District Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026. Room MS-296, Evergreen Valley College

Present:
John Banks (SJECCD Treasurer & SJCC Academic Senate Treasurer)
Phil Crawford (SJCC Academic Senate): Remote
Grace Estrada (EVC Academic Senate)
Henry Estrada (EVC Academic Senate President)
David Hendricks (SJECCD District Academic Senate President & EVC Academic Senate Treasurer)
Mark Branom (SJECCD Academic Senate VP & SJCC Academic Senate President)
Kelly Nguyen-Jardin (EVC Senate VP): Remote

Guests:
Cristina Leal, SJCC Senate (Remote)
Valentin Garcia, SJCC Senate (Remote)

CALL TO ORDER 4:03

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA Grace 1st; Henry 2nd

1. Addition/Deletion/Corrections
2. Approval of Agenda

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Henry 1st; Mark 2nd

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Each public comment is limited to two minutes)

IV.INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. District Senate AP4000-Series Review Task Force

David said that the two campus Senates had discussed a proposal to create a task force to take responsibility for overseeing edits and updates to Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 APs. This group's creation would institutionalize this function. The EVC Senate approved a proposed structure that includes: 3 EVC Senate Leaders, 3 SJCC Senate Leaders, each campus Articulation Officer, each campus Curriculum Chairs, and the District Academic Senate President. David noted that the EVC Senate asked to include "or designee" with reference to the Senate members to allow for some flexibility. Mark said that the SJCC Senate had discussed and endorsed the structure. The SJCC representatives agreed that adding "or designee" would be a good modification.

John motioned to move the item to Action; Mark seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. ASCCC Plenary Review

David noted that most of the DAS members and future members had attended the recent ASCCC (Academic Senate for California Community Colleges) Plenary in Santa Rosa. He asked for reflections on the topics that members believed would be good items to consider as part of the DAS agenda moving forward. David congratulated Mark on having written 2 Resolutions, one on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and one on AI security. Both passed. Both of these are issues that the local Senates and DAS will have to address. Another Resolution that passed was one that endorsed faculty involvement in Dual Enrollment agreements. The District Office has entered into MOUs with local school districts. The language of these agreements allows for faculty involvement, yet so far faculty have not been asked to participate in their implementation and oversight. David said that the ASCCC Resolution encourages faculty participation in these agreements and the local Senate leadership needs to pursue this, particularly with regard to curriculum, evaluations, and minimum qualifications.

Phil said that there is a Dual Enrollment handbook that was produced by SJCC but not approved by the SJCC Senate. There also is a Canvas site for training Dual

Enrollment faculty that also has not had input from the Senates. David pointed out that the MOUs stipulate that the Community College District is responsible for training Dual Enrollment faculty, yet so far, the campus faculty have not been included in this. Mark noted that the Dual Enrollment materials are generally good, but that they do need to be brought to the Senates for adoption.

Phil raised the issue of campus faculty being assigned to a Dual Enrollment class offsite. It is unclear whether this is allowed. He suggested that faculty who teach at the high schools should receive a stipend or extra pay to acknowledge the extra work involved in teaching at a different location. Getting full time faculty to teach at the high schools is difficult. David noted that there also are implications for the bargaining unit and that FA 6157 is also looking into defining the proper working guidelines for faculty who teach Dual Enrollment courses, as well as reconciling the stipulations of the collective bargaining agreement for the offsite location.

Christina reported that she had attended a session on a prior ASCCC Resolution that called for flexible attendance options for students. This is an acute concern given the high anxiety caused by ICE raids. She suggested that our local Senates should endorse policies that support our students who may be experiencing such anxiety about attending in-person classes.

Henry expressed surprise that a Resolution that endorsed augmenting the minimum qualifications to teach Math did not pass. Mark noted that rural campuses wanted greater flexibility in the hiring process, and that local colleges can include higher levels of training in the desired qualifications.

Phil asked about the Latinx Caucus and praised its influence on ASCCC Resolutions; Christina attended it. She shared with the Caucus the guidance that our campuses were given regarding how to respond to immigration enforcement actions.

3. Universal Design for Learning

David noted that UDL is becoming a growing concern. He attended a Plenary session on it and also indicated that the EVC Fall Professional Development Days (PDD) would be structured around the theme of UDL. The goal is that all of our students can expect instruction that meets them where they are and anticipates their needs. David praised Mark for his ASCCC Resolution on UDL that had recently passed. Mark explained that the Resolution endorsed reviewing campus practices to align them with UDL principles. The SJCC Distance Education (DE) Committee is interested in adding UDL principles to the DE handbook. Phil noted that a recent PD session on UDL was very helpful in providing guidance on how to anticipate different student needs based on a variety of learning styles. Grace noted that UDL will affect assessment, as well as instruction, and this needs to be covered in trainings. David noted that the AP Task Force also will need to address how to incorporate UDL into our APs. The campuses need to address this by 2030, so work needs to begin now to meet the deadline.

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. DAS 2026-2027 Leadership.

Phil nominated Mark for President. Mark Accepted. No other candidates were nominated. Unanimous vote in favor of Mark for President. David has been elected to the Presidency of the EVC Senate and will serve as Vice President, as directed by the DAS Bylaws. Mark nominated John for Treasurer. John accepted the nomination. No other nominations. John was unanimously elected Treasurer.

The rest of the SJCC DAS delegation, in addition to Mark and John, will be Christina Leal and Valentin Garcia. The EVC DAS delegation will be David, Tina Iniguez, Eric Narveson, and an at-large representative who has yet to be identified.

Phil suggested that Associate Faculty who volunteer to be part of the DAS ought to be compensated for attending meetings. David endorsed the idea. Phil added that the Board of Trustees and Chancellor should support paying Associate Faculty for performing any Committee work, as well as attending Division meetings. Deans don’t always invite Associate Faculty to Division meetings. This is unfortunate since research shows that a campus thrives when Associate Faculty are included.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

VI. REPORTS

1. Evergreen Valley College Academic Senate

Henry reflected that over the year the Senates had worked well together and had much overlap in their agendas. The culmination of much of the year's work resulted in the creation of the AP Task Force to review Ch. 4 and 5. Having the Task Force will allow a more streamlined and active path toward updating and editing the APs. We also have worked with the Vice Chancellor of Educational Services in order to develop better coordination with the District Office. We also have seen UDL becoming a more pressing concern. The EVC Senate also has led conversations about how to develop better opportunities for Friday sections. The Senate also has been working with the EVC President to address issues related to Strategic Enrollment Management, including scheduling. The EVC Senate also has been addressing Zero Textbook Cost and Burdet Free sections; it may be a good idea for the Senates to work together to create an AP that would endorse the adoption of ZTC resources for instruction, while still maintaining faculty's academic freedom.

2. San Jose City College Academic Senate

Mark reported the recent election of the SJCC Senate leadership for 2026-2027. Cristina will be President, Anita Reyes will be VP, and John will be Treasurer. The Senate needs to decide on the fourth member of the executive team. The Faculty handbook was approved and needs to go to the CAC and then the President. There were some major changes in the handbook that help with resources for faculty on how to teach. The SJCC Senate also heard from its Curriculum Committee about changes in attendance accounting and fixing contact hours versus unit hours. The Outcomes Assessment handbook was introduced for a first reading. There was a discussion on Arise, formerly known as Outcomes Assessment. It would combine program review and outcomes assessment as a new committee. There is some concern that SJCC is not hiring any new faculty particularly considering that a neighboring campus with a lower budget has significantly more full time faculty. There also is concern that the Senate was not consulted about Special Assignment offerings.

3. District Academic Senate

David reported that the three Senate Presidents had met with the Chancellor and President of the Board of Trustees. It could provide a good method to institutionalize regular contact and conversation with the Board and Chancellor to facilitate open communication.

VI. RECOGNITIONS AND ANNOUCEMENTS (3 minutes)

VII. ADJOURNMENT 5:01pm

Move to adjourn: Henry 1st; John 2nd