



san José • evergreen
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE

AGENDA

Minutes

10/12/2021

DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE

Alex Lopez
President

Garry Johnson
Vice-President

Vacant
Secretary

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE

Garry Johnson
Academic Senate President

Tina Iniguez
Academic Senate Vice-President

Maryam Farshadfar
Academic Senate Treasurer

Laura Garcia
Academic Senate At-Large

SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE

Judith Bell
Academic Senate President

Elena Dutra
Academic Senate Vice-President

Heather Jellison
Academic Senate Treasurer

Alex Lopez
Academic Senate At-Large

I CALL TO ORDER

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Approved with no objections

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approved with no objections

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

NO Public Comments

V. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

1. Replacement faculty position vacancies and the new faculty position vacancies at each college discussion.

- Garry- The chancellor announced to the senate leadership that he was going to grant the colleges twelve new positions six at each college in addition to whatever the usual allotment by the college president for positions that were vacant. EVC will be getting six new positions and six positions will be allotted by the college president so EVC will be getting twelve positions. All those positions will go through the prioritization process. This process will happen at both campuses.
- We struggled to get information about how many vacancies EVC had from retirements or people that just left their positions. Garry asked HR for this information but did not get that information from them. He was told to look for this information on the Board Docs. His college president eventually stated that she was going to provide him the information. This information is important to EVC because they use this for points in the prioritization process for hiring.
- Alex- Some people thought that each of the colleges were going to get twelve new positions which is incorrect. Each college will get six new positions. The SJCC senate leadership was not informed about the vacancies they will be filling. The college president will get back to the senate leadership with this information.
- Judith –SJCC did the prioritization process at the last meeting and forwarded that list to the college president so SJCC's college president will be getting back to the senate with her decision.

- Garry- We have to be careful on how we word these positions because they are new hires not new positions.

2. Instructional modalities

- Judith Bell- shared a page from SJCC's distance education in the Senate Handbook. The issues in the discussions have been about synchronous and asynchronous and whether you allow for those courses to be taught at the college. SJCC has both. There are three kinds of distance education courses that we offer and are on our spring schedule. Asynchronous classes are 100% online, Online Hybrid Courses and synchronous (Real time) Online Courses.
- The other piece of the puzzle is that we are in an emergency situation and certification for emergency teaching online will end at the end of Spring 2021. The requirements for teaching online for the emergency situation passed in the academic senate. Now that these emergency requirements are going to end. Faculty that want to teach online have to be fully certified to teach online. SJCC's Academic Senate has defined those requirements. If our faculty is not certified they will not be able to teach in spring 2022. We had a discussion about this at the executive and we do not want to lower our standards. Our distance education has high standards and integrity. Also, some people feel that distance education is a sham because it may not produce the same kind of student success that in person classes do. For us it is very important that we do not lower our standards with distance education. SJCC did a small survey by students and faculty and we found that faculty and students like a mix of modalities. A kind of hybrid approach to distance education. This has to be good for both students and faculty but mostly for student because we keep student on the top of the agenda. We also need to continue with robust training in distance education.
- Alex- SJCC also asked that our student be surveyed by not only the use of technology but also take into consideration the students that do not use technology and the student that have left the college during this pandemic. We need this information so that decision can be made so that the student can have the learning environment that they need to succeed.
- Garry- EVC has six different modalities. There is a lot of overlap with SJCC. EVC has a meeting tomorrow with administration to talk about these issues. We want to wait until then to talk about these issues. We have to work with the deans on who is going back and sometimes the deans don't impose these requirements so these are some of the issues we need to discuss with administration.
- Fabio – SJCC started having the conversation about distance education back in 2016 and we received a lot of push back from folks that did not want to receive the training. The certification of teaching online upholds the standards of curriculum but also needs to maintain the standard on teaching methodologies. Loading is one thing and modalities is another. We can't mix the two. Loading and class assignments are part of our CBA and our contract.
- We need to take into account our plan for reopening the district. Leaders from the Academic Senate and the Union have been asking for this plan. The reason we are discussing this right now is because we didn't have a vision or a plan of action. We didn't know what was supposed to happen last spring semester, this past summer, this fall or this coming spring with our class offerings.
- Judith – A lot of this pressure is coming from the Board. They want us to go back 100% but we were not at 100% before the pandemic. Students want a mixture of both face to face and online. We need to deal with what our student's need.
- Alex – One thing that we have to ask ourselves is how do we meet the needs of the students? The needs of the student need to come first because we are here to serve the students. What do the student from this area need to be successful and to be able to accomplish and complete programs? A lot of our student need to work and go to school at the same time. We serve a lot of students that come from poverty and don't have the option to attend school full-time. In addition, many of our students have a lot of responsibilities that privileged students don't have. Meeting the needs of our students has to be at the forefront of what we do so that they can succeed and complete their certificate or degree programs.
- Tina – Our most vulnerable students have been lost. We need to look at data. International students do very well online but in special programs the number of student have plummeted.

We need to take a look at how we better support our students. I relish being in a room with students and that relationship building. It's a part of my cultural to be around others and not be isolated as it is for many cultures. I want to do this safe we need to that balance. I am surprised that there is no plan on how faculty will return to campus. We need to have that open dialog with our administrators. We are not clear with counseling on where we are. There is a lot more that needs to be talked about for us to return to campus.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

None

VII. REPORTS

A. Evergreen Valley College Academic Senate

Garry – We are taking a lead on the faculty mentorship program. We are going to build this program. The reassign time committee has been very busy and we started our faculty prioritization process. We are updating our bylaws and it may be possible that Tina and I may be extended to serve two year terms rather than one year. We made a proclamation in support of the Ohlone tribe to not have mining on our campuses. We also completed a Juneteenth resolution. We are going to the fall plenary and have lots of people going.

B. San Jose City College Academic Senate

- a. Elena – We did our hiring priority list at the last meeting. It took up the majority of our meeting.

C. District Academic Senate

- a. Alex – We met with the chancellor and talked about a retreat we talked about possible ideas. He wants to talk about the resource allocation, Online education, and future planning. The agenda was not finalized. After our meeting the Chancellor he called us back to meet with him again and he informed us, with Dr. Alexandra Duran, that the Center for Economic Mobility had applied and was granted preliminary accreditation for three years from WASC for Not for Credit classes. We informed the Chancellor and Dr. Duran that our senates should be informed and that they should do presentations on this topic at our senate meetings.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Fall 2021, District Academic Senate Meetings: Aug. 31, Sept. 14, Oct 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14. TIME 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.