



## **District Academic Senate Minutes**

**Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Mishra Community Room at Evergreen Valley College**

### **Present:**

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

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

Fabio Gonzalez (SJCC Academic Senate VP)

Kelly Nguyen-Jardin (EVC Senate VP)

John Banks (SJCC Academic Senate Treasurer)

David Hendricks (EVC Academic Senate Treasurer)

Charlie Kahn-Lomax (EVC Academic Senate)

**Guests:** Grace Estrada, Christina Leal, Solana Gurrea.

### **CALL TO ORDER 4:08pm**

#### **I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA Heidi 1<sup>st</sup> Charlie 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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

#### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Heidi 1<sup>st</sup>, Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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

This portion of the meeting is reserved for any item not on the agenda. The law does not permit action or extended discussion of any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Senate action is required, it can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- Grace shares that there is a LGBTQ+ grant, that EVC is working on, that SJCC should be working on as well but there is a disconnect.

## IV. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Title Change for Faculty from Instructor to Professor.
  - Henry shares information on EVC Academic Senate about the change for Faculty from Instructor to Professor.
  - Heidi wants to share this with SJCC Academic Senate.
  - Heidi brings the question about Counselor being called Professors as well, or if that would stay as Counselor Faculty.
  - Fabio suggests to keep in mind that Faculty at community colleges are often referred to as “instructors” or “lecturers,” reflecting the teaching-focused mission of these institutions. The title of “Professor” can be granted by the institution based on years of service, or other criteria, but obviously it is what we would like it to be. Once adopted it must be a blanket title for all faculty at the institution. The bargaining unit might need to look over since it is defined who is referred as an instructor/faculty. Also, the expectation that everyone who is referred as a “Professor” is a title exclusive to university settings or those with terminal degrees such as PhD, Ed.D. or other.
  - Henry shares that he spoke with the HR Director and within the Community College system what Fabio commented, it is not problematic.
2. SJECCD Human Subjects Institutional Research Board
  - EVC and SJCC both heard the presentation from Grace and Christina. SJCC Academic Senate will vote on its next semester.
  - Both campuses had good responses and feedback from both Senates.
3. Emergency Resolution AP7120
  - Passed at SJCC Academic Senate and their Academic Senate is asking to pass it at EVC so it can be brought up to the Board of Trustees.
  - The rules that are used to hire Associate Faculty do not exist, sometimes they use the Full-Time Faculty hiring process.
  - There is an informal way that Deans are doing the hiring, but it is not always happening, and there is not a set form of rules to follow.
  - Fabio brings up that the Union and the Board of Trustees do not have a say on this issue. It is a 10+1 matter, and whatever is decided they must adapt to it or respond with legal language if they do not.
4. Equivalency Committee Determination Form
  - Henry brings up questions about this issue that EVC Academic Senate had about this issue, being that the District Academic Senate could possible sign twice because it could be the same college.
  - Solutions that EVC is bringing:
    - Bring in the Academic Senate President from the opposite college.
    - Get a context expert from the other college to sign off on it.
  - SJCC Academic Senate passed this resolution with the idea of having an extra set of eyes. Academic Senate Presidents are trained in equivalency.
  - This item will be brought back a discussion item for next District Academic Senate meeting.

5. Board Policies on Participatory Governance

- Henry shares that in the last District Council Meeting there was a lot of discussion and revision on board policies, in particular with Participatory Governance.
- The Board claimed that there were many redundancies that they had to eliminate. Language is being changed on policies.
- Heidi shares concerns, board policies were crossed off. Board Policy 2514 which says “The Academic Senate President shall receive adequate reassigned time to perform required duties. The SJECC District shall provide an adequate account in each college budget to support the participation of the Academic Senate and Governance activities”, this was crossed off.

**V. REPORTS**

1. Evergreen Valley College Academic Senate
2. San Jose City College Academic Senate
3. District Academic Senate

**VI. RECOGNITIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (3 minutes)**

1. SJCC is having a group that wants to get rid of a TURNITIN and the AI Detection tool, they question if EVC is doing the same thing.
2. Grace asks SJCC Academic President if they have a Waitlist cap at SJCC, there is not a cap at EVC or SJCC.
3. David Hendricks will be taking District Academic Senate Presidency starting in Spring 2025.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT 5:07 PM, Dave 1<sup>st</sup> John 2<sup>nd</sup>**