

Academic Senate Minutes February 22, 2021

#'s represent items numbered on the [Agenda](#)

1. Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. Roll call

Executive Committee

Kathryn Maurer (President)

Eric Kuenhl (Vice President)

Robert Cormia (Sec/Treas)

Alexis Aguilar

Brian Murphy

Cara Miyasaki

David Marasco

David McCormick

Dixie Macias

Donna Frankel

Farima Fakoor

Jordan Fong

Kerri Ryer

Mary Thomas

Matthew Litrus

Milissa Carey (absent)

Mimi Overton

Rachelle Campbell

C&C: C&C has issued [a memo](#) sent also to the Academic Senate asking for volunteers for a new study group they are forming on Service Leadership. This is just a draft charter, so the membership may change, but we can begin soliciting volunteers.

5th Council/Return to Campus: Warren Voyce (faculty tri-chair) gave an update on return to campus 5th council - they discussed the structure of the EOC, and Thuy led with some philosophical issues on return to campus. The council is collecting action items for discussion in the future. The group wants to take positive steps to getting back on campus. There was a comment about advocating for student athletes.

R&R – Cara Miyasaki (faculty tri-chair) explained there was further discussion about the carry over funds. The trichairs met, and the conversation seemed complex, so a survey was prepared. A survey question was developed to ask faculty if they are in favor of using \$200K in carryover funds for equity? There are many questions, uncertainty, and not a small amount of frustration. Kathryn offered to send out the survey with the senate minutes/follow-up email.

COOL: Kerri Ryer (faculty co-chair) announced an opportunity for faculty to attend the [Instructional Technology Council's Annual Conference](#) (up to 25 slots funded by the Office of Online Learning). The ITC conference this year will offer a variety of different tracks including accessibility, design, humanizing / diversity / inclusion, leadership, and others. Starting on Monday, the conference will provide presentations and workshops over the next five weeks.

8. Guided pathways. Isaac Escoto thanked the Senate for the opportunity to meet again, and started with a discussion/2nd read of the resolution. With no discussion, Mary Thomas moved that we approve the resolution affirming support for guided pathways at Foothill College, and David Marasco seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the [resolution](#) was marked as approved. Isaac shared the SOAA, an annual self-assessment that colleges are asked to complete, organized by the pillars of the guided pathways. The SOAA is due on March 1st. All the GP Teams gave updates. There were discussions about program mapping. There was a comment that maybe the mapping effort should slow down a bit - push out the first big mapping day until April. Fatima showed a template for creating a path for students (with chemistry as an example).

9. OER - Open Educational Resources. Carolyn Holcroft led a [presentation](#) on the rationale for why we're looking at increasing utilization of OER right now, including: Costs of education, OERS are in the strategic vision and equity plan, Growing numbers of colleges are using higher quality OERs, Advisory council wants a check in on OER and textbook costs. Faculty filled out a survey regarding their feelings towards OER. On the first question, 36% of faculty feel that educational materials (books) are too costly, and 64% think the educational materials are priced about right. Some faculty are using open source materials, others have made their own material. Some faculty are using free readers, OpenStax (open source non-profit and LMS), and some use a subscription content site. Most faculty are somewhat aware of OERS, a good fraction, perhaps a third, are very aware. If faculty want to move towards adoption of open source material, there are professional development and other support for that effort.

The survey also asked about barriers faculty are facing who want to reduce textbook costs: Some programs require a particular textbook for accreditation. Some faculty fear a poor evaluation (probationary or student?), or losing respect among colleagues. Many faculty stated that OER for their discipline is limited, some faculty said the OER didn't cover the material as well. Free is inferior, good is expensive. Comments about how OER fits into specialized courses, and some classes that 612 792 reW*ncatnget athletes.

