



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

February 12, 2021 12:30-2:30pm, via Zoom

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Olivia Sandoval at 12: 32pm
Note taker: Isabel Garcia, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Barbara Knotts

I. **Call to Order**

Introduction of Rocky Garza Jr., Reporter and Editor with the SAC Ranger

II. **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting was made by Senator Robertson-Schule. Motion was seconded by Senator Eng and passed unanimously.

III. **Board of Trustees Meeting and Committee of Whole Meeting**

- Committee of the Whole: Meeting attended by Senator Robyn Mc Gilloway. Topics discussed included: Discussed Transfer Advising Guidelines (TAG). They have TAGS with 20 universities and 6 colleges.
- Board of Trustees Meeting: Meeting attended by Senator Robyn Mc Gilloway. Elected new board officers and then Cindy Katz of the Executive Faculty Council talked about three things that they are working on this years – the end of course survey (they are trying to incorporate some questions for more clinical hands on types of questions; the faculty evaluation and tenure. Trustees Kingsbury, Alderete and Pulido were excited about tenure. The board talked about fall enrollment being up at SAC by 1%, and about the \$20 million award that PAC received and how it was allocated (\$17 million was put into an endowment).

IV. **Reports of Officers**

- Senate President Olivia Sandoval:
UFS and EFC Update - the UFS is meeting with each Trustee individually and will be meeting with Dr. Sprague on Monday to hear his view on tenure. A psychometrician did meet with Cindy Katz and Aaron Prado, the chair of the Faculty Survey committee to look at adding some work force questions to a work force survey. The faculty evaluation committee is progressing as is the Reinstatement of Tenure committee. Senator Irvin spoke about the progress of this committee: The committee has been split into 4 groups working on different tasks and a draft is going to be produced by February 19th and then the goal is to have a full draft by February 26th and then go to the Board of

Trustees in May. UFS has a meeting with Dr. Vela and Linda Boyer Owens and some others to clarify some questions from the committee. UFS is also forming a new Ad hoc committee to take on Faculty Mentoring. The goal is to implement a Faculty Mentoring Program in the Fall of this year. College Administration - The letter written by the Faculty Senate (authored by Senators Bernal, Caraway and Rodriguez) in regard to selling back 40 hours of vacation or sick leave to compensate for financial losses due to the pandemic. President Sandoval stated that she immediately received a letter from Dr. Blackwood thanking us for being supportive of faculty. Dr. Vela also thanked her for advocating for faculty and would be taking the letter to the SLT because it is a District decision. He also told her that he had discussed it with Linda Boyer Owens and that they would present it to SLT in addition to sharing it with other college presidents to share with our sister college faculty senates.

- Senate Vice President Ruby Martinez: Serves on the EFC and one of the tasks that they are working on is tweaking the end of course surveys. Additionally, Senator Martinez is on the Faculty Evaluation Ad hoc committee that is working on Phase 1 looking at the processes of Faculty evaluations and doing research on forms and best practices and focusing on continuous improvement and student success. There are subcommittees also addressing self-evaluation and peer evaluation.
- Senate Secretary Isabel Garcia: No report

V. Adjunct Faculty Council

- Senator Amanda Martin: There was an organizational meeting on January 26th to look at some of the different things they might work on this semester. A meeting with Dr. Blackwood and Dr. Khan and Dean Krueger was then scheduled for February 15th to discuss some of the concerns that came out of the organizational meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be on February 16th at 4:00pm.

VI. Topical Items

- TCCTA Convention – President Sandoval stated that we were able to send faculty to the convention. Dr. Vela said that he would pay for 23 faculty members to attend and the Faculty Senate would also pay for 23 faculty members to attend. In the end, 20 faculty members attended and the bill will be split between the President and the Faculty Senate.
- Ombudsperson – President Sandoval reported that while this issue was taken to UFS and agreed that we need a District person but the issue has been put on the back burner given the other tasks that the UFS is working on.
- District Faculty Development Advisory Board – Senator Joseph stated that the committee has not met since last December and that a meeting is planned for two weeks from this Friday.
- SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Robertson-Schule said that the committee will be holding a meeting next week. The Faculty Development opportunities are now available to see in Alamo Talent. Senator Irvin added that there is a new Faculty Fellow now to help support faculty development. President Sandoval added that the UFS requested representation on the district faculty development committee and the UFS president, Tony Villanueva will be attending.
- Mascot Committee – President Sandoval said that the committee is looking for faculty participation in the survey process since students have been the primary respondents.

The survey closed today and the committee will look at the criteria and the recommendations and what best fits SAC. Ten finalists will then be selected and another survey will be put out from which 3 finalists will be selected and then those 3 final recommendations will go to the College Council for a vote. This process hopefully will be concluded by May.

- Textbook Committee – Lisa Menard said that a form was supposed to be sent out to review proposals but she hasn't seen anything yet. She will report back next meeting.

V. Committee Updates

- Curriculum and Instruction – Senators Alex Bernal and Jose Moreno, Chairs
No committee report. Especially since the issue of class size has led to the idea of a Charrette which Senator Martinez is involved with. It will still be looking at 80% of class size as the rule and looking for data that will support or not support that premise.
- Communication – Senator Caraway, Chair
No committee report. She did remind everyone on the Senate that they are a liaison to their Department and as such should be making a point of reaching out to their Department to make a connection with the faculty so that the faculty know they have a conduit for communication with the Administration.
- Policy and Procedures – Senator Deidra Flynn-Dobson, Chair
Update on the progress of revising the Handbook – there will be a more streamlined table of contents and some new organization to the content that will be ready by the end of February. She will be sending it out to the Senate for review. There is not a hard deadline for when it needs to be completed. Senator Martin added that the Adjunct Faculty Council will be working on an Adjunct Faculty supplement.
- Research – Senator Bruce Norton, Chair
The committee did have a meeting. They are interested in issue of faculty salaries and have come up with 7 -8 questions. The questions have been sent to the Ad hoc committee. Linda Boyer Owens has not responded to a request to meet with the Faculty Senate or the Research committee.
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Mai Lai Eng, Chair stated that Faculty Senate member elections and Faculty Senate officer selections need to be considered. The following officers are cycling off this year: Deidre Flynn Dobson. President Sandoval will be leaving the Senate at the end of the spring semester as well. Dee Joseph will also be leaving as she was a substitute for Tom Cox. An email needs to go out to the Faculty to nominate faculty members to fill 6 - 8 positions – 5 in Arts and Science and 3 in PTE. Senator Martinez made a motion to nominate Isabel Garcia for Vice President. the motion was seconded by Senator Bernal. Senator Garcia made a motion to nominate Ruby Martinez for President and Robyn Mc Gilloway for Secretary and Senator Martin seconded it. A vote was not taken.

VI. New Business/Announcements

- Faculty Development Plan Template change – Senator Ruby Martinez said that Faculty Development plan has changed this year and is more lengthy and complicated. There is training in Alamo Talent. Faculty at SAC are supposed to do a Faculty Development plan every year. The other colleges do not do this and that is an issue.
- Client Satisfaction Survey – Usha Venkat and Yvonne Galindo – rescheduled their meeting with the Senate to March 19th meeting.

- Quality Matters recertification – Senator Anahita Lorestani – is it necessary to be recertified every time a new edition of Quality Matters comes out since there are few changes from one edition to another. President Sandoval said that it might be a question not for college leadership but District (Luke Dowden). She said she would bring it up at the UFS meeting to see what the other colleges are doing. Vice President Martinez said that Senate Leadership would bring this issue up to the President.
- Monthly Report on Faculty Senate Budget – Senator Dee Joseph wants to know how to locate funds collected years (called the War Chest) ago by the Senate. Senator Irvin said that she might want to talk to Faculty Legal (Gerald Busald) since the Faculty Senate is not in charge of those funds. Senator Joseph then asked if there is a report that gets made on the yearly budget that we do get. Senator Martinez said that there is nothing in the ByLaws that states that we need to have an accounting or report out on the funds. The Senate has a budget of \$10,000 a year that is usually does not fully spend and what it is spent on is usually TCCTA conference attendance.

VII. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 2:08pm

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, March 19th from 12:30 – 2:30pm via Zoom

Acronyms used in these Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:

EFC – Executive Faculty Council

UFS – United Faculty Senate

TCCTA – Texas Community College Teachers Association

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