

District Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday February 13th, 2024

Present:

Heidi Kozlowski (SJCC District Academic Senate President & SJCC Acting Senate President)
Garry Johnson (EVC Academic Senate President and District Academic Senate VP)
Tina Iniguez (EVC Academic Senate VP and District Academic Senate Treasurer)
Emily Banh (EVC Treasurer)
Charlie Kahn-Lomax (EVC)
Fabio Gonzalez (SJCC Academic Senate VP)
John Banks (SJCC Treasurer)

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting began at 4:12 PM
- II. **Agenda for 2/13/2024 and Minutes for 12/12/2023** unanimously approved: 1st Garry, 2nd Tina

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (Each public comment is limited to two minutes)** None

IV. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

1. **New Membership and Membership Changes at SJCC** (Heidi and John Banks)
Heidi informed the group that after Elena Dutra stepped down from serving as SJCC Academic Senate President, that, due the emergency leadership situation, the SJCC Academic Executive Team was sharing duties, and that Heidi is now Acting President and sharing President duties primarily with Fabio Gonzalez, SJCC Vice President.
John introduced himself to the District Senate. John has worked in the district for 36 years teaching math. He is also serving as SJCC Academic Senate Treasurer.
2. **Meetings with the Chancellor Spring 2024**
Heidi has reached out to Sherri Broussard to plan DAS meeting times for Spring Semester 2024.
3. **Min Equivalency Process** (college or district wide)? (Heidi)
Heidi brought up that if an SJCC or EVC Academic Senate President signs off on an equivalency, that means that the equivalency is also granted at the sister college. For example, if the SJCC Academic Senate President signs off on an equivalency for a faculty member to teach at SJCC, that faculty member also can teach at EVC as well. Heidi suggested we make a motion to add the DAS President's signature as well. Fabio stressed the importance of being trained for equivalencies and agreed that in some situations it can become contentious and put undue pressure on the college Academic Senate President to sign off on equivalencies.

Garry Motion: that the current equivalency form sign off process be amended to add the District Academic Senate President's signature as a 5th signature. John seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Heidi said she would contact HR about the DAS' resolution.

4. Summer classes (duration, max. units 10 from 7)

A lengthy discussion was held clarifying EVC's maximum summer unit loading compared to SJCC's maximum summer loading. EVC has moved from 7 maximum units to 10 maximum units. Tina said that EVC has not made this decision lightly, and that a lot of research had been conducted. Tina shared EVC's form for counselors to sign for students who want to go over the maximum. An unintended consequence of EVC's form is that it SJCC does not have a similar form, and that could permit a student at either college to take 20 units in the district. Charlie added students in our district should not be able to take 20 summer school units and that would be setting up student for failure. Having a singular district-wide form, based on EVC's form, was recommended. The policy should be the same across the district. It was determined that the DAS will continue this discussion at the March 2024 DAS meeting.

5. Spring Plenary and DAS Remaining Budget

The Spring 2024 Plenary to be held in San Jose in April 2024 was discussed. All members of the DAS plan to attend. Heidi reported that the DAS budget has almost 2500.00 remaining. A few ideas, such as handing out SJCC & EVC swag or hosting an event were discussed. Garry and Emily suggested that the remaining budget be used for DAS senators to attend and also suggested it could be a PDD alternative. By doing so, it will free up more funds for Academic Senators at each college to attend the Plenary. If we need more money for all DAS Senators to attend, we should ask for more funding. Having the Plenary in San Jose is a rare opportunity for a larger number of senators to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.

