



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

February 11, 2022

12:00pm-2:30pm, via Zoom

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Ruby Martinez
Note taker: Robyn McGilloway, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Jose Moreno, Robyn McGilloway

I. Dr. Stella Lovato - Presentation of Minnie Stevens Piper Nominee Award – Dwayne Bohuslav

II. Call to Order

III. Approval of Minutes

Senator Lennie Irvin made a motion to approve the January 14th, 2022 minutes with corrections. The motion was seconded by Senator Linda Robertson-Schule. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Board of Trustees Meeting – Senator Karen Douglas shared the following [document](#) summarizing the Board of Trustees Meeting information as the committee of the whole was cancelled. Senator Karen Douglas stated that on the appointment of administrators the topic was very rushed. Participants were unable to see who was being appointed. Two faculty appointments were made at St. Phillip's College. In addition, the Alamo Colleges received national recognition, and the SAC Empowerment Center was acknowledged. Regarding workforce, there has been an increase in paid mentorships. All of the Alamo Colleges will be early election sites. Staff stated that they would like the same development opportunities as faculty. Senator Barbara Knotts expressed concern over the rushed appointment of administrators, and that this is something to watch in future meetings.

V. Reports of Officers

Senate President Ruby Martinez and Senate Vice-President Isabel Garcia:

President Martinez gave United Faculty Senate (UFS) updates. President Ruby Martinez stated that AlamoBooks+ has been rolled out, and we are not sure of how it will be funded going forward. UFS is trying to get faculty input regarding AlamoBooks+. An email containing a survey was sent to faculty. The survey can be answered anonymously or with your contact information. In addition, UFS is working on a student parent initiative. The District is concerned about class performance of student parent populations. A survey is being generated to help this population.

President Ruby Martinez gave Executive Faculty Council (EFC) updates. President Ruby Martinez stated that all of the ad hoc committees have presented to Strategic Leadership Team (SLT). The ad hoc

committees include the following: tenure, faculty evaluation, and faculty mentoring model. The EFC has not received the required written responses from SLT. The ad hoc committees cannot move forward until they have received a written response. President Ruby Martinez stated that the tenure proposal is not going well with administration. Administration is focusing more on contracts. The committee could by-pass SLT and send the proposal to the Board. A second possibility is to modify the proposal to include contracts rather than traditional tenure.

Regarding the faculty evaluation committee, SLT had a few questions/issues. For example, can the faculty evaluation system encompass the chairs and librarians. According to President Martinez, the faculty evaluation system can include chairs and librarians. A second concern of SLT was if the seven faculty development competencies are being considered. According to President Martinez, the seven faculty development competencies are considered.

Senator Luis Rodriguez asked if the Chancellor expressed his opinion towards tenure. President Ruby Martinez stated that the Chancellor seems to agree with SLT.

The Leadership Meeting with Drs. Vela and Lovato occurred on January 28th, 2022. The following bullet points were provided by Secretary Robyn McGilloway.

- **International Student Tuition: Guests Dr. Tom Cox and Patrice Ballard**
Lowering International Student Tuition was a focus of Faculty Senate three years ago. Several initiatives have taken the focus away from International Student Tuition, like online teaching. Dr. Vela is going to try to get International Student Tuition on the budget cycle agenda for the Board. Dr. Cox has a board ready presentation if necessary. Drs. Vela and Cox agree that lowering the International Student Tuition is a 'win/win' for everyone. Diversity and equity growth are just a few of the benefits of increasing the number of international students at SAC. In addition, these benefits align with our marketable skills. Dr. Vela suggested that SAC Faculty Senate compose a formal memo regarding International Student Tuition, and send the memo to him.
President Ruby Martinez stated that at UFS the topic of International Student Tuition was discussed. According to President Ruby Martinez, other Faculty Senate Presidents are not concerned about International Student Tuition. Perhaps the lack of interest stems from a low population of international students at our sister colleges. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) angle makes this topic important to all the Alamo Colleges.
- **Faculty180 – Academic Integrity**
Dr. Lovato will follow up with an email.
- **Chancellor Flores – Initiative on corequisites PGRs**
Dr. Vela is interested in developing wraparound services to support faculty in an effort to improve PGR. Services might include tutoring and other resources. This is a topic he will discuss further at SLT meetings.
- **Ad hoc Committee on Year-Round Scheduling**
Drs. Vela and Lovato agreed that a stipend would need to be provided to faculty assisting with the Schedule Build in early August.
- **Faculty Senate Letter in regard to communication with Administration discussion**
Dr. Vela would like COVID Task Force (Wednesday meetings) to start again to keep the faculty informed. In addition, Dr. Vela would like to make SAC Faculty Senate, SAC Staff Senate, and Student Government apart of the notification tree from SLT Incident Command.

- Any updates on discussion with Legal on Chegg, and similar websites
There has been no progress on this item. Dr. Vela would like to add it to the VP agenda; however, he stated it might not make the agenda.
Senator Jennifer Caraway added that Mx. Jeremy Motley, with the Teaching with Technology Committee, has talked with Dr. Vela about Chegg and CourseHero websites. Dr. Vela would like someone from that committee to work on the issue.
- Any updates on discussion about the 40-hour work week
Dr. Vela would like to work on this at SAC rather than at the District level. Delineation of the 40-hour work week needs to be explored. This concept was developed in the past, and we may need to look at the various 'buckets'. After looking at the various 'buckets' recommendations should be made for improvement and flexibility.
President Ruby Martinez added that the Quality of Life Survey showed that faculty were interested in exploring the 40-hour work week.
Senator Lennie Irvin pointed out that the 15 hours of service is a SAC issue, and not established at the District level.
Senator Kim Hochmeister expressed concerns about service on hiring committees that spill into the summer, when we are not on contract. Senator Kim Hochmeister asked for clarification in writing about summer stipends and summer workload. President Ruby Martinez would like to bring the topic to Linda Boyer-Owens for clarification. The Policy and Procedures Committee will investigate the topic of possible legal representation. Senator Barbara Knotts will research the name for the appropriate contact in addition to Linda Boyer-Owens.
- Drs. Vela and Lovato will attend the next faculty senate meeting to present an award to Dwayne Bohuslav.
- Good News - SAC is approved to hire 33 new faculty positions. Dr. Vela plans to have a recruitment fair to seek candidates. An email will be sent at a later date showing the departments allowed to hire new faculty.

Senate Secretary Robyn McGilloway: No report.

VI. Adjunct Faculty Council

Senator Amanda Martin: Senator Amanda Martin stated that the Adjunct Faculty Council will have their first meeting on February 15th at 3pm. Their current focus is on developing an outline proposal for the handbook. In addition, the Council will take another look at the forms for adjuncts creating excellence.

VII. Topical Items

- **SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule** – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule stated that ACUE courses are coming up, so faculty can go to the teaching and learning page and sign up there.
- **International Student Tuition** – Faculty Senate will create a formal memo and attach it to the prior International Student Tuition Resolution. The formal memo and resolution will be sent to Dr. Vela.

- **SAC Open Exchange Resources (OER) Task Force** – Dean Kahn is asking for two volunteers to be apart of the SAC OER Task Force. Anahita Lorestani has agreed to be one of the volunteers. President Ruby Martinez asked if any other senators are interested in serving.
- **8-Week Course Initiative** – Dr. Jonathan Lee conducted a workshop regarding 8-week courses. President Ruby Martinez will email documents to senators.
- **Support for Advisors** – Senator Lisa Menard talked with Dr. Jim Lucchelli about various collaborations to improve support for advisors. Senator Lisa Menard asked senators if they had any ideas to take to Dr. Lucchelli.
- **Draft Resolution for 40-hr work week** – Senator Lennie Irvin shared and read into record the draft resolution [document](#). Senator Patricia Portales asked to add the following statement ‘detracts from teaching and course planning’ rather than ‘too high’. Senator MaiLai Eng stated that the 15 hours of services takes away from our primary duties, which are our students. Several senators contributed to the discussion. The following statement was added to the draft: ‘the faculty workload committed to service and leaves inadequate time for class preparation and student evaluation.’ The committee will reconvene to give more time to the document.

VIII. Committee Updates

- **Curriculum and Instruction – Senator Jose Moreno, Chair**
No Report.
- **Communication – Senator Caraway, Chair**
No Report.
- **Policy and Procedures – Senator Lennie Irvin, Chair**
Senator Lennie Irvin stated that the policy and procedures for faculty input on new or revised policies or procedures has finally moved past the Board and it is in. Faculty will probably begin reviewing documents in the Fall 2022 semester.
- **Research – Senator Patricia Portales, Chair**
The Research Committee will meet soon. The committee will focus on how prize money was designated.
In addition, Senator Patricia Portales suggested that the faculty senate nomination form should include some background information (i.e. department). Several senators stated that the mandate for voting for eight senators is also problematic.
- **Surveys and Elections – Senator Anahita Lorestan, Chair**
No Report. The committee will be working on our upcoming Faculty Senate elections.

IX. New Business/Announcements

- **Faculty Senate Size – Senator Anahita Lorestani** asked Senate to consider whether the faculty senate needs 24 members, as the faculty size is shrinking college-wide. The topic will be added to topical items for our next meeting.
- **Leadership Elections – Senator MaiLai Eng** reminded Senate that leadership election nominations need to happen at the next meeting. Senator Barbara Knotts gave some history on leadership elections.
- **T-shirt poll – Vice-President Isabel Garcia** gave the results of the Survey Monkey poll. However, the poll was invalid because it was set at ten participants (a limitation of the free software). As a result, a second poll was conducted via Zoom. The results showed a tie between ‘T-shirts’ and ‘neither’. President Ruby Martinez reminded senators that funds could be used to pay for TCCTA Convention participation. An email will be sent at

a later date regarding our budget, so that a decision can be made on Faculty Senate spending.

X. Adjournment

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, March 11th at 12:30 pm.