



## **DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE**

**APPROVED - MINUTES**

**APRIL 13, 2021**

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

DAS Members Present: Judith Bell, Frank Espinoza, Garry Johnson, Alex Lopez, Wendy Pio, Randy Pratt, Preeti Srinivasan. Absent: Heather Jellison

**F. Espinoza** welcomed DAS members and guests to the April 13th DAS meeting.

- I. The Meeting Called to Order** at 4:05 p.m. via Zoom
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**-Approved w/o Objections
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approved w/o Objections
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No Public Comments
- V. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. April 23rd (Fri.) DAS Webinar 11:00-12:00 Noon: Ethnic Studies Changes in Requirements:**

**F. Espinoza** shared the presenters have been confirmed for the final Webinar. The panel will be made up of Articulation Officers from both colleges: Laura Garcia from EVC and Gabriel Santiago from SJCC. Also, on the panel will be Curriculum Chairs from both colleges: Lezra Chenportillo from SJCC and Eric Narveson from EVC. The facilitator for the Webinar will be SJCC Ethnic Studies/Music Professor and Area F Faculty Representative at SJSU, Jesus Covarrubias. Much planning has gone into this final presentation of the DAS Webinar Series.

**J. Bell** added it isn't necessarily just Ethnic Studies courses that are going to qualify for area F. And, the Academic Senate will be playing a role in determining which classes are going to be able to be under area F. It is important to make sure that's correct and if this will be addressed at the presentation? It could potentially be a difficult task for the senates to determine those things impacting area F.

**A Lopez** commented that Lezra, Gabriel, and Laura do a really good job with addressing details, on the latest up-dates related to articulation and curriculum, and is confident that questions being raised will be covered at the up-coming Ethnic Studies webinar.

### **2. ASCCC Spring Plenary- April 15-17, 2021:**

**A Lopez** reported 6 faculty from SJCC will be participating in this year's Spring 2021 Plenary.

**R. Pratt** shared 5-6 EVC faculty will be participating in the Spring Plenary and encouraged participating Senators to zoom-meet on Friday to discuss resolutions to be voted on Saturday.

**F. Espinoza** will share with the Board of Trustees and Chancellor that approximately 12 District faculty will be participating in the ASCCC Spring 2021 Plenary. He also reminded DAS members that at a Board meeting, he verbally invited all District Trustees to consider registering for the ASCCC Spring 2021 Plenary. F. Espinoza reported that Board President, Maria Fuentes, confirmed that she has registered and will be zooming in for the entire Plenary.

**A Lopez** suggested an invitation be sent to President Fuentes to encourage her to attend the Saturday Resolutions debate. It would provide her with insight to the passion and commitment of faculty state-wide as they promote and debate on educational and related resolutions.

**G. Johnson** requested that while there are many important resolutions that require our attention, one in particular stood out for Johnson. It is the resolution addressing the humanitarian impact on students in Myanmar. G. Johnson felt that the resolution really spoke to the humanitarian crisis. He encourages the Academic Senate delegates to vote in support of the resolution.

### **3. Potential Change of Day for DAS Meeting in May:**

**F. Espinoza** proposed changing the last scheduled Spring 2021 DAS meeting from May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. so to accommodate the SJCC election of the DAS President and representatives. The proposed change of meeting date/time were supported. The new DAS President and Reps. will be seated at the May 18<sup>th</sup> DAS meeting to take place at 5:00 p.m.

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS-No Action Items**

## **VII. REPORTS**

### **Evergreen Valley College Academic Senate**

**R. Pratt** reported that Elections for new officers have been completed at EVC. The new EVC in-coming senate President is Dr. Garry Johnson. Congratulations was extended to Garry for his willingness to step into a leadership position. Tina Iniguez is an EVC counseling faculty member who has been elected as Vice President. Dr. Maryam Farshadfar is a music faculty Member at EVC who has been elected as treasurer. EVC is very excited to introduce these new Academic Senate officers whose terms begin after the end of this Spring 2021 semester.

Also recognized was Dr. Preeti Srinivasan as the outgoing EVC Senate Treasurer who has served in this role for the past three years. Dr. Srinivasan has been steadfast, a great participant, a great spokesperson, and very much appreciated for her willingness to step into the officer role and to participate both as an EVC Senate officer and member of the DAS.

The Senate is interested in the EVC college resource allocation process and want to be part of the process as it rolls out. Also, the faculty prioritization Senate ad hoc committee wants to be clear that in an area such as nursing or auto, that when those numbers dip below their regulated requirements, those are automatic re-hires and do not go through the prioritization process to compete with other faculty hire proposals. There should be no elimination of a program if faculty are not hired. The prioritization process must not be used for this. There is a District AP that addresses the potential elimination of a program. So, this is a sticking point and hope the administration will understand the Senate's position on this issue. The faculty prioritization process is not a program viability process so shouldn't be used that way.

Also, the Senate has been reviewing the program review process at EVC. There has been a feeling among faculty, for a very long time, that program reviews are shelved after completion without thoughtful consideration and follow-through on the resource recommendations made by faculty. Administration has proposed to increase the frequency of program reviews. The EVC Senate ad-hoc committee is not interested at this point until there is a fix to the concerns that have presented to the Administration by the Senate program review ad-hoc committee.

Lastly, several faculty have communicated to the Senate of their concern with not knowing their fall schedule as it relates to NIA for chairing an approved committee. The Senate leadership has relayed these concerns to the EVC administration.

#### **San Jose City College Academic Senate:**

**A Lopez** reported that SJCC is still in the process of addressing non-instructional assignments for the next academic year. The administration was proposing to reduce re-assigned time by 20%; however, this proposal still needs to be addressed by the academic senate for feedback on each of those re-assigned time descriptions and the proposed percentage allocation for each NIA. Similar to EVC, the faculty at SJCC are still not sure what they're going to get in the fall for NIA, especially those that are considering to apply for an assignment. In the past, this NIA work had been completed by March in order for Faculty to plan their load for the following academic year.

The Academic Senate is also in the process of conducting elections. Nominations are being accepted until Friday. After that, the Senate will know who and what positions are going to be in a run-off.

J. Bell added a follow up regarding program reviews. SJCC is doing a major overhaul of the program review process and SJCC is also in the process of re-vamping the budget allocation process simultaneously. SJCC are going to be moving the budget process on to eLumen. One of the things to happen with program review is to align it with accreditation to ensure they are addressing all of the points in the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER). It is also important to align them to what the new Dean of Academic Success and Student Equity is proposing as it relates to the whole equity framework.

#### **District Academic Senate**

**F. Espinoza** commented on both the value and importance of Senate leadership to zoom-in or attend the special study sessions that the Board of Trustees conduct throughout the year.

The Board of Trustees had a special study session on the Saturday before spring break. It was held from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. One of the major topics addressed, was the "surplus land" of 27 acres adjacent to EVC. What results from with this surplus land will impact the entire district and community for generations to come. The Board of Trustees have differing opinions on how this land should be utilized.

Another topic addressed were the Board of Trustee's Budget Principles. A motion had been made to re-affirm the existing Budget Principles; however, it was not passed. There will be further discussions in the future to address this issue.

The last item addressed was expanding the presence of our SJECCD into the community. Expanding the footprint was supported by trustees; however, there was a lengthy discussion on how to proceed. A resolution will be drafted to share with the Board of Trustees that will provide Chancellor Breland with a charge. Comments from the Board included the importance of collaborating with the community to listen to input regarding perspectives on their educational needs.

In closing, F Espinoza thanked all of DAS members for their support this this academic year.

**A Lopez** shared a closing comment that on June 16-18, 2021, the ASCCC will be offering their annual Senate Faculty Leadership Institute. While it will be virtual this year, it is an important opportunity, especially; for those who are taking on new positions in Senate leadership. The Institute is a great place to meet other Senate leaders to address tips for new leaders and issues impacting Academic Senates throughout the state. It is highly encouraged for new Senate leaders to attend.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT (Approved with No Objections)**