



Faculty Senate  
San Antonio College

## Minutes

March 11, 2022

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

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Ruby Martinez at 12:36 pm  
Note taker: Robyn McGilloway, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Bruce Davis, Karen Douglas, Frances Ervin, Dee Joseph, Barbara Knotts,  
Mahmud Yusuf, and Luis Rodriguez

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### I. Call to Order

### II. Approval of Minutes

Senator Bruce Norton made a motion to approve the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator Lennie Irvin. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Board of Trustees Meeting – Senator MaiLai Eng** reported that during the Committee of the Whole Meeting, Student Success talked about the Alamo Collegiate Network Board. They did a presentation on what they are doing to help students in areas that are not as privileged as others. Then there was the developmental math update. They shared some of the different strategies that they are using to help improve math scores and student performance. The purchase of architectural engineering services for Northwest Vista College was discussed. Northwest Vista College wants to construct a Veteran Center at that campus. The other big thing was that there was a discussion and possible action to name a building after Dr. Eric Reno at Northwest Vista. They would like to call it the Dr. Eric Reno Art Gallery.

At the Board Meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Dr. Adelina Silva was recognized for 45 years of service. In addition, the sale of the surplus property, Koehler House on West Ashby, was approved for \$2.2 million. The Workforce Development Program discussed the Ready to Work Interlocal Agreement with the City of San Antonio, which may bring in \$49 million. Lastly, there was discussion and possible action on amending a contract with RH Perry & Associates providing for the purchase of Executive Recruitment Services.

Senator Lennie Irvin asked if there was any discussion regarding the purchase of textbooks next year. Senator MaiLai Eng said that there was no discussion of textbooks.

Senator MaiLai Eng made a report for Senator Mahmud Yusuf regarding the TCCTA Conference. One of the big things from TCCTA was that a lobbyist spoke about the political landscape in Texas. The political landscape has shifted dramatically with significant implications for community college funding. Some of the important policy changes being considered would alter the way community colleges are funded. In addition, Dan Patrick's proposals for the 2023 legislative agenda were discussed, specifically his ideas around tenure, and critical race theory. Lastly, TRS made a significant amount of return on last

year's investments, about \$24 million. Senator MaiLai Eng recommended that we start the TCCTA registration process early next year in hopes of improving participation.

#### **IV. Reports of Officers**

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

**President Ruby Martinez gave Executive Faculty Council (EFC) updates.** President Ruby Martinez said there was a discussion about tenure proposal and looking at how to restructure the PowerPoint presentation for the proposal. EFC is trying to add graphics so that the Board can better understand the main points of the tenure proposal. Senator Lennie Irvin stated that the big takeaway from the meeting was that SLT has turned down or rejected the proposal. So, the EFC is going to go ahead and leapfrog SLT, and present directly to the Board. EFC is hoping to be on the May agenda. EFC wants the proposal for faculty evaluation to be heard first in April.

**President Martinez gave United Faculty Senate (UFS) updates.** President Ruby Martinez stated that the legislative representative to the Board does not feel like this is the right time for the tenure proposal to go through. The legislative representative stated that tenure is very fluid and with the current political process, she can not make a recommendation to the Board.

UFS also met with a representative working on coming up with a survey, to give students about their families and how to help them. A survey for faculty will also be sent across the Alamo Colleges.

**Leadership Meeting with Drs. Vela and Lovato.** At this meeting four topics were covered: TCCTA registration, release time, OpaVoting purchase, and SAC Faculty Senate Budget. Several senators discussed TCCTA participation, and steps that might be taken to improve the registration process. President Ruby Martinez is pushing for release time hours for the faculty senate secretary. At this time, the faculty senate president donates three hours of their own release time to the secretary. Dr. Vela stated that if the release time process is to be changed it must go to District.

Senator Ana Lorestani paid for the OpaVoting program used to conduct faculty senate elections. Senator leadership would like to reimburse Senator Lorestani. Senator Ana Lorestani stated that in the future senate might purchase the program for one year at a cost of \$50. During the course of a year, senate conducts three different kinds of voting, and this program would be helpful.

Lastly, leadership would like to utilize the faculty senate budget for faculty development and TCCTA convention expenses. This is a topic to be put to a vote next year. Senator Kim Hochmeister suggested a faculty drawing for each department to fully fund the TCCTA convention for interested faculty. Senator Linda Robertson-Schule will also discuss TCCTA participation with the SAC Teaching and Learning Committee.

**Senate Vice-President Isabel Garcia** stated that Dr. Vela would like for senators to serve as graduation marshals.

**Senate Secretary Robyn McGilloway:** Senate Secretary Robyn McGilloway shared an [article](#) from Senator Luiz Rodriguez entitled, "Efforts to Toughen Teacher Evaluations So No Positive Impact on Students". A link to this article will be placed in Canvas.

#### **V. Adjunct Faculty Council**

Senator Amanda Martin: Senator Amanda Martin stated that the AFC will be meeting next Tuesday. The focus is covering the handbook outline and looking for comments/additions. They have also been working on the ACE Award Nomination Form.

## VI. Topical Items

- **SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule** – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule is looking for volunteers to serve on the SAC Teaching and Learning Committee. She also asked if senators could go to their divisions/departments and put the word out as well to let everyone know. The Committee would like more volunteers and more diversity. The Committee is meeting quarterly, and their next meeting will be April 27<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Dr. Joan Jaimes.
- **Year-Round Scheduling Committee – Dr. Dawn Elmore** – Dr. Elmore met with Senators Linda Robertson-Schule, Lisa Menard, and Barbara Knotts. Senator Linda Robertson-Schule provided feedback on modifying the year-round scheduling definition to include the different terms of the semester. Dr. Dawn Elmore requested a motion from SAC Faculty Senate. The recommendation from our senate needs to go to district. According to Dr. Elmore, there may be coordinators who are working during the summer, but they need to be paid for this as a separate event. Senator Linda Robertson-Schule made the following motion: that all coordinators across all of the colleges should be paid for doing the new schedule build training in August, regardless of whether they are on contract during that term. Senator Lennie Irvin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dr. Dawn Elmore will put together the resolution and email it to all senators.
- **40-hour Work Week – Senator Lennie Irvin** – The committee will meet before the next SAC Faculty Senate meeting to discuss the draft.
- **Flex Scheduling** – President Ruby Martinez reported on a MAPE and Natural Sciences Flex Scheduling Meeting by Dr. Jonathan Lee. During the meeting, a route cause exercise was conducted to explore improving persistence and PGR in flex courses. President Ruby Martinez stated that flex scheduling is not a mandate by the college, because flex courses are not a fit for all courses. Vice-President Isabel Garcia stated that it seemed like a very sincere effort on administration’s part to get feedback that they could potentially apply. Everybody that participated was really encouraged to think outside the box in terms of how to solve some of these problems.

## VI. Committee Updates

- Curriculum and Instruction – Senator Jose Moreno, Chair  
No Report.
- Communication – Senator Jennifer Caraway, Chair  
No Report.
- Policy and Procedures – Senator Lennie Irvin  
No Report.
- Research – Senator Patricia Portales, Chair  
Senator Patricia Portales shared an [article](#) about tenure entitled, “The Future of Tenure, Rethinking a Beleaguered Institution”. The article will be shared on the Canvas page. The Research Committee will analyze the publication for important points about tenure.
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Anahita Lorestani, Chair  
The committee called for SAC Faculty Senate Leadership nominations. Senator Anahita Lorestani stated that the bylaws need to be changed because the current leadership is

not returning. Senator Lennie Irvin made a motion to amend the SAC Faculty Senate Bylaws. Article 7, Section 6 will have a change in language from 'required' to 'recommended'. Senator Amanda Martin seconded the motion, and it passed. The motion will go to Policy and Procedures Committee. The bylaw statement would read as follows: One year of service on Faculty Senate and service in a Faculty Senate Leadership role is required <recommended> for the Faculty Senate President position.

Several nominations were made; however, senators respectfully declined. Due to low attendance at the SAC Faculty Senate meeting, Senator Kim Hochmeister called for a special meeting to be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:30. Senator Jennifer Caraway seconded the motion and it was approved. Incoming senators should be invited to the special meeting. This will give an opportunity for senators to think about the topic and recruit potential nominees. Secretary Robyn McGilloway will send out an invite to the special meeting along with descriptions of the three leadership positions.

#### **VIII. New Business/Announcements**

- None.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm

*Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, at 12:30 pm. This is a special meeting to nominate and elect SAC Faculty Senate Leadership.*