



**San Diego Mesa College  
Academic Senate  
Committee of Chairs (COC)  
Virtual Meeting  
October 27, 2021  
MINUTES**

**Present:**

Chair of Chairs Paula Hjorth-Gustin, Mark Abajian, Valerie Abe, Donna Budzynski, Jennifer Carmichael, Jarred Collins, John Crocitti, Ian Duckles, Helen Greenbergs, Alison Gurganus, Michael Harrison, Erika Higginbotham, Amanda Johnston, Ken Kuniyuki, Tara Maciel, Bryan Malinis, Thekima Mayasa, Dina Miyoshi, Jill Moreno Ikari, Bruce Naschak, Alison Primoza, Nathan Resch, Cynthia Rico, N. Scott Robinson, Leslie Saline-Styles, Jennifer Sime, Jennifer Snyder, Irena Stojimirovic, Chris Sullivan, Manuel Vélez, Walter "Duane" Wesley, Todd White, Robert Wong, George Ye and Guests Meegan Feori, Sharon Hughes and Ryan Mongelluzzo,

**I. Call to order and welcome** by Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin @ 2:33PM.

**II. Approval of Draft Agenda:**

Motion to approve:

**M/S**

Budzynski/Stojimirovic

**UNANIMOUS**

**III. Guest:** None

**IV. Approval of Draft Minutes:** October 13, 2021

Motion to approve with a change from Bruce Naschak:

**M/S**

Duckles/Vélez

**UNANIMOUS**

**V. Old Business:**

**A. Reopening Updates:** Gustin

1. Update on Vaccination Requirements:

- a. A lot of Students waited until the last minute to upload their vaccination documents.
- b. A lot of Students ended up being dropped from their classes because they did not upload their vaccination documents on time.
- c. The large change to process is that Students must upload their vaccination documents before they try to enroll for a class.
- d. Religious exemptions will require more documentation.
- e. Chris Sullivan asked if Faculty should inform our Students.
  - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said all Faculty may want to forward this information to Students so they can upload cards.
- f. The next submission deadline complying with "fully vaccinated" is both shots two weeks before spring 2022 semester starts.
- g. Thekima Mayasa asked if the requirement applies to intersession 2022.
  - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin will let the Department Chairs know if anything changes for intersession 2022.
- h. Thekima Mayasa also asked if both shots are required before a Student can enroll in spring 2022 classes. Gustin replied both shots are required.
- i. Cynthia Rico reported Students are having difficulty uploading their vaccination documentation.
  - They need to submit a help ticket.
  - Student/Faculty should contact admissions for help on uploading COVID testing clearance.

- j. Helen Greenbergs reported she is teaching on campus two days each week.
    - One of her Students could not find out information on the Mesa College website or from Student Health Services (No Response) after they received a positive Covid test.
    - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin asked Faculty to direct a Student who received a positive Covid test to Director of Student Health Service Suzanne Khambata.
    - Faculty can send Suzanne Khambata an email with "Confidential" in the subject line.
  - k. Mark Abajian said it is difficult to manage a Student's work when they cannot be on campus for 14 days.
    - How do you manage multiple Students who cannot be on campus for two weeks?
    - Can face to face classes be recorded to keep Students up to date on their work?
    - A lot of my Students need extensions on class assignments.
    - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin reported her on campus class has been dealing with the issues that Mark Abajian mentioned. (Clear expectations of assignment due dates and dropping assignments can be tools that help with being flexible in pandemic teaching.)
  - l. Erika Higginbotham reported that DSPS is starting to see Students with Long COVID and who are in COVID recovery programs.
    - DSPS is a resource to support these Students and would appreciate any help to get the word out about our services.
      - \* Many Students with long COVID are not likely to know about resources for their disability or even think of themselves as having a disability.
      - \* We can support with them with academic accommodations.
2. Red/Green Pass for Student Covid Testing Clearance:
- a. Michael Harrison reported his Students have been sending screen shots to him.
    - E-mail or private chat on Pronto are good ways to have students show their "green pass".
  - b. Bryan Malinis asked how do Students know when they have to submit a new pass.
    - Students that test for COVID at Mesa College Testing facility will have their "green" pass automatically generated.
    - They can create a password and receive notification when they need to be retested.
    - The application can be accessed on your computer's desktop.
    - Students not testing at Mesa have to upload their test results. This can be a slower process.
    - Michael Harrison reported his Students have been able to access the application and the application has been printing passes.
3. Technology Requests/Issues:
- a. Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin contacted President Luster regarding issues with office webcams and classroom technology.
    - President Luster is open to asking Administrative Services for more accountability regarding the issue.
  - b. The Chemistry Department has been working with district IT personnel regarding communication issues with Mesa College Campus Technology Services.
  - c. Faculty can bring their personal laptops and conduct zoom meetings from their offices if necessary.
  - d. Please work with your School Deans.
  - e. Thekima Mayasa asked if Faculty can bring their own webcams.
    - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said unfortunately our computers are nine years old.
      - \* Alex Napoles from Mesa IT had to spend three (3) to four (4) hours updating the software for one single old computer.
  - f. Chris Sullivan said Mesa College's technology has to be up to date in order to meet Accreditation Standards.

4. Planning for Best Practices FLEX Event for On-Campus Return:

- a. Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin would like to schedule a workshop in November 2021.
- b. Developing strategies for dealing with Students who have to miss classes due to a positive Covid test is very important.
- c. Alison Primoza reported Michael Harrison has a great idea for creating a one stop single document with all the necessary information and links for who we can go to in order to address specific issues.
  - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said information has been changing rapidly.
  - Dean Shimazaki is bringing the document to Deans Council.
  - Michael Harrison said it needs to be a google document that is constantly updated.

**B. Vision of College Equity & Modality Memo/Resolution:** Gustin

1. We look forward to hearing from the Academic Affairs Committee.
2. District Survey of Students:
  - a. SDCCD Course Modality Preference:
    - 4,251 Mesa Students Responded
    - 35% Preferred the Online Modality
    - 29% Preferred Face to Face
    - 20% Preferred Live Online
  - b. Helen Greenbergs said it is important to acknowledge that our Students prefer 16-week classes.
  - c. Mark Abajian reported he has been teaching online since 2004 and online classes work well for the Business Department.
    - We have a large online presence and our Students do well.
    - We have had success with our online eight (8) week classes.
    - Our department will continue to hold successful online classes in the online modality.
  - d. Academic Senate President John Crocitti said 35% to 45% of Students prefer to take classes online.
    - Departments must decide for themselves what works best with their Faculty and Students.
  - e. Dina Miyoshi said Faculty has to be the ones who make the decisions, especially from the GE perspective.
  - f. Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said our focus needs to be on quality.
  - g. Amanda Johnston said we are choosing quality in order to make sure our Students are prepared for the next step in their educational process.
    - Are we contacting four-year transfer institutions to make sure our Students are prepared for courses at their institutions?
  - h. Chris Sullivan said we reached out to the four-year institutions' organizations, but we have not heard back.
  - i. Mark Abajian said he has seen bad classes in person and online.
  - j. Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said we do not know where we are going to land employee wise.
    - We do not know who will not want to return to campus which impacts instruction.
  - k. Oscar V. Torres said the Academic Affairs Committee will support what the Department Chairs wants.
    - The major concern is the process we use to schedule classes.
    - The modality of a class and the length of time of a class should be determined Faculty Expertise.
    - We need to look at each issue separately.
  - l. Donna Budzynski said it is impossible for some disciplines to be held online successfully.
    - We are seeing it happen live right now.
    - Some Students who took lower level classes online are not prepared to take higher level classes.
  - m. Ryan Mongelluzzo said Faculty should decide whether we need to push back against the push to hold more classes online.
    - Chris Sullivan said we need to push back.
    - Helen Greenbergs asked how do we push back.
    - Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said we have to make our own choices regarding modality even if the class is being scheduled online at a sister college.
    - Dina Miyoshi said we need to have a collective voice as a unified body.
    - Chris Sullivan said we have more influence than we give ourselves credit for.
      - \* We can rely on our institutional expertise as a body.

**VI. New Business:****A. Spring 2022 Schedule Updates & Concerns:** Gustin (Tabled)**VII. Department Reports:****A. Dramatic Arts:** Ye

1. We are focusing on enrollment, pedagogy and safety.
2. Our enrollment was already down before the pandemic.
  - a. The pandemic caused our enrollment numbers to go down even more.
3. Our performance classes have not done well during the pandemic.
  - a. We have to be on campus.
4. We are meeting on campus more this semester.
5. We will try to schedule all our performance classes on campus during spring 2022.
6. We have been diligent about wearing masks, using hand sanitizers and cleaning frequently.
7. One Student has to quarantine and they will miss classes.
8. We have not run into any major problems.

**VIII. Planning/Committee Reports:****A. Academic Affairs:** Torres

As reported by Oscar V. Torres:

"The Academic Affairs Committee met on October 18, 2021. The committee reviewed the SDCCE Student DE preference Survey data and student demographics enrolled onto F2F courses. We also heard a report from the Mesa Pathways committee including their review of 13 funding request proposals. New business included developing a survey to examine the need for a testing/center, two Senate scholarships for students, and incorporating a Mesa Library Advisory Committee onto our Academic Senate governance structure. Our next meeting will be on November 15th, and we will have Associated Student government representatives as special guests."

**B. Academic Senate:** Crocitti

1. Important information from a CCCCCO webinar.
  - a. A chart showing that enrollment decline was sharpest at community colleges and among groups such as African Americans and Latinx.
  - b. A brief review of reasons for the enrollment decline.
  - c. The most important information is the decline projected k-12 population in California and its impact on community college enrollment.
  - d. A state Community College official said that our purpose is to train Students for their jobs.
2. Bruce Naschak responded to the state Community College officials' statement with the statement "You train monkeys and you teach human beings".
  - a. We should never forget our original role to serve the following groups:
    - Those who want to engage in lifelong learning.
    - Those who want to receive career training.
    - Those who want to earn a degree.
    - Those who want to transfer to a four-year institution.

**C. Curriculum Review Committee (CRC):** No Report

**D. Student Services:** Rico

As reported by Cynthia Rico:

"On the issue for those students applying to UC Berkeley transfer students. When working with STEM majors currently or in the future, please encourage them to complete science sequences at the same campus. If they did split sequences within the district and will or are applying for transfer fall 2022, please have them can include a note in the comment box to explain our articulation policies. And of course, please send the student to the transfer to the counseling department if they have further questions on this issue."

**E. Mesa College Facilities Committee/District Review of Services Committee:** No Report**I. Planning & Institutional Effectiveness (PIE) Committee:** Gustin/Crocitti

1. Chair of Chairs Paula Gustin said we are working on a master document for Accreditation.

**J. President's Cabinet:** Crocitti/Torres/Gustin (No Report)**K. Program Review Committee (PRC):** Miyoshi

As reported by Dina Miyoshi:

1. "Open work session via zoom this Friday (November 5<sup>th</sup>) from 11am-12pm.
2. There are still faculty vacancies on this committee. It would be advantageous to fill these vacancies so that each school has faculty representation as the committee plans for the new cycle of Program Review."

**L. Mesa Pathways Committee:** (No Report)**IX. Announcements/Round Table/For the Good of the Order:****A. New Chairs Academy:** October 29, 2021 (11:00AM - 12:30PM)

1. Co-Hosts: Paula Gustin & John Crocitti
2. Panelists: Moreno-Ikari, Budzynski, Duckles and Shimazaki
3. FLEX ID# 10609
4. Zoom Link: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/97203101726> (RSVP: <https://forms.gle/vPntCPvG4CMQWoKKA>)

**X. Next COC Meeting:** November 10, 2021**XI. Adjournment @ 4:05PM.**

Submitted by Sue Saetia

Approved by the Committee of Chairs: November 10, 2021