



**San Diego Mesa College
Academic Affairs Committee**

November 15, 2021: Via Zoom (4:15PM-5:00PM)

Link (<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93838962989>) hold "Ctrl" and click to open

Minutes

I. Call to Order and Attendance by Chair: Oscar V. Torres, 4:15 PM

II. Review and Approval of Draft Agenda:

Member suggestions welcomed – Bryan Malinis added AB928 to agenda.

Roll of attendance – Bryan Malinis, Das Nugent-Odasso, Jennifer Sime, Amanda Johnston, Mary Gwin, Miriam Pacheco, Sean Ricketts, Oscar V. Torres. Guests: Marisa Alioto (Mesa Pathways).

Absent: Steve Sanchez, Linda Hensley (Excused)

III. Review of Draft Minutes: Oscar V. Torres – states that minutes will be reviewed on 12-06-21

IV. Reports from:

Academic Senate

Monday, November 8, 2021

Oscar V. Torres – At our Academic Senate, we had a special guest, Victor Devore, Dean from SDCCD. The Dean talked about student financial aid fraud. This issue is wide-spread fraud across the state of CA as bad actors are taking advantage of financial student-focused support. In addition, Covid-19 relief funds for students might be a driving motivator for this negative phenomenon. In addition, it is easy to fake as a student in a virtual remote teaching environment. Victor Devore is asking faculty to report suspicious activity to Admissions and Records and drop students who might not be attending. The Dean states his office is trying to stop the financial aid fraud at the point of application. For the fall semester, he states that they stopped 1,200 applications overall. Military-based Credit for Prior Learning and the MAP Program (Military Articulation Platform): last year a Board Policy and Administrative Procedure to expand credit for prior learning was approved. Tony Parsons needs the OK from Senate to submit the application. At Senate there was little discussion regarding the commitments or obligations. However, the item will be fully discussed at the next Senate meeting. In other news, the Academic Senate will try and award 4 student scholarships in the value of 500.00 USD. This was approved by the Executive committee.

Chairs Committee

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Oscar V. Torres – At our Chairs Committee, the same Dean, Victor DeVore attended as a special guest. The Dean gave updates on Vaccination Requirements and Student Testing Clearance. He demonstrated what the software/application looks like on his end and answered questions from faculty. The conversation developed into navigating issues with students present with a “red” square on their app. Also, what to do

when students can't attend class because of COVID-19 exposure? Gwin – asks about equipping classrooms with cameras to provide an alternative for students who can't make it to class? Torres/Bryan - the discussion has not been developed any further at chairs. The Chair of Chairs is working on a document with helpful links to faculty to navigate the spring 2022 semester. It is thought this document would be given to the LOFT. Face masks are still required on Campus given the pandemic. Other items discussed at Chairs were the many Technology Requests/Issues faculty are having in their offices. At Chairs it was stated that the goal is to get faculty working PCs before the start of the spring 2022 semester. But this does not mean new computers or equipment.

Executive Team

Monday, November 15, 2021

Mary Gwin – The resolution that Academic Affairs drafted regarding faculty input onto course modality and duration was discussed at the Executive committee. The resolution gained interest among some Executive members. A parliamentary question included authorship, and if the Executive committee could present it to senate as a unified body. Bryan Malinis/ Jennifer Sime – ask what Senate is doing about discussion course modality and class duration as important on-going topics. Torres- the VPI will visit Senate and address the issue, however the resolution might aid in keeping the conversation going at Senate. The potential resolution is intended to discuss course modality and class duration (16, 12, 8 weeks etc.) at Senate. Administrators are to hold joint meetings with chairs to discuss course enrollments during the spring 2022 semester.

V. Special Guest(s):

Mesa Pathways: Marisa Alioto

Associated Students Governance: Members of the Associated student Governance postponed their visit.

VI. General Updates from Campus and SDCCD

Mesa President's Cabinet Retreat will be on November 15, 2021, 2:15-4:30 pm.

Please see documents links below for your review.

Parking permits: Sean Ricketts states that students will be needed a parking permit. Torres states that faculty parking permits are also available now. These will be enforced.

The committee also discussed "Hyflex" whereby faculty teach class F2F but also run a live zoom link for virtual students.

VII. Old Business:

- A. Review Survey questions and input from faculty members. The committee is waiting for feedback from Associated Student Governance.
- B. Mesa Library Advisory Committee – Question came up by committee members, and thus the topic was tabled until we contact with the lead writers of the resolution.

VIII. New Business:

A. Discussion topics for VPI Senate visit

Torres- shared out topics of discussion for VPI visit. This was a document with 15 points and questions that was emailed out to the Senate president to lead the conversation. Topics centered around “specialty courses” and a consistent course scheduling format. This way student can plan ahead of time and earn a degree. Also, scheduling in a more strategy way such that no “bottlenecks” occurs whereby classes compete with one another.

B. Faculty advice on testing center

The committee worked on the draft survey. The assessment was reduced to 10 questions. The main issue centered around question # 10 which asks faculty “Which of the following best described your academic area of experience”. Jennifer Sime states the question might be difficult to interpret. Amanda Johnston prefers career technical education. Bryan Malinis agrees the question can be difficult to answer based on the campus division of schools and subjects. Miriam Pacheco says she is unsure of which option she would pick given that as a counselor she identifies with personal growth. Bryan Malinis made edits to question # 8.

C. Military based Credit for Prior Learning

Torres- discussed the main topics presented at the Senate by Tony Parsons. Sime asks to summary any concerns senators had regarding Military-based Credit for Prior Learning. Torres states the main questions are in relation to the mechanics of evaluating the military resume or job description. We know there is a website with suggestions, but a faculty member must be taking in these requests on an individual bases. Alioto adds that from an equity standpoint, there are many veteran students that complete or have work/job experiences that could be utilized to grant college credit. There are many colleges that engage in this practice. However, complications might be associated with transfer and how the 4-year universities accept the credit. Gwin states that faculty are involved in the process. Malinis asks how does the credit for prior learning appears on a transcript? Pacheco states that on most cases these credits appear as a pass/no pass on the transcript. The committee supports the initiative, with an advisory for students noting that transfer institutions might not unilaterally articulate the credit.

D. AB 928 – The topic was tabled because of time limitations.

IX. Round Table Discussion/Announcements by Membership:

A. Open item for discussion: faculty campus return (flex workshops)

B. Open item for discussion: standing senate committee meeting modality spring 2022

X. Next Meeting: December 06, 2021

XI. Adjournment Time: ____5:28__pm____