



## ACADEMIC • SENATE

### Minutes

Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83900969150>

**Present:** Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, Karen Marrujo, Jane Gazale, Hanaa Alkassas, Dan Curtis, Rita Ghazala, Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks, Rachel Jacob-Almeida, Raad Jerjis, Emma Laraby, Miriam Simpson, Asma Yassi, Joan Rettinger, Guillermo Colls, Rachelle Panganiban

**Absent:** Rob Wojtkowski, Cyrus Saghafi, Lindy Brazil, Brad McCombs, Valerie Peterson

**Other:** Marvelyn Bucky (As proxy for Lindy Brazil), Bri Brown, Jesus Miranda, Angelina Rodriguez, Josh Franco, Greg Vega

**Recorder:** Aiden Lovewell

*The Senate minutes are recorded and published in summary form. Readers of these minutes must understand that recorded comments in these minutes do not represent the official position of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate expresses its official positions only through votes noted under "Action." In accordance to the Ralph M. Brown Act guidelines, Senators voting "nay" or abstaining will be identified. All other present members will be assumed to have voted "aye."*

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**Call to Order:** Manuel Mancillas-Gómez, President called the meeting to order at 2:09pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes: February 23<sup>th</sup>, 2023** – Senate to approve minutes. Motion/Second: Dan Curtis/Miriam Simpson. Abstentions: None. **Motion Passes.**

#### **II. Announcements –**

- A. Special election for part-time faculty instruction: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez informed the senate that the ballots have been sent out and both applicants for the special election will receive two weeks for voting. There is a chance that the email sent out to part-time faculty could end up in their spam folder. A winner will be determined by the next Academic Senate meeting. The voting closes March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- B. IEPI/PRT visit on 03/13 1:00-1:45 PM I-207: Manuel reviewed the details of the IEPI/PRT visit. It will be held in room I-207 between 1:00pm and 1:45pm. The meeting consists of peers that come to the college because of proposal with regards to student center enrollment and enrollment plan. They would like to meet with us and we hope senate members will be there.

### III. Action –

- A. Curriculum Packet for Board of Trustees March meeting: Jane Gazale reviewed the items in the board packet for the March board meeting. This was an information item last meeting and will be on the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting with the board. The catalog changes would only need senate approval. There are several catalog rights and continuous enrollment updates in collaboration with several department between Grossmont and Cuyamaca. Some language has been modified to be included in the catalog. The goal is for more flexibility to students and to give them rights to choose. This is intended to remove barriers for students. New language will be added about retroactive awards. This was already in practice but not officially stated. CSU, UC and other CCC will be included and summer courses will also count. Pass/No Pass language has been bolded to draw student attention to the fact that we highly recommend seeing a counselor before using pass/no pass as some colleges don't recognize it.

### IV. Information (First readings and updates for future action) –

- A. Student Dismissal Policy BP/AP 4250: Greg Vega explained the policy on academic dismissal and gave context and background information on how we got to where we are currently on the policy. Misalignment between Grossmont and Cuyamaca published catalogs regarding academic dismissal. 2020 chancellor's office granted exceptions so there was no academic dismissals during the pandemic and all probations were extended. Those exceptions expired and we must now return to academic dismissal. Fall 2022 we would reset the clock for all students regardless of probation status instead of outright dismissal. Spring 2023 dismissals will now continue as normal. Previously it was 1 semester dismissals where student would have to sit out for one semester due to GPA not being raised by the end of their probation period. Instead of fixing or changing the system the district instead changed the policy to 2 semester dismissal to align with the system. There was no advising of any committees or groups about these policy changes. The question now is why not return to 1 semester dismissal? The concerns is that due to excess projects and lack of resources, it may get buried. This issue was brainstormed at Curriculum meeting 2 weeks ago. One possible avenue to create change is going through Academic Senate to propose a formal return to 1 semester dismissals because the current policy does not necessarily align with equitable guidelines and hurts enrollment overall. This falls under Title V but there is no language that states how long dismissal must be.

Several members and guests spoke about their own personal experiences and opinions on the dismissal policy. The general consensus is that dismissal negatively impacts students and creates a situation where students simply don't return at all. Financial aid penalty is also a concern because even if we abolish dismissal altogether, students could still receive the year-long penalty for their financial aid. The senators then took turns discussing ideas to help change or improve the policy and support a resolution from the academic senate on this.

- B. Equity Pedagogy and Practice Academy and Peer Online Course Review: Bri Brown shared the grant opportunity. This is a grant to support culturally responsive efforts. Up to 300,000 dollars over a two year span. This money is coming from a 14.2 million dollar sum from the budget. A proposal was created to submit on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> for this grant and we should hear back on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The proposal has 3 projects, funding to continue EMTLI, an equity pedagogy and practice academy to equitize online classes with priority given to enrolled or completed EMTLI faculty, and continued funding for online course review for PO CR. This is not the only thing DE team is involved in in regards to online courses. The attachment for this on the Academic Senate website will show other items and people that are trying to be funded with this. There are wider equity gaps in online classes than in face to face classes and this will help address those disparities. Jesus Miranda noted that this is an opportunity to create structure for our online teaching environments.
  
- C. Students Thrive at 35 Resolution: Rachele Panganiban explained that Grossmont SOC approached our SOC to introduce a resolution they came up with to reduce caps for classrooms. Both colleges feel this would be stronger if it was sent by both campuses with a focus on class caps and equity. Smaller classes are more equitable to have better interactions especially in online classes.

Several senators voiced their support for lower classes and recognized the long-term pros of equitable sizes for classrooms. District doesn't seem to want to support this due to budget concerns but the senate agrees that we should be increasing equitable practices as our primary priority for students.

#### **V. President's Report – Manuel Mancillas-Gómez –**

- A. Faculty Handbook Revision: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez updated the senate on revisions to the faculty handbook. The current handbook is a 50 page PDF file. A call-out was sent to get faculty to assist on a new faculty handbook with webpages and google docs with the overall goal being a living document. Jessica Hurtado will work with Rocky to help get through processes to get this online. Non-classroom hourly rate compensation will be provided for faculty assisting with this project. 3 faculty have responded to the call-out so far.
  
- B. Food service task force: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez reviewed the task-force for food service on campus. This task force was created with Grossmont and district and we are looking for vendors to take over food services at Cuyamaca and Grossmont. In the meantime we have added food trucks and they're an improvement but are more expensive.
  
- C. Academic Senate meeting locations: Manuel Mancillas-Gómez reviewed the meeting locations for Academic Senate. E-106 is no longer big enough to accommodate Academic Senate. Facilities is under-staffed and requested that we move to a classroom instead of using one of the I-building conference rooms. E-225 and B-262 were options with B-262 being a communications classroom and E-225 being an accounting classroom. Both offer high-flex. This will be just for this semester as classes will be scheduled there in the fall. More high-flex classrooms will be coming this summer. E-225 will be the choice for now.

D. Governing Board's Staff Communications: Manuel Mancillas- Gómez reviewed the staff communications with the governing board. Oral communications or reports from presidents or staff, classified senates, AFT, CSEA will no longer be allowed. Written reports must be sent in 10 days before the meeting. An equity minded communication resolution was submitted today with the intention of it being read in public comments from several members before the meeting but there is no guarantee it will be earnestly heard. The senate is in complete opposition to not being able to give oral reports at the meetings as it restrict our vice and access the Board members. Guillermo presenting ESL at the meeting.

**VI. Vice President Report** – Karen Marrujo informed the senate of the latest appointments following our last Academic Senate meeting. Three faculty have been appointed to hiring committees.

**VII. Part-Time Officer-at-Large Report** – None

**VIII. Committee Report** – None

**IX. Public Comments** –

The Academic Senate voted to extend the meeting by 15min to allow further discussion in public comment.

Vote to extend the meeting. Motion/Second: Karen Marrujo/Rachelle Panganiban.  
Abstentions: None. **Motion Passes.**

Dan Curtis noted that there was a change in district on how office 365 works with FT faculty being able to download it on home computers but PT cant which is causing problems. Math department uses math-type and PT can't use it at home anymore which in turn is causing PT to not be able to make accessible materials anymore.

Joan Rettinger noted the pushback from adjuncts. The adjuncts were told to simply come to campus to work here even though there is not adequate space for this.

Rachelle Panganiban noted that there will be complaints and possible lawsuits

Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks asked why this happened. Dan said there is no answer as of now.

Rachelle Panganiban asked where the shared governance is in this decision.

Manuel Mancillas-Gomez discussed an administrator position that was in the process of being filled. There is no set procedures for filling administrator positions. PE 13 was created for administrators but it has not been vetted yet and is used only at Cuyamaca because President Robinson gave permission. This has caused confusion when a request was sent to SOC asking for two faculty for this hiring particular committee. The academic senate president is a given co-chair of this hiring committee and represents all faculty. When SOC chose 2 other faculty as requested, SOC was told this would be denied due to "too many faculty." Only one faculty was permitted on top of the Academic Senate president. SOC selects these faculty for each assignment and the committee has not yet met because of this. The concern from Academic Senate is that these committees should be diverse and faculty should be pulled from multiple divisions to increase equity.

PE 13 has been at chancellor's desk for over a year so President Robinson decided to go ahead and use it. We tried to use revised form but it was not allowed.

Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks noted that we are trying to update PE 13 to include more faculty.

Karen Marrujo noted that we want to be transparent and have this conversation with senate, proposal for changes to PE 13 submitted. It is important for AS president to be in this committee

Guillermo Colls asked if we can speak of this in detail. Senate noted that this would be an HR issue if talked about in detail so no.

Moriah Gonzalez-Meeks noted that not all divisions can be represented every time with all major decisions.

Dan Curtis noted that needing to have 1 faculty from each division at every decision isn't the issue but simply when they all come from the same division.

Adjourned at 4:06pm