



Evergreen Valley College

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mishra Conference Room

Present: Henry Estrada, Kelly Nguyen-Jardin, Dave Hendricks, Juan Gil, Laura Garcia, Tejal Naik, Sravani Banerjee, Melissa Hornstein, Michael Masuda, Nancy Lin, Eric Narveson, Charlie Kahn-Lomax, Grace Estrada, Binh Vo, Rahmon Pashtunyar

Absent:

Guest(s): Matais Pouncil, Antoinette Herrera, Howard Willis

I. Call to Order – 3:00 pm

Henry welcomes Senator Juan Gil and Senator Sravani Banerjee.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Tejal (1st); Laura (2nd); Agenda adopted unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes – Sept 17, 2024 – unanimously approved with amendments: Grace (1st); Tejal (2nd)

- Under Action Items (Line C), Eric suggests changing Line C to confirm the only nomination, Dr. Deborah Gustlin for the At-large Associate Faculty Senate seat.
- Under Committee Chair Reports (#3 Institutional Effectiveness), Kelly suggests including the report from the IEC Chair, Fahmida Fakhruddin.

IV. Public Comments (Limited to 3 minutes per person/ 5 minutes per item)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for items not on the agenda. Law does not permit action or extended discussion of items not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Senate action is required, it can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Public comments:

- Nancy Lin speaks on behalf of the Nursing Department on several issues with the new building such as: faculty are not being able to obtain the computer lab for exams; some of the rooms don't have enough capacity to fit all the class; some rooms have a lot of computers that are not working; rooms are double booked; some faculty don't have key to access all the rooms; some faculty don't have key to lock the skilled labs which have very expensive equipment. Henry will collect all concerns from divisions that have similar problems and report them to the President.
- Eric Narveson reminds the Senate of an item that he brought up at the Sept 3 meeting regarding a policy on Proxy.
- Sravani Banerjee praises the collaborative presentation by Dean Robert Gutierrez and McTate Stroman on October 1, 2024 @ 12:15 pm, "A journey through life and education experienced by two men of color."

V. Committee Chair Reports (3 minutes per report as needed)

- 1) **All College Curriculum:** Grace Estrada

- Grace met with her counterpart, the Curriculum Chair at SJCC, and found out that the Chair at SJCC receives 60% reassigned time while at EVC, the Chair only receives 40%. She floated the idea of requesting an additional 20% to VP Pouncil for the division chairs.
- SJCC is approaching AB-1111 very differently than we are, and we are ahead. SJCC is doing “modified course.” Should EVC be doing this as a “modified course” or a “new course”? Grace believes that “modified course” is a better way to go.
- The committee did a workshop with the first 6 courses (COMM C1000, ENGL C1000, ENGL C1001, PSYC C1000, POLS C1000, and STAT C1000) in person, and it was successful. The courses were launched on time and will be reviewed at the next Tech Review meeting.

2) **Student Learning Outcomes:** Rahmon Pashtunyar

- The committee was able to come up with a few goals for 2024-2025. They include cleaning up the website. There are 3 SLO pages that have old data (2012 – 2017).
- The committee will learn how to use Maverik and update the Handbook.
- The committee is working on software that aggregates SLO reports – a list of what is in compliance and what is out of compliance.
- We have 2590 SLOs – 1360 of them are up to date – about 52%. There are about 40 in the queue.
- Guided Pathways funds, which we used to pay the associate faculty for their SLO work are exhausted. The Chair is wondering if he should do the SLO reports for departments that have no full-time faculty.

3) **Institutional Effectiveness:** Fahmida Fakhruddin

- There is no update since the committee hasn’t met in October.

4) **Professional Development:** Binh Vo

- The committee met on September 9 and voted on the funding requests. One of them got rejected because the location is out of the country.
- The funding request is on a first come first serve basis, so faculty should submit their request as soon as possible. When the funds run out, the remaining requests will not be approved.
- The committee was asked by the Interim President to come up with a better way to do PPDs to save money. Perhaps only breakfast is offered in the 2 PPDs in August. The committee will discuss this topic at its next coming meeting.
- Binh thanks Eric and others for holding the Parliamentary Procedure Workshop on Friday 10/4/2024.

5) **AB928:** Laura Garcia

- We are on track with updating phase 3 of our AA/AS. With AB-928 and AB-1111 blending, we are trying to get the AB-1111 courses into the AA and AS revisions. We need to get those 6 courses approved by Curriculum first before we can start integrating them into the AA/AS degrees.
- We have 25 AA and AS degrees, and 4 of them have been launched.

6) **Distance Education (DE):** Tejal Naik

- The DE Committee didn’t have a quorum at its meeting on Oct 8, 2024.

7) **Campus Technology:** Steven Mentor – no report

8) **College Budget:** Eric Narveson

- The committee met on Wed, Sept 24 on Zoom. VP Alexander presented our discretionary budget and explained some of the allocations from that discretionary budget. The discretionary budget is what's left over after salaries and benefits are paid.
- VP Alexander suggested that we start the RAM (Resource Allocation Model) again. Budget cut for 2025-2026 is about a little over \$500K, and for 2026-2027, it's about \$250K in addition to what we're already cutting.
- There are 3 items in the next meeting: 1) responding to what we were given last week from VP Alexander; 2) exploring the charge of the committee, perhaps expanding its responsibility beyond just divvying out \$308,000 in the spring for discretionary funds. Perhaps the College Budget Committee can be more of an advisory committee to the Administration. 3) Discussing the idea of co-chairs – one classified chair and one faculty chair.
- The District Budget Committee won't meet until Oct 24, 2024.
- The Professional Recognition Committee is a district-wide committee. The deadline for submitting sabbaticals is on Halloween (10/31). There are steps to follow: go through the Dean, the College President, the PRC, and HR. The contractual limit for sabbaticals is 10 for the district. The PRC tries to make it 5 (EVC) and 5 (SJCC), but it depends on who applies. This year's sabbaticals are 1 (EVC) and 9 (SJCC). Eric offers support to faculty who are interested in applying for sabbaticals.
- Henry comments that SJCC is interested in discussing the RAM now.

9) **College Safety and Facilities:** Vince Cabada – no report

10) **Student Equity:** Victor Garza

- Dean Garza is looking for a faculty co-chair.
- In April and May, the committee conducted student focus groups with our Latinx students. A couple of years prior, we did our African American students, and we have populations identified in our student equity plan, and we are doing this every year.
- Dean Garza has been able to summarize a lot of dialogues and talk to 4 different focus groups, 90 minutes each. He is working on identifying themes now. He's also working with Dean Gutierrez to find support in getting data because we don't have a researcher on campus.

11) **District Academic Senate:** Kelly Nguyen-Jardin – no report

- The next District Senate meeting will be on Oct 8, 2024 @ 4:00 PM.

12) **District Budget:** Henry Estrada – no report

- The next District Budget meeting will be on Oct 24, 2024 @ 1:30 PM.

13) **District Council:** Henry Estrada

- The District Council met on Sept 26, 2024. Vice Chancellor Edwin Chandrasekar gave us a model for a strategic plan moving forward for the district. The VC was invited to the District Senate meeting on Oct 8 to give an update and to answer questions from faculty.

14) **College Council:** Henry Estrada

- The College Council met on Sept 23, 2024.
- The ILO revision was under the Action Items but was tabled due to the request from the Classified Senate and Associated Student Government (ASG). The ILO revision wasn't presented at the Classified Senate meeting, and the ASG wanted to know what the changes were, and Grace is there at the ASG meeting now.
- The College Council also approved a Drop for Nonpayment Policy. VP Willis will present it today.

- The College Council set goals for 2024-2025: 1) the first goal is to look into the needs of students; 2) the second goal is to look into the needs of faculty and staff.
- The College Council will finalize the Handbook.

VI. Academic Senate President's Report

- Faculty Prioritization Committee (FPC) – met on Sept 18 and confirmed the rubric to be used to score requests faculty positions. All members of the committee received copies of the AURRs or Program Reviews. The committee will work throughout the weekend to assess and rank the requests. The committee has decided that they will find a way to honor the 3 positions that were put on hold last year due to the budget deficit. A "Sense of the Senate" vote was conducted, and the result was that 9 out of 14 members of the Senate expressed the desire to list the last year's 3 positions on the top of this year's list.

VII. Academic Senate Vice President's Report

- Rhya is no longer working for the Senate Office. Her last day was yesterday (9/30). The Senate Newsletter has been postponed.
- Update on the Associate Faculty Senator seat: unfortunately, Dr. Gustlin was not able to serve on the Senate after all, so we will start the process again tomorrow.
- A study by WalletHub, a financial Service Company, that ranked California's best community colleges was posted on the KTLA 5 website on Aug 13, 2024. The study looked at 77 community colleges and EVC was ranked #8 on the list. The study evaluated these 77 community colleges on the following 3 key dimensions: cost and financing, education outcomes, and career outcomes.
<https://ktla.com/news/california/here-are-californias-top-77-community-colleges-study/>

VIII. Consent Items

- A) Fall 2024 Tenured Faculty Evaluations from the MSE Division:
- Charles Chau – Preeti Srinivasan (evaluator)
 - May Chen – Lisa Pang (evaluator)
 - Laimi Cong-Huyen – Tech Ky (evaluator)
 - Alfred Gonzalez – Azita Tavana (evaluator)
 - Tech Ky – Henry Estrada (evaluator)
 - Tin Quach – Sylvia Anderson (evaluator)
 - Sithparran Vanniasagaram – Robert Knight (evaluator)
 - Preeti Srinivasan – Michael Ghebreab (evaluator)
 - Sylvia Anderson – Shanna Erickson (evaluator)
 - Azita Tavana – May Chen (evaluator)
 - Lisa Hays – Jennifer Kurushima (evaluator)
 - Shanna Erickson – Bob Lombard (evaluator)

IX. Action Items

- A) Disabilities Support Program (DSP) Screening Committee: Martha Hardin (7 votes); Melody Barta (4 votes) – The Senate will inform the faculty.
- B) AB-1111 – Faculty Lead – Grace Estrada was unanimously approved.

X. Discussion Items

A) Proposed Title Change for Faculty Members

- Henry – I did some research on it, and I discovered that about a dozen other community colleges up and down the State have changed the title to Professor.
- Melissa – Students are unsure what to call us. I get called “Mrs.” a lot. I’d rather be called “Dr.” and I feel really uncomfortable being called “Professor” because I’m not a professor. Calling someone Instructor “so” and “so” is very clunky.
- Binh – A consistent title may be helpful for our students.
- Henry – As we pursue action on this, we’ll have to write a resolution. We’ll have to get a group of people who will construct this resolution and put it before the Senate.
- Laura – We did a resolution to call Adjunct Faculty “Associate Faculty” a few years back, but it never took off. Thinking about this, we have to do it differently, other than write a resolution. People still call Adjuncts “Adjuncts” but not “Associate Faculty.”
- Eric – HR calls us “Instructor.” Eric’s question is “If we pass the resolution, do we need something from our sister college?” Get an agreement from the sister college and instruct HR.
- Henry – I will check with District Senate and HR.
- Grace – I am for everyone to be called “Professor,” and I am not for the hierarchy: Professor and Associate Professor.

B) Early Alert Faculty Coordinator Vacancy

- Henry – We put a lot of effort and a lot of money into setting this up, and it is very beneficial to our students. Are there any ideas for what we can do to incentivize this?
- Dave – At 20% reassigned time, it’s not attracting anybody. More compensation would lead to more people.
- Laura, Sravani, Kelly, Dave, Grace, Dean Garza: Tina was an exceptional coordinator.
- Laura: They did hire a new full-time classified support person.
- Henry: I’ll work with the Vice Presidents about this issue to see if we can negotiate on that.
- Dean Garza: The program will continue in the spring (2025) even if there’s no Faculty Coordinator.

XI. Information Items

A) Teaching and learning with AI – Henry Estrada - tabled

B) Drop for Nonpayment – VP Howard Willis

C) OER Initiatives and ZTC Acceleration Grants – Tejal Naik

Link to Tejal’s Presentation: [OER Initiatives and ZTC Acceleration Grants](#)

XII. Announcements & Recognitions

- Next Academic Senate meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024
- Kelly encourages faculty to attend the President’s Listening Tour.
- Dave encourages faculty to attend the Union BBQ – Saturday 10/12, 11 AM – 3 PM.
- Tejal – CVC is working on making sure that transcripts are free for students.

XIII. Adjournment – 5:02 pm – Melissa (1st); Grace (2nd)