



ACADEMIC SENATE

MINUTES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Room 123 (Vallejo Campus)

[Zoom](#) (856 1717 1465)

3:00pm – 5:00pm

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

AS President Scott called the meeting to order at 3:10pm.

Senator Taylor-Hill read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. Roll Call

Academic Senate Officers:

President

Josh Scott (2022-2024)

Vice President

Rebecca LaCount (2022-2024)

Past President/Ex-Officio

LaNae Jaimez (2022-2024)

Academic Senate

Mathematics & Sciences

Kristina Ferrebee (2021-2023)

Randy Robertson (2022-2024)

Liberal Arts

Jose Cortes (2022-2024)

Counseling

Kelvin Cheah (2022-2024)

Applied Technology & Business

OPEN (2021-2023)

Full-Time Senator At-Large

Cristina Young (2022-2024)

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)

Robin Sytsma (2022-2024)

Ex Officio:

Academic Program Review Chair

LaNae Jaimez (Fall 2022-Fall 2024)

Assessment Chair

Andrew Wesley (2022-2025)

Student Equity & Success Chair

Michael Silva (2021-2024)

Distance Education Chair

John Perez (2020-2023)

Christina Taliaferro (Administrative Assistant)

	<p>Guests: Celia Esposito-Noy (Superintendent-President) Lisa Neeley (Vice President of Student Services) Munir Omar (ASSC President) Danny Wilder (ASSC Liberal Arts Representative) Brandon Carrera (Supervisor – Vallejo Center) Erin Duane</p> <p>Absent: Michael Reilly (Liberal Arts) Toni Coleman (Applied Technology & Business) Sarah Barsness (Curriculum/Tech Review Chair) Michelle Smith (Professional Development/Flex Chair)</p> <p>3. Agenda Approval Senator Robertson motioned to approve the March 27, 2023 agenda; Senator Cheah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>4. Approval of Minutes Senator Robertson motioned to approve the March 13, 2023 minutes; Senator Ayala seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>5. Comments from the Public Members of the Academic Senate commented how nice it is to be meeting at the Vallejo center. The tours in ATEC and on the main campus were very interesting and informative.</p> <p>6. AS President Update AS President Josh Scott 6.1 Joint Faculty/Student Mixer – May 1st The current plan is to have this event on May 1st from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the back half of the cafeteria. Shirley Lewis, advisor for the ASSC, will be collaborating with the Academic Senate to organize this event. The purpose of this event is to enhance student/faculty relationships. There was also discussion about the formality of an event like this. Should there be a schedule? What is the suggested attire? These logistics still need to be discussed.</p> <p>6.2 Senate-sponsored FLEX sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Best Practices in Grading</i> • <i>Academic Freedom</i> <p>Over 30 people attended each of these sessions. Follow-up emails were sent out to summarize the key points. Anyone interested in joining taskforces for each of these topics should inform AS President Scott. In addition, there has been collaboration with Union President, Erin Farmer regarding the implementation of department chairs.</p>
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**7. Superintendent-
President Report**

**8. VP of Academic Affairs
Report**

**9. VP of Student
Services Report**

6.3 Scheduling Taskforce Update

The scheduling taskforce (Rebecca LaCount, Kristina Ferrebee, Joe Ryan, Lauren Taylor-Hill, Josh Scott, Brandon Carrera, Flor deMaria Cruz) has met several times to evaluate scheduling for the fall. A primary focus is to have the 30 GE classes accessible to students on all campuses.

6.4 Proposal – Breaks during Senate Meetings

Members of the senate agreed that structured breaks are not necessary during the meetings, but everyone should feel comfortable taking breaks if needed.

6.5 Other

Celia Esposito-Noy

- The quad survey will close on Friday, March 31st. The survey requests faculty, staff, and students to rank 12 options for the 4 sections of the quad. Some of these options may end up being combined, so the intention of the survey is to determine which options are most appealing to people.
- On-campus housing plans are changing and developing on a weekly basis. The application process for the SB169 funds is currently being evaluated with the intention of having our application be as competitive as possible. This includes reducing the per-bed rate to \$200,000/bed. The application is due July 1st, and this first phase will be housing designated for full-time students who do not have any dependents.

VP Williams was unable to attend this meeting.

Lisa Neeley

- Thank you to everyone who participated in Women’s History Month. Upcoming sessions include one workshop focused on women’s creative storytelling, “Why voting matters.”, and a women’s empowerment film festival organized by the ASSC. Faculty members are asked to encourage student participation, and possibly offer extra credit if the events are relevant to their courses.
- The college is offering free scantrons and bluebooks for students. Packets of these will also be available in the division offices.
- We are moving towards a grant in support of basic needs. In addition, a candidate for the Director of the Student Resource Center is being proposed at the April 5th board meeting.
- Graduation plans are in progress. Several faculty members assisted in the creation of videos to promote graduation

**10. Consent Agenda –
Action Item**

participation. The plan is to build a core of approximately 30 volunteers to ensure that graduation runs smoothly. Volunteers will receive food and SWAG.

- We are doing a research project with UC Davis in the spring which will focus on our black/African American students. A similar study was done last year with a focus on the Latinx population. An example of the results of that study showed that 52% of Latinx males who graduate high school do not go to college. The goal is to look further into this type of data to determine how to better serve current and potential students.
- Interact Communications is a firm that is helping us with marketing strategies. They are about to roll out 2 student surveys: 1. Students who “fail to appear”; 2. Students who “fail to return”. In addition, they will do focus groups on and off campus to examine attitudes about our “brand”. The goal is to determine what Solano College means to people, and how we can be more intentional about serving the community.

10.1 Appointed to Hiring Committee for Social & Behavioral Sciences Administrative Assistant
LaNae Jaimez (Psychology Faculty)

10.2 Appointed as peer reviewers for Social & Behavioral Sciences faculty.

Tenured Faculty being evaluated:

Thomas Bundenthal

LaNae Jaimez

Amy Obegi

Faculty Peers:

Joel Powell
Marc Pandone
Mary Gotch-Posta
Saki Cabrera
Anthony Ayala
Rachel Purdie

Adjunct Faculty being evaluated:

Jody Campbell
Chris Collins
Richard Harris
Nicole Kelly
Sandra Moore
Randi Osburn
Joel Powell
Maureen Powers
Jeanette Luedders

Faculty Peers:

Tonmar Johnson
Rachel Purdie
Tonmar Johnson
Thomas Bundenthal
Tonmar Johnson
Amy Obegi
Thomas Bundenthal
Tasha Smith
Anthony Ayala

Senator Cheah motioned to approve items 10.1 and 10.2;
Senator Ayala seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

11. Action Items, Including Items Removed from Consent

11.1 Request by voting members of the Academic Senate to participate remotely due to “Just Cause” or “Emergency Circumstances”.
No members of the Academic Senate requested to participate remotely.

11.2 [Online Instructor Certification Guidelines](#) – DE Committee

John Perez

Senator Young motioned to approve item 11.2;
Senator Wesley seconded the motion.

Discussion:

The language in the attached document was extracted from the current MOU which is valid until May 31, 2023. The instructions should be familiar because they were essentially copied from the MOU. The main difference is the language around the recertification which is now documented as “Maintain currency”. Approval of the document will also mean that it can be included in the accreditation report.

Questions were raised about the timeline for new hires. The DE committee did not specifically address this because it falls under the union.

Senator Young made a second motion to approve item 11.2 with the understanding that language is developed to address newly hired faculty in consultation with the union;
Senator Wesley seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

12. Information/Discussion Items

12.1 Vallejo Center: How is it doing? – See [Presentation](#)

Brandon Carrera

Brandon Carrera, Supervisor of the Vallejo Center shared a presentation that addressed demographics, data about majors, survey results about the center, and the center’s vision and future goals.

12.2 The Student Equity and Achievement Plan and Vallejo

Lisa Neeley

The SEA plan includes the intention to provide equitable services to all the centers. Examples include counseling, library services, pantry services, and more. The supervisors are an integral part, as well as the public safety officers.

We are in phase 1 of the 3-year SEA plan. Key projects of the SEA plan include the following:

- Implementation of a summer bridge-style onboarding program for black/African American students. The goal is to prepare students for their first day and beyond. This will have a 2-3 day

“soft launch”, but may grow into something larger in the future.

- Transition to a “success team model” that will go beyond typical counseling. Incoming black/African American students will be invited to be a part of this program which will provide high frequency support. The teams will consist of student ambassadors, faculty, counselors and more. This will launch in the fall of 2023 with small groups of students.
- Focus on marketing and outreach programs. The intention is to strengthen relationships, provide outreach, and evaluate retention with groups such as high school students and adult learners. There are opportunities for the Vallejo center, specifically. For example, the Rising Scholars Bay Area Network met on the Vallejo campus. Other examples of community outreach include Saturday ballet classes. Finally, the goal is to create a culturally affirming space for black/African American students, similar to the space in Building 400 on the Fairfield campus.

12.3 Brainstorm as a group:

- *What is working in Vallejo?*
- *Where do we want to see Vallejo in 3-5 years?*
- *How can we support the Vallejo campus to achieve this vision?*

Discussion and sharing of ideas included the following:

- Each campus has its own focus which works well for the college – we should keep in mind what each center is doing well.
- It is important to get people to the centers to learn what is available.
- Many students don’t know what is available at each of the campuses.
- We should be considerate and intentional about cultural opportunities at the college and in the community.
- In the past, tutoring at the centers was not available. Faculty were reluctant to teach at Vallejo because student services were not available, which created frustrations for everyone.
- Tutoring is still an issue in Vallejo due to a lack of tutoring supervisors.
- Certain classes will most likely always be limited or unavailable due to facilities, i.e., cadaver classes.
- Idea for Vallejo – Cultural (or intercultural or multicultural) Center with a full-time supervisor
- Dedicated staff for different objectives and services is important vs. relying on faculty.
- Does Vallejo have enough physical space to provide all the services and objectives that are being discussed?
- Consider collaboration with other organizations/colleges.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider “anchor” programs to attract students – if they come for a particular program, they may stay to take advantage of other courses, etc.
13. Sub-Committee Reports	<p>12.4 <i>Next Steps/Possible Resolution: What can Senate do to support both Centers?</i> This item was postponed until the April 3rd agenda.</p> <p>There were no sub-committee reports at this meeting.</p> <p><u>2022-2023 Committee Goals and Self-Assessments: Mid-Year Reports</u> Academic Program Review – LaNae Jaimez Assessment Committee - Andrew Wesley Curriculum/Tech Review - Sarah Barsness Distance Education - John Perez Professional Development/Flex Cal – Michelle Smith Student Equity and Success Council – Michael Silva</p>
14. Other Reports	There were no other reports at this meeting.
15. Adjournment	<p>Senator Wesley motioned to adjourn the meeting; Senator Ayala seconded the motion.</p> <p>AS President Scott adjourned the meeting at 5:02pm.</p>

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD FROM 3:00-5:00 PM IN HYBRID FORMAT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Upcoming Monthly Reports

1st Meeting of the Month:

- Academic Program Review - LaNae Jaimez
- Student Equity and Success Council – Michael Silva
- Curriculum/Tech Review – Sarah Barsness
- Guided Pathways Steering Committee – Melissa Reeve

2nd Meeting of the Month:

- Assessment Committee – Andrew Wesley
- Distance Education – John Perez
- Professional Development/Flex Cal – Michelle Smith

Meeting Dates	Meeting Topics & Themes
<i>Spring Semester:</i>	
April 3, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grading - TBD Academic freedom - TBD Follow-up and Action/Support of Centers Minority coalition (Shanan Danley)

April 24, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOAR/rising scholars • Announce senate election results
May 8, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health • Reflection—coming back to campus. What is lost, what is gained, and how best to move forward? • Welcome New Senators
May 15, 2023	[Tentative Meeting]