



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

August 20, 2021 12:00pm-2:30pm, via Zoom

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Ruby Martinez at 1:26pm
Note taker: Robyn McGilloway, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Rolando Barrientez, Ryan Cabalu, Jennifer Caraway, Saumil Christian, Jose Moreno, Amanda Marin, and David Vaughn

Note: During the Retreat, President Martinez welcomed new senators and returning senators.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the May minutes is postponed until the September 10th, 2021 meeting.

III. Reports of Officers

- Senate President Ruby Martinez: Meeting with Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood. Tenure and, multi- year contracts were discussed. The ad hoc committee for tenure is exploring streamlining their tenure proposal and researching evergreen contracts before presenting to the Board. President Martinez is on the ad hoc committee for faculty evaluation. This committee is in the process of editing a proposal for the Board. President Martinez acknowledged the support of Dr. David Wood, another member of the ad hoc committee. The ad hoc committee for faculty evaluation is exploring the use of new software for the evaluation process.
- Senate Vice President Isabel Garcia: Meeting with Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood. Vice President Garcia added that a 3% raise in salary will be given starting in September, and a one-time stipend of \$1,000 to faculty. In response to the 3% salary increase, Senator Rodriguez mentioned a possible discrepancy in his salary of 2.8%. President Martinez will pursue the question. Senator Irvin stated that the 3% is determined from your base salary without promotions. In addition, Senator Irvin expressed concerns over the tenure process verses an evergreen contract. Senator Robertson-Schule brought up faculty compensation, and transparency surrounding faculty salaries. Senator Robertson-Schule stated that transparency regarding faculty salaries should still be a priority of the SAC Faculty Senate. President Martinez was in agreement with Senator Robertson-Schule, and stated that compensation is a goal of the Senate.
- Senate Secretary Robyn McGilloway: Secretary McGilloway encouraged senators to send a picture and profile for the SAC Faculty Senate webpage. In addition, she encouraged senators to sign-up within Canvas for board meetings/committee of the whole meetings, and to select a committee assignment. Each senator is required to

participate in one board meeting and one committee of the whole meeting. In addition, each senators should serve on one committee.

IV. Adjunct Faculty Council

Senator Amanda Martin: Senator Martin was unable to attend the meeting due to technical difficulties. President Martinez acknowledged three adjunct professors as ACE award winners.

V. Committee Updates and Breakout Sessions

- Communication – Senator Caraway, Chair
No report.
- Curriculum and Instruction – Senator Jose Moreno, Chair
No report.
- Policy and Procedures – This committee has an open chair seat. Senators were asked to think about volunteering for the chair position.
No report.
Vice President Garcia introduced the idea of reviewing the proposed SAC Faculty Handbook generated by Dr. Seabrook Jones. The SAC Faculty Handbook was then posted into Canvas for the senators to review, and to discuss at the next senate meeting.
- Research – Senators Bruce Norton, and Bruce Davis, Chairs
Senator Norton summarized last semester's meeting with Linda Boyer-Owens. One of the main topics of that meeting, was the idea of 'threeness'. Senator Norton identified the absence of 'threeness' in the annual budget documentation. According to Senator Norton, Chancellor Flores has expressed interest in the concept of 'threeness', and including the language of 'threeness' into the annual budget. In addition, Senator Eng mentioned that smart talent investment recommends compensating faculty appropriately.
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Mai Lai Eng, Chair
Nominations for Tenure, Promotion and Appeals Committees will be part of the agenda for the September meeting. Secondly, the Minnie Piper Award will invite nominations. President Martinez recommended the creation of a committee to help nominees with the application process. Senators were encouraged to volunteer for the committee.

VI. New Business/Announcements

- Faculty Happy Hour via Zoom – President Martinez
Proposed that the Faculty Senate hold a Zoom Happy Hour. Senator Knotts thought this idea was a good one and suggested having break out rooms for different topics/areas of concern. Senator Davis recommended the use of a 'prize wheel' and Kahoot to encourage participation in the happy hour. Senator Knotts volunteered to help with the happy hour along with the communications committee.
- President Martinez read a resolution from the United Faculty Senate regarding COVID 19 procedures to be sent to Governor Abbott of Texas. The United Faculty Senate of the Alamo Community College District urges that institutions of higher education be allowed to make their own decisions involving the responses due to COVID 19 pandemic based on sound scientific evidence, local health conditions, and public health standards. Senator Irvin expressed concern over the loss of COVID waivers for

immunocompromised faculty. Senator Davis noted potential legal concern in releasing this resolution, and recommended acquiring support from the Board or incident team. Senators Davis and Ervin suggested more specific language to the resolution. Senator Robertson-Schule encouraged putting the statement through the District legal team.

- Senator Robertson-Schule part of the Teaching and Learning Committee. She stated that ACUE is seeking applications for microcreditals in online teaching if anyone is interested.

VII. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 2:59pm

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, September 10th from 12:30 – 2:30pm via Zoom