD).
4. Toni Parsons said she thinks this resolution is just asking to get the process started.
5. Academic Senate President Manuel Vélez reported this will be a California Community Colleges requirement by fall 2022.

Motion to approve the final version of the resolution:

M/S

Crocitti/Lacher

1 Abstained

Browne

E. Resolution 2021.5.3 – Prioritize Funding for the Hiring of Tenure-Track Ethnic Studies Faculty: Katungi (Second Reading)

1. Gloria Kim said it is our expectation to grow Asian American/Pacific Islanders Studies (AAPI) and Native American Studies
2. Rusty Nichols said the third whereas clause should be 2020-2021 academic year.
3. Carlynne Allbee said priority for hiring should be given to Adjuncts Faculty who are already employed by the district.
4. Gloria Kim said we need to establish a commitment to hire Contract Ethnic Studies Faculty especially with the new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement.
5. Alison Primoza asked if we should put Contract Ethnic Studies positions at the front of the line when so many other Faculty positions have been eliminated.
6. John Crocitti said this leap frogs the fact that we do not have an AAPI or Native American Studies program yet.
7. Rob Fremland said the district could earmark funding specifically for Ethnic Studies Programs since the CSU has made Ethnic Studies a GE requirement.

Motion to approve:

M/S

Crocitti/ Stojimirovic

3 Abstained

Allbee

Braun

Hughes

IX. NEW BUSINESS: None

X. SENATE EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

A. President Elect: John Crocitti

1. The May Budget Review are out.
2. The district is still not meeting our productivity target.
 - a. Mesa College's productivity is good, but we cannot increase our FTES.
 - I don't know how we can get around this.
 - Our productivity number must increase before our FTES can increase.
 - We must increase our enrollment.
 - Rob Fremland said he thinks the productivity numbers are unrealistic.
 - John Crocitti said we need the state to fund us at a higher level.
 - Rob Fremland said Student Success Numbers and Productivity work against each other.
 - Geoff Johnson reported Jim Mahler put out a letter advocating for Mesa College to be "Held Harmless" for one more year and abolishing Cal Bright. (We need to act.)

B. Vice President: Howard Eskew

1. Thank you to Committee on Committee Members for your service.
2. Equivalency Applications:
 - a. Howard will provide support until June 30th.
3. The Committee on Committees approved three (3) new Faculty Members for Program Review.

C. Secretary: Holly Jagielinski (No Report)

D. Treasurer: Mary Gwin

1. The Academic Senate approved a \$150.00 donation to the Classified Professionals for ClassiCon 2022.
 - a. It was our only 2020-2021 expense.
2. We currently have a balance of approximately \$ 4,000.00.

E. Senator at Large (1): Alison Gurganus

1. Feel free to reach out to Learning Resources and Academic Support (LRAS) Faculty for support over the summer.
 - a. We are 12 month employees.

F. Senator at Large (2): Leslie Seiger

1. Thank you all for a good couple of years.

G. President: Manuel Vélez

1. We can call emergency meetings over the summer.
 - a. We will meet next Monday to review the Ethnic Studies Task Force Report.
2. John Crocitti thanked Manuel Vélez for doing a great job during difficult circumstances.
 - a. Thank you for your leadership.
3. Mesa College Reopening:
 - a. District Covid 19 District Reopening Response Team:
 - The team has strong perspectives regarding a vaccinations requirement and we are evenly split on the issue.
 - We took our message to the Board of Trustees
 - b. Please make sure Faculty Voices are included as quickly as possible.
 - c. No concrete decisions have been made at the district level about anything.
 - d. Fall 2021 classes will be 35% on campus including Labs and Test Proctoring.
4. Ethnic Studies Requirements:
 - a. Title 5 Changes, California State Universities and the Board of Governors (BOG) agenda for California Community Colleges.
5. You can send your public comments to the BOG through June 30th.

6. Serving as the Mesa College Academic Senate President has been an incredible experience for me.
 - a. It has been an honor to represent you and advocate for you.
 - b. I did not expect the challenges we have faced.
 - I am proud of how we have addressed the challenges.
 - c. I look forward to working with our new Senate Executive Officers next semester.
 - Sakeenah Gallardo (Vice President)
 - Pegah Motaleb (Senator at Large)
 - Waverly Ray (Secretary)
 - d. I will serve as the Immediate Past President next year.
 - e. I will continue to represent Mesa College at the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC).

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A.** We will hold a special meeting next Monday (May 24, 2021) to review and vote on the final Ethnic Studies Task Force report.
- B.** Congratulation to Lou Ann Gibson and Bill Hoefer on their retirements at the end of spring 2021!
- C.** The next Academic Senate meeting is September 13, 2021 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM.
- D.** The next Academic Affairs meeting is August 30 2021 from 4:15PM – 5:30PM.
- E.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is September 8, 2021 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM.
- F.** The next Professional Advancement meeting is September 1, 2021 @ 2:30PM.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: 4:21PM.

Motion to adjourn:

M/S

Crocitti/Primoza

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Submitted by Sue Saetia

Approved by the Academic Senate: September 13, 2021