

SCC Academic Senate Retreat Meeting Minutes (Draft)– February 2, 2022, 9:00am-12:00pm, ConferZoom

Senators Present

Aguilera, Leonor
Castellanos, Ralph
Cummins, Shawn
Frost, Alicia
Gates, Alana
Gonzalez, Sara
Govea, Melissa
Graham, Song Le
Henry, Amanda
Howell, Scott
James, Scott
Johnson, Kimberly
Kramer, Jessica
Murphy, Ryan
Oase, Daniel
Salcido, Andrew
Valdos, Yanina
Van Dyke-Kao, Rita

Senators Absent

Chavez, Ricardo

ASG Representative

Wilson, Jeremy

Guests

Batth, Navanjot
Breedon, Emma
Granitto, James
Hernandez, Rosalba
Petrocelli, Rachel
Salcido, Denise
Sanchez, Sandra
Shields, Jolene
Wagner, Joyce

SCC-AS Executive Board Present

Rutan, Craig, President
Taylor, Mike, Vice President.
Kubicka-Miller, Tara, Secretary/Treasurer
Diaz, Darlene, CIC Chair.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A.** Santiago Canyon College Academic Senate (SCC-AS) President Craig Rutan called the meeting to order at 9:03 am on Wednesday, February 2, 2022

II. Presidents Report

- A.** Dr. Melba Castro is our new VP of Student Services and will be speaking at our first business meeting. Trustee Tina Arias Miller is our new Board President. Trustee David Crockett is our new Vice President. Board meetings will meet via Zoom for the remainder of February.
- B.** The Board of Trustees is in discussion about going for another Bond. We do not know if it will be for the district or only for SAC. The SCC campus is still not complete and the only way we will finish it is with a Bond Measure. Trustees are apprehensive of a district

wide Bond Measure due to the lack of community support around SCC. Additionally, it has been nearly a decade since we lost the OEC site, and a Bond could help us get an OEC location back. Therefore, it is imperative we seek the support of our community. The next Board meeting is on Valentine's Day if any senators wanted to attend to communicate our need for a Bond Measure.

1. A senator added the importance of keeping the any discussions about potential bonds or upcoming election issues informative and not crossing into advocacy.
- C.** AS President Rutan communicated to the Chancellor and President Ralston that faculty who returned to face to face in the fall did so intentionally and are not likely to want to move their classes to remote for a couple of weeks creating the disruptions we are currently seeing at the UC campuses. SCC stands that the best thing for our students is to not switch back and forth between modalities. If a faculty member decides to move from face to face back to online, it is expected that they stay there for the remainder of the semester. Faculty are encouraged to make decisions that are in the best interest of their students.
- D.** Enrollment continues to be a challenge for a variety of reasons. We are still trying to get back to our previous funding level. We are held harmless until 2025. If our enrollment does not improve, we will receive reduced funding unless the funding model changes.
1. Asked what percentage of classes have returned face to face President Rutan stated somewhere around 40%.
- E.** Changing regulations related to pass/no pass and Title 5 will permanently move the date students must declare that they are switching from a letter grade to pass/no pass to the last day of instruction. For us that is the last day of the semester since we do not have an official finals week. Additionally, colleges can choose to waive the documentation requirement for an excused withdrawal in 2022. This is a local decision and not a permanent change. AS will discuss this at the next business meeting.
- F.** Last year we completed two supplementary retirement programs (SRP). The 36 faculty salaries that retired under the SRP are still going into the "rainy day fund". To date we have saved over \$4 million.
- G.** The three new SCC faculty positions and the new continuing ed counselor position are closing this week.
- H.** The Governor has released the budget. The COLA is expected to be 5.33% and could possibly increase. The Chancellor and Trustees are advocating with legislators that we as public employees be given the same funding for the employer increases to STRS and PERS that the Governor has proposed for state employees. As a district we grew from Fall to Fall this past year due to SAC's enrollment growth. District funding did not increase because we are under hold "Harmless". This growth at SAC changes the budget percentage allocation between the two schools. Therefore, if things continue along these lines, funding will shift from SCC to SAC.
- I.** We wish the best to Dr. Annabelle Nery as the new president at SAC and congratulate SAC on their new Science Center.
- J.** AS Vice president Mike Taylor has a class conflict with the Planning and Organizational Effectiveness Committee during the spring semester which meets the last Wednesday of

the Month at 3:30. Therefore, we need someone to step in for the four spring semester meetings. AS VP Taylor will also be putting out a call for a credit adjunct senator.

- K. The call for officer nominations will be emailed by AS Vice President Taylor soon. Anyone interested should nominate themselves by submitting a personal statement for the ballot. The officer positions that are up this year are president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer. The goal is to have officers in place at the beginning of March so we can then move forward with senator elections and everyone in place by spring break.

III. Cultural Curriculum Audit Update by CIC Chair Darlene Diaz

A. CIC Update

1. Anna is still on leave. Thankfully Tiffany Garbis is willing to offer additional help and we have hired someone to help in the office.
2. We met over Intersession about AB 927. Labor Market Information, Water Quality Property Management and Geomatics are the three bachelor's degrees being looked at right now, but if anyone knows another area of workforce demand, please contact the CIC office with ideas. Even a collaboration of disciplines could be an option for a bachelor's degree.
3. Plan D presentations are being developed and dates are forthcoming.

B. Cultural Curriculum Audit

1. President Ralston sent out an email request for anyone interested in being a faculty leader for the audit. The list of qualifications included in that email are preferred and not required. Not including required qualifications was an intentional choice to encourage everyone with interest to send a letter of interest. CIC is very excited to receive the letters of interest that are due February 11th.

IV. Accreditation Update by AS President Rutan

- A. Unlike the previous Accreditation visit, this visit will be what is called a Focused Site Visit wherein the visit will be via Zoom, and we will receive the scope of questions ahead of time. The visit will be on March 7th & 8th. It is likely the current and past AS Presidents will be interviewed. It is possible someone attends our senate meeting. It is possible you or a faculty committee chair is asked to be interviewed. There are a variety of ways we can be reaccredited with one being we could automatically be reaccredited for 7 years and do not have to do anything until the midterm report. Something to remember is that the visitors can ask you anything they want if it stays in the scope of what is identified. However, if they ask a question and an answer leads them somewhere else, they can pursue that. So, it is important to remember that if you are interviewed, be sure to give them all the information they are asking for but stay on topic. If you are asked to do an interview and you want to talk with me before the interview, please feel free to reach out.

V. Continuing Education: Orange County's Best Kept Secret?

Senators Daniel Oase and Rita Van Dyke-Kao present on the great things being done at Continuing Ed that serve students of all ages. One of the best kept secrets is that ANYONE, can get a Career Development and College Preparation (CDCP) certificate. Please refer to presentation slides for details of their presentation.

VI. Moving Forward in a Remote Environment

The last two years have been an enormous challenge - The bright side is we learned to do things that we previously thought were inconceivable. We should be proud. But we are still here, and the question is how do we push forward? Therefore, this is a round table brainstorm and discussion on how we move forward as a college when some of us and some of our students may stay at home. Senators are invited to share thoughts.

Several senators communicate their excitement of returning to face to face.

Several senators communicate enjoy being able to attend meetings online and not deal with traffic.

AS President Rutan commented that we may return to in person meetings after Spring Break. The Senate will never be able to stay remote. However, other committees may do that. He continued that when it comes to meetings and contributing to governance, it's easy to sit there behind a picture being present but not engaged. This is a reason why many governance committees are not moving forward as quickly as before the pandemic. The pandemic will end, but we will never go back to exactly the way we were before.

One senator discussed one of the ways we move forward is through mentorship.

A senator commented that it sounds scary that a professor may decide to not come back. They hope everyone would be coming back to campus.

One senator is concerned about student life on campus. The sharp decline in student activities is very difficult to see. How will we regenerate and maintain the student camaraderie that we had before?

AS President Rutan mentions in response that ASG has not been able to fill positions. Students are just doing other things and the longer we are off campus the more we are changing our thoughts from not getting back to what we had but what we change our ASG to look like going forward.

A senator shared that there are a variety of ways to get the responses we are looking for. For example, a discussion post online gets everyone involved whereas a discussion in class does not. When online, opening the chat gets a lot more responses than just through discussion.

Senators discussed how fun it's been to include animals during classes.

A senator discussed an activity they do in class that covers all the on campus and remote resources that SCC offers.

One senator shares how many people are now suffering from social anxiety and we need to be sensitive to the anxiety many people are going to have when we begin to return. They communicated the faith we had in our community creating what we need as time moves forward.

AS VP Taylor poses the concern of if we are going to have faculty not choose certain committees because of how they meet.

AS President Rutan explains that one of the challenges with governance is you want to create structures that survive different individuals as well as different situations. We will have faculty who may move out of state. We will have faculty who remain online, and they still provide very important pieces to our campus. We will not have an answer right now, but as a group we will need to provide some guidance to our campus.

A senator mentions creating a norm where people can participate in meetings either in person or remotely. AS President Rutan responds that at SCC we currently do not have the technology that allows that to happen. It may be something we need to create at least in certain classes on campus.

A senator suggested investing in the metaverse and rebranding who we are and what we do.

Secretary/Treasurer Kubicka-Miller supported the metaverse and commented that with every worldwide event the world has drastically changed, and we have a unique responsibility to think outside the box to meet the needs of students post the pandemic.

Further senators support the metaverse and the need for us to create new ways to reach the students who want to come back and to those who don't. "Not only have lives changed, but brains have also changed."

A senator reminded the senate that there are many courses that do not have the option to be offered remotely.

VII. Challenge of the Work and Life Balance

AS President Rutan shared a personal story discussing the difficulty of separating what is work and what is home life when teaching and working online. The goal is to remember work exists because we need your voices, but it's very important to not burn out. He reminds everyone that there is no problem that cannot be solved. We do not want anyone to die doing our job. Do not take on more than you half to. Do what you can. When you need to step back, come to him and together we will do what is needed.

Meeting adjourned, 11:40am.