



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

November 13, 2020 12:30-2:30pm, via Zoom

Zoom ID: 953 6161 3214

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Olivia Sandoval at 12: 35pm
Note taker: Isabel Garcia, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: none

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting was made by Senator Bernal. Motion was seconded by Senator Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

III. Board of Trustees Meeting – Board of Trustees Meeting

- No meeting report by either was not attended by Senator Lorestani or Senator Menard.

IV. Reports of Officers

- Senate President Olivia Sandoval:
EFC Update - the EFC is busy. A Faculty Fellow, Cindy Katz, was selected and her position starts in the spring of 2021. The EFC also continues to work on the End of Course Survey which is in phase two and primarily involves the workforce and clinical evaluations. Faculty in those areas will be asked to provide feedback to the survey sent out to them and the committee looks forward to integrating that information into the evaluation. Senator Martinez gave a report on the Faculty Evaluation system. Dr. David Wood was asked to participate in the committee and agreed and is doing a great job. Senator Martinez and Dr. Wood are the only representatives on the committee from SAC. There is also an Ad Hoc Committee on Tenure and SAC is being represented by Senator Irvin and another representative from Nursing. They will have a meeting of the committee in December. Senator Irvin stated that the committee is being headed up by Aaron Prado and Jada Leggett and that they are divided up into subcommittees looking at different issues related to tenure. They are looking at producing a recommendation in the early spring.
College Administration - In the monthly meeting that morning with Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood, some of the topics covered included Online Courses that Adjunct Faculty are being asked to take as well as Quality Matter and Adjunct Faculty Salaries. Senator Martin attended that meeting as a representative for the Adjunct Faculty. Senator Martin stated that she would be talking about what was discussed at the Adjunct

Faculty Council meeting on November 17th and that perhaps it would seed a proposal that would be shared with College Leadership down the line. In regard to Employee Development Day, there was a discussion about how well it went. Dr. Blackwood invited President Sandoval to go on Rounding visits to the Departments with her. Dr. Blackwood asked for feedback on the meeting that she held with Faculty that will be teaching on campus in the spring. Feedback included a need for **all** questions to be answered and because of that the meeting needed to be longer to address them (1.5 hours or so vs. the 1 hour given); that information for the primary contacts be in a place easily located by faculty; what is the timeline for returning to campus; the online vs. the on campus class environment; questions could have been collected prior to the meeting so that they could have been addressed during the meeting; meeting should have been held before registration was opened and students signed up for classes. Online teaching is here to stay and faculty will need to be certified since it is a mandate coming down from District. Senator Martinez had the suggestion in the College Leadership meeting that the Quality Matters certification be done face to face in a condensed amount of time (a day or two) versus spread out over many weeks (as it is offered now). Dr. Vela liked that suggestion and said that he would speak to Usha Venkat about it.

- Senate Vice President Ruby Martinez: Addressed issues brought up during President Sandoval's report out.
- Senate Secretary Isabel Garcia: No report

V. Adjunct Faculty Council

- Senator Amanda Martin: The Adjunct Faculty Council will be having a meeting on November 17th. They will be working on revisions and additions to the Adjunct Faculty Handbook during the spring.

VI. Topical Items

- OTC – timeline has been extended for the adjunct faculty to complete this training.
- District Faculty Development Advisory Board – Senator Joseph attended meeting on October 16th. Topics discussed in that meeting included faculty feedback on Employee Development Day, training, faculty development and Faculty Fellows and Liaisons for the campuses. Senator Joseph felt that there was actually very little feedback being solicited from faculty. Senator Knotts stated that she felt that since staff positions were being cut on campus, any vacancies for Faculty Fellows and Liaisons should be carefully considered in terms of whether or not they are truly necessary.
- SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Robertson-Schule said that there is a big push for faculty members to be OTC trained because we have lost 5000 students or so to our sister colleges because they offer more on-line courses than SAC does. Zoom overload was another issues in regard to having the time for faculty health wellness and scheduling team meetings. They are looking to have a brick and mortar location for the Innovation Center and in creating a Newsletter to recognize faculty achievements.
- Mascot Committee – President Sandoval, who is on this committee, stated that the committee meets every Monday at 4pm and has a target date for the mascot to be selected in the spring of 2021. There will be a survey that goes out in December for recommendations/input for faculty and staff input. Representation on the committee

- Ranger Newspaper presence - President Sandoval also introduced Sergio Medina, the reporter from the Ranger.

V. Committee Updates

- Communication – Senator Caraway, Chair
Nothing new to report.
- Curriculum and Instruction – Senators Alex Bernal and Jose Moreno, Chairs
No committee report although Senator Bernal spoke to the issue of on-line training and how we need to identify what disciplines need more on-line courses versus requiring all faculty to take training that is not compatible with the way they delivery instruction. The faculty themselves had no input in this decision. In regard to tenure, he said that the question that needs to be addressed is “Why was it taken away.” Another issue that did not have any input from faculty in regard to how it was rolled out and how it is conducted is the Flex courses and the push to offer them – process seems disorganized. He also said that department chairs hired from the outside are non-tenure.
- Policy and Procedures – Senator Deidra Flynn-Dobson, Chair
No committee report. Handbook revision/updating is ongoing.
- Research – Senator Bruce Norton, Chair
Senator Norton and the committee met and Patricia Portales agreed to work with the committee. The subcommittee for faculty pay met and questions have been solicited in regard to questions being asked of the Administration by faculty. Discussion in regard to format, time and place and selected questions is now in progress. Senator Robertson-Schule suggested having the Survey and Election committee ask for questions from the faculty at large. Senator Martinez suggested having the meeting outside of the Senate as a Special Session and have faculty participation.
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Mai Lai Eng, Chair
Senator Eng stated that Dr. Wood’s application for the Piper Award was submitted ahead of time.
- District Textbook Committee – Senator Lisa Menard
The district is looking for a new vendor for textbooks and are asking for recommendations in regard to preferred services and other materials in addition to textbooks to provide the best services to students. She also stated she needed any feedback by the following Monday.

VI. New Business/Announcements

- Senator Robyn McGilloway stated that she has made updates to the webpage and will continue to do so.
- Senator McGilloway addressed concerns of faculty colleagues in regard to logistics of returning to on teaching classes on campus classes. Other concerns include the safety of faculty and students if we are jumping to a campus presence of 25% if the COVID numbers are getting worse. She stated that as a Faculty Senator she wants to be a voice for these faculty concerns. Senator Bernal stated that more hot spots need to be provided for students especially if the intent is to have more on line classes. Senator Martinez posed the question as to whether or not hybrid courses will be flipped in terms of how they meet during the week. Senator Norton agreed and suggested that perhaps a letter be written by the Faculty Senate to the SAC administration. Senator Garcia

proposed the Faculty Senate write a letter to Administration recommending that classes continue to be taught Remote Face to Face and not at 25% on campus in the Spring. And thus, giving a voice to the faculty in regard to this matter. Senator Eng also stated that the available pool of substitute faculty is extremely shallow and of concern. Senator Garcia made a motion that the Faculty Senate send forward to the Administration a letter recommending classes be taught in the spring as they are being taught now. Senator Norton seconded the motion. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was passed.

- President Sandoval said that she had received a letter from a faculty member who was concerned over OTC training and would be bringing it to the attention of Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood.
- Drive Thru Graduation – Senator Davis asked if anyone had heard about what was planned for this event and whether or not faculty was supposed to participate. No one had any definitive information as to whether faculty was supposed to participate in these planned activities.

VII. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 2:37pm

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, January 15th from 12:30 – 2:30pm via Zoom

Acronyms used in these Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:

EFC – Executive Faculty Council

UFS – United Faculty Senate

OTC – Online Training Certification