

Academic Senate Minutes April 27, 2020

Meeting called to order 2:02 p.m.

Eric Kuehnl (Senate VP/CCC Faculty Co-Chair)

Robert Cormia (Senate Secretary/Treasurer)

Isaac Escoto (Senate President)

Mary Thomas (LIBR)

Tracee Cunningham (CNSL)

Voltaire Villanueva (CNSL)

Kate Jordahl (FA/COMM)

Robert Hartwell (FA/COMM)

Sara Cooper (BHS/Faculty Association Liaison)

Rachelle Campbell (BHS)

Kathryn Maurer (BSS)

Maria Dominguez (BSS)

David McCormick (LA)

Amber La Piana (LA)

David Marasco (PSME)

Matthew Litrus (PSME)

Mimi Overton (SRC)

Donna Frankel (Part Time Rep)

Mary Anne Sunseri (Part Time Rep)

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agenda was adopted by consensus. The minutes from the April 13th meeting were approved by consensus.

Consent calendar:

General counsellor (Focus online) search committee to include faculty Fatima Jinnah(r)-1 acMh(r iy)-1 z(fr)-aE

COVID-19 check in

The Committee on Online Learning is hosting a special meeting to collect and address faculty concerns regarding COVID-19 planning. The meeting will be held May 5th from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Isaac will send an Outlook invite for this meeting to any that would like to be invited.

Looking at summer and going into fall, there's a lot of topics for the College to discuss. There's significant budget uncertainty going forward, this year and the next. There's no May revise this year, as tax filing was extended until the end of June. Because of the State budget problems, there could be systemic cuts going forward. We don't know if there will be changes to the SKIFF, or the "hold harmless" for which we have two years left.

Advisory council meeting

At the advisory council, President Nguyen mentioned that 4 positions that are currently open will be frozen:

Athletic Trainer - Classified Position (KA/ATHL)
Facilities and Equipment Coordinator - Classified Position
Associate VP of Instruction
Dean of LRC

President Nguyen mentioned that the directive for these freezes was coming from the District, and that De Anza and Central Services would also look at freezes. There was significant concern by the Senate about the decision to freeze these positions without consulting with R&R, Academic Senate, or others affected by the freeze.

APM (Academic and Professional Matters - a district meeting of executive leadership from both colleges, including leadership from both senates, Faculty Association, as well as our Chancellor) is an opportunity to better understand district directions to hold/freeze campus positions, as well as clarify how the district will guide the campuses regarding any potential budget reduction. APM meets this Wednesday.

President Nguyen asked the Advisory Council if the College should look at freezing other positions, such as the active searches for faculty positions. Freezing positions would make the most progress in reducing the budget. They asked how faculty would want to be involved in discussions. This could be an opportunity for the Academic Senate to be involved in being

window) that weren't answered. It feels disrespectful to be getting nowhere when we've been talking about this for hours and hours at 5 months of academic senate meetings.

Comment that the TLC has been undergoing transition for almost two years now, and the operational impact of these decisions is grossly unclear.

Kathryn commented that we already have a task force that we formed at the Senate to draft a potential formal Senate response to the concerns faculty have been raising for months regarding the decision-making process. Perhaps this task force could be more actively involved right now in meetings that are addressing these concerns, such as attending the APM meeting on Wednesday. Isaac clarified that these meetings are generally reserved for the Officers, but he would check about extending the invitation to the task force. Amber asked if faculty could attend the Advisory Council this Friday (yes, open meeting). Isaac will send out the Zoom link. Isaac mentioned that campus wide groups would be invited to the meeting (R&R reps, deans, student services leaders, etc.).

Katie Ha mentioned that she attended the meeting on Friday, and that TLC has been undergoing changes. She mentioned that Thuy stated Friday she wouldn't be cutting any programs, but shouldn't we be using (program) data to drive the decisions of (program reorganization) for serving students and equity?

Sara commented that we were previously counselled by the administration to not discuss program discontinuation. She commented that without a program discontinuation process, our campus is not adequately prepared for potential program discontinuation discussion.

David commented that he was on Senate the last time program discontinuation was going on, and that we seemed to be "making things up" as we went along. David said that while he wouldn't want to (have to) be involved in program discontinuation again, we should plan to.

David, Kathryn, Katie, and Sara offered to help in developing a process to address program discontinuation. Kristy said she wasn't ready to make a comment regarding the current discussion or the decision to freeze positions.

Amber commented that the minute it's apparent that a (College) decision needs to be made that will impact people on campus, that stakeholders should be involved. The process should involve stakeholders from the outset.

Kathryn commented that the task force came up with a letter, and the pandemic put it on hold.

question about how faculty would like to be involved in the decision making process. Kathryn asked Isaac to represent the Academic Senate at the meeting on Friday. We discussed and agreed we'd need at least two items to present on Friday:

- 1) A verbal or written declaration from the Senate, we need things to be different, and need things to be different now
- 2) Per the letter, we request a change in how decisions are being made, to ensure stakeholders are being considered and included

David commented that if we do a response, it needs to be a document, not a verbal interchange, from the Senate to the President. Kathryn commented that the written document should be read at the council meeting. Mary Thomas commented that we should use our draft letter as a basis to develop our next written response. Rachelle suggested that we formally ask that the frozen positions become unfrozen. Big picture and next steps, send out the letter, get feedback from division faculty, clean up the letter, and Isaac will read the letter.

A question was asked - when was Paul Starer advised about the freezing of his position? A follow-up question by a member of the public was asked, if you were involved in the LRC, when were they informed? Mary Thomas and Katie Ha commented that they weren't informed prior to the Friday advisory council meeting, nor was counselling or kinesiology.

Comment that a program II coordinator was recently hired in the LRC, to replace Josh Pelletier. If there is to be no LRC dean for the time being, who would program II coordinator report to?