



## **District Academic Senate Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 10, 2024** (Held in Room 112 Multi-Purpose Room at District Office)

### **Present:**

Henry Estrada (Acting SJECCD Academic Senate President & EVC Academic Senate President)

Heidi Kozlowski (SJECCD Academic Senate VP & SJCC Academic Senate President)

Fabio Gonzalez (SJCC Academic Senate VP)

Kelly Nguyen-Jardin (EVC Academic Senate VP)

John Banks (SJCC Academic Senate Treasurer)

David Hendricks (EVC Academic Senate Treasurer)

Grace Estrada (EVC Academic Senate – proxy for Charlie Lomax Kahn)

**Guest:** Michael Divinia (SJCC)

**Call to Order:** Meeting begin at 4:04 PM

- I. **Agenda 9/10/24 unanimously approved:** 1<sup>st</sup> John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabio
- II. **Approval of the Minutes for 5/14/24:** Deferred
- III. **Public Comments (Each public comment limited to two minutes):** Micheal Divinia said he wanted to learn more about the District Budget process.

### **IV. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. SJECCD Budget 2024-2025**

Henry projected information from the District Budget meeting. SJCC had to cut \$1.7 million (conference, contract services, NIAs, and faculty), EVC almost \$2 million (mostly faculty). An additional \$700K+ cuts will be needed at both colleges for 2025-2026, followed by an additional \$200K+ cuts at both colleges for 2026-2027. Fabio emailed the SJCC President and VP to inform them that the proposed cuts had little to no input from faculty.

Both SJCC and EVC had fewer faculty hires for the 2024-2025 academic year. Positions that were vacated due to retirements were not rehired. EVC paused the hiring of three faculty, pending sufficient money in the budget. None of the faculty present disagreed that the colleges lacked transparency and inclusion in their decisions regarding the budget cuts. David asked why the District Office budget cuts were less than the colleges even though

they get approximately 1/3 of the budget. Heidi pointed out that Board President Tony Alexander is concerned about whether the SJECCD is in compliance with the 50% law.

Edwin Chandrasekar, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services for the District, has offered to meet with the SJECCD Academic Senate to provide a Budget update. Henry will invite him to address some of our concerns at our November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **2. Enrollment Management**

Most community college districts are on apportionment. In the short term, the only variables in our budget are our associate faculty and overload for full-time faculty. Henry expressed concern that these are the parts of our budget that are the most vulnerable.

There was some discussion on waitlists. Heidi agrees with waitlist caps. Fabio believes that setting caps and class sizes is a dual role for AFT and the Academic Senate. SJCC is supportive of waitlist caps.

SJECCD is a Basic Aid district which means we are not as dependent on the state, and its Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF), as those districts that are on apportionment. The SJECCD is one of eight out of the 73 California Community College districts that are Basic Aid. Thus, most of the money in our General Fund comes from local property taxes. That poses a challenge for our district because most Enrollment Management plans are implemented by California's Community Colleges that are on apportionment. Henry suggested that we pursue a budgeting process similar to the one used by the South Orange County Community College District, which is also a Basic Aid district. He also believes that Enrollment Management will be an important tool for dealing with some of our budgetary concerns.

## **3. AB 928**

EVC received \$565 K to implement the Cal-GETC, while SJCC got \$600K. SJCC got a detailed budget for where money is going, EVC did not.

## **4. AB1111**

Already addressed at SJCC. Andres Rodriguez + Gabe Santiago will handle. TBD at EVC.

## **5. Associate Faculty Hiring Procedure**

A discipline expert is not always part of the process for hiring a new associate faculty member for some disciplines. The District needs to have a consistent policy that includes qualified faculty when a Dean interviews potential associate faculty. This has serious implications across our district, because if one of our colleges gives an FSA and then hires an associate faculty member, that person will have an FSA in that discipline across the district. It was recommended that the Senate work with AFT to develop a policy for hiring new associate faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.