

Academic Senate & Educational Administrators Joint Meeting

MINUTES

August 11, 2022
Hybrid Meeting
(Denis Honeychurch Board
Room 626 & Zoom)
1:00pm – 3:00pm

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

Academic Senate President Josh Scott called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

LaNae Jaimez read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. Roll Call

Academic Senate Officers:

<u>President</u> <u>Vice President</u>

Josh Scott (2022-2024) Rebecca LaCount (2022-2024)

<u>Secretary/Treasurer</u> <u>Past President/Ex-Officio</u> Erin Duane (2021-2023) LaNae Jaimez (2022-2024)

Academic Senate

Mathematics & Sciences Liberal Arts

Jim Long (2021-2023) Michael Reilly (2021-2023)
Randy Robertson (2022-2024) Jose Cortes (2022-2024)

Applied Technology & Business

Erica Beam (2021-2023) Erin Duane (2021-2023)

Cristina Young (2022-2024)

Full-Time Senator At-Large

Social & Behavioral Sciences

Lauren Taylor-Hill (2021-2023)

Anthony Ayala (2022-2024)

Adjunct Senator At-Large Rhuenette Alums (2021-2023)

Andrew Wesley (2022-2024)

Health Sciences

Vitalis Enemmuo (2021-2023)

Ex Officio:

<u>Academic Program Review Chair</u> LaNae Jaimez (Fall 2022-Fall 2024) Assessment Chair
Andrew Wesley (2022-2025)

Curriculum/Tech Review Chair Sarah Barsness (2020-2023)

Christina Taliaferro (Administrative Assistant)

Guests:

David Williams (Vice President of Academic Affairs)

Lisa Neeley (Vice President of Student Services)

Susan Wheet (VP of Finance & Administration)

Dean Shirley Lewis (Academic Support Services)

Interim Dean Kevin Anderson (Applied Business & Technology)

Dean Kristin Conner (Counseling)

Dean Alysa Borelli (Enrollment Services)

Dean Tony Zitko (External Programs)

Dean Sheila Hudson (Health Sciences)

Dean Neil Glines (Liberal Arts)

Dean Joe Ryan (Math & Science)

Interim Dean Melissa Reeve (Research and Planning)

Dean Sandy Lamba (Social & Behavioral Sciences)

Absent:

Kelvin Cheah – Counseling Andrew McGee – Applied Technology & Business John Perez – Distance Education Chair

Michelle Smith – Professional Development/Flex Chair

- 3. Agenda Approval
- Senator Reilly motioned to approve the August 11, 2022 agenda; Senator Ayala seconded the motion; motion carried.
- 4. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

5. Information/Discussion Items

- 5.1 Welcome AS President Josh Scott and VP David Williams
 - AS President Scott and VP Williams gave a joint welcome that included an overview of the agenda for the meeting. They also presented some of the positives as well as challenges that faculty and administrators will face this academic year.
- 5.2 Report from morning Senate session—student scholarships, Academic Senate goals. Josh Scott

AS President Scott gave a recap of the discussions which took place during the morning Academic Senate meeting. In addition, Senator LaCount gave a summary of the Academic Senate student scholarship initiatives and goals.

5.3 Report from Deans Retreat—goals for our Academic Year.
David Williams

VP Williams gave a recap about the Dean's Retreat which took place a few weeks earlier. After some general brainstorming and strategizing, they came up with 3 main goals:

- 1. Retention
- 2. Student Success/College Success
- 3. Student Experience

These goals became the framework for high-level priorities as well as 17 90-day projects. The 90-day projects are initiatives that can be achieved quickly with the intention of improving the campus, student experience, etc. Some projects are still in progress, and some have already been completed. Examples include:

- Consistent signs on office doors that include names and office hours (Dean Hudson)
- 2. Improvement of the display case in front of the 400 building. (Dean Lamba)
- 3. Creation of a virtual Welcome Program including a student panel, information about guided pathways, etc. (Dean Reeve)
- 4. Creating a welcoming and "interesting" campus with banners, etc. that would be more appealing to students (Dean Lewis)
- 5. A "Name the Falcon" mascot contest (Dean Hudson)

Suggestions for 90-day projects are welcome and anyone can lead such a project. In addition, VP Williams is encouraging everyone to think of ways to achieve the 3 goals, i.e. "What are the strategies that can be implemented to improve retention?"

5.4 Rebuilding Campus Community Discussion

- How can we rebuild a campus community?
- What did we appreciate about the community, prior to COVID? What felt unhealthy?
- What can we do to address the unhealthy dynamics and support the positive going forward?

The following is a summary of items discussed during breakout sessions:

What did we appreciate about our Solano College community, prior to COVID? If you can, give us a specific example.

- Healthier environment than other colleges
- Good communication
- Ability to show off our campus
- "Gifts of the Pandemic":
 - Chance to get to know the whole college beyond individual departments, committees, etc.
 - Zoom brought us together
 - o More participation in initiatives, committees, etc.
 - o Improved communication in Counseling
 - o Forced us to try new ways to deliver services
- Getting to know individuals on a personal level prior to Covid, but continued during the pandemic
- Faculty success rates; faculty cooperation and collaboration

What felt unhealthy or made it hard for us to serve students and treat each other with kindness? An example would be helpful, but please no specific names, callouts, etc.

- Forgetting that we are on the same team or working towards a common cause/goal
- We weren't thinking out of the box and considering that there are new or different ways to achieve things
- Lack of community, socializing, etc.
- Lost personal connections: having a place that is more than just a location to take classes
- Lack of physical connection, i.e., able to shake someone's hand and face-to-face interactions
- Email communications/language Administration could be considerate about wording of reminders and tasks that need to be done by faculty. Not everyone needs to be reminded, and sometimes the "tone" can cause people to feel anxious or irritated.

What can we do to address the unhealthy dynamics and support the positive going forward? Think about this on an individual level, as a department, as faculty/students/administration, and as a college.

- Recognizing and acknowledging the fact that people are back together in person; mentioning the mask policy; setting a tone in the classroom; acknowledging vulnerability
- Get out of the office and introduce yourself to others; maximize the time on campus; try to get out and talk to people; re-create community

- Remember the struggles during covid and be grateful moving forward
- Make an effort to get out on campus with others and take advantage of organized walking groups, birding groups, etc.
- Standardized nametags and/or something welcoming, i.e., "Ask Me" t-shirts

5.5 Wrap-Up – AS President Josh Scott and VP David Williams

6. Adjournment

AS President Scott adjourned the meeting at 2:50pm.