



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
Virtual Meeting  
March 15, 2021: 2:20PM – 4:20PM  
MINUTES**

**Present:**

Academic Senate President M. Velez, C. Allbee, I. Arguelles-Ibarra, J. Braun, M. Brewer, J. Crocitti, H. Eskew, R. Fremland, L. A. Gibson, A. Gurganus, M. Gwin, B. Hoefer, A. Hoffman, S. Hughes, C. Huynh, H. Jagielinski, G. Johnson, I. Kanevsky, C. Katungi, J. Keller, G. Kim, T. Kohlenberg, K. Lacher, D. Miyoshi, K. Naimark, R. Nichols, A. Primoza, A. Reuss, R. Sanchez, K. Secor, A. Shi, I. Stojimirovic, J. Sundayo, G. Svoboda, O. V. Torres, K. Wait and **Guest T. Mayasa**

**Absent:**

E. Adelson, H. Browne, V. Gerace (Proxy to J. Sundayo), N. Dougherty, R. Escamilla (Proxy to R. Rodrigo), J. Johnson, C. López (Excused), J. Sardo, L. Seiger, L. Wade and W. Wesley

**I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME** by Academic Senate President Manuel Vélez @ 2:21PM.

**II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve:

**M/S**

G. Johnson/Nichols

**UNANIMOUS**

**III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. Associated Student Government (ASG) Representative:** President Taylor Carpenter (No Report)

**B. Classified Senate Representative:** Catherine Cannock

1. Virtual 2021 Classified Service Awards Ceremony:

a. May 19<sup>th</sup> (12:00PM – 2:00PM)

2. Joyce Skaryak Memorial Scholarship Fund:

a. We are reviewing the 2021 applications.

3. The Green Revolving Fund was presented at our last meeting and we're looking forward to possibly partnering with them for our next fundraiser.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**A. 2021 Mesa College Research Conference:** Alison Primoza ([LINK](#))

1. Please encourage your Students to apply to present at the Mesa College Research Conference.

a. We are concerned that we have not received a single application.

• The deadline is March 27<sup>th</sup>.

2. Candace Katungi reported that she participated in a research conference as an undergraduate and it was pretty life changing for her.

a. I will encourage my Students to participate in the research conference this year and in the future.

3. Faculty please contact us to find out if one of your class projects qualifies as a research project.

a. More than one Student can submit a single project together.

**V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:** March 1, 2021

Motion to approve with changes from C. Allbee and R. Rodrigo:

**M/S**

Braun/G. Johnson

**1 Abstained**

**VI. GUEST:**

**A. Vice President of Instruction (VPI) Isabel O'Connor:**

1. VPI O'Connor said she hopes to get our FTE for next year soon.
2. We are taking a proactive approach to discuss what courses we need to hold online and on campus in fall 2021.
  - a. I asked Chemistry Department Chair Donna Budzynski to develop a Google document.
    - The document places courses in categories.
    - We have identified what we need to offer.
    - We need to address logistics issue such as taking the temperature of Faculty, Classified Professionals and Students and the need to clean classrooms between every class.
    - Oscar V. Torres asked about the tiers of classes in Donna Budzynski's Google document.
      - \* Courses Students need to complete in order to graduate.
      - \* Courses that need to take place on campus.
      - \* Courses that need to be hybrid in fall 2021. (3.5% in Spring 2021)
  - b. Languages Department Chair Alison Primoza asked how much help does Mesa College expect to receive from President Biden's American Rescue Plan.
    - VPI O'Connor reported we will receive funding from the American Rescue Plan and other funding sources.
    - Mesa College stands to get about 13 million dollars for direct aids to Students, support reopening Mesa College and other pandemic related expenses.
    - We did a good job allocating CARES Act funds last year.
    - Let us think of ways to get more mileage from the money.
    - Geoff Johnson shared that the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office's analysis of the impact of the American Rescue Plan will be forwarded to Faculty after today's meeting.
  - c. We need to make investments in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Innovative Technology.
    - Professor Jonathan McLeod recommended investment in an Online Faculty Evaluation System.
  - d. Several groups are looking at how we can come back to campus.
  - e. Approximately 400 Students Athletes will return to campus on April 12<sup>th</sup> for conditioning 2-3 days per week.
    - Do they need to leave campus for meals?
    - Should we open the LRC 1<sup>st</sup> floor for library services and the vending machines?
    - Can we open part of the Student Services building?
    - San Diego County currently permits 25% of normal operations indoor.
    - The criteria for returning classes to campus is Students Success that involves discussions between School Deans and Faculty.
    - Oscar V. Torres asked about the possibility of holding Faculty Office Hours on campus after the Student Athletes return to campus for conditioning on April 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - f. John Crocitti asked why Mesa College can't reopen completely in fall 2021 when President Biden said every American will be eligible for a Covid vaccine by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - VPI O'Connor said compromise is the only way that we can we get more classes back on campus.
      - \* We have health and safety protocols.
      - \* How do we support all the courses that need to be taught of campus?
      - \* We are going to plan for the possible together.
      - \* Things can be significantly better.
      - \* I think Faculty are interested in returning to campus.
      - \* I will carry your wish forward to where it needs to go.
  - g. Vice President O'Connor asked the Senators to share their ideas with her.
  - h. President Manuel Velez will invite the Vice President of Administrative Services to the April 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Senate meeting.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **A. Senate Executive Committees:**

1. Academic Affairs Committee: Chair Oscar V. Torres
  - a. The committee met last week.
    - We discussed potential new updates to the Academic Senate Constitution.
  - b. We formed a new subcommittee to tackle issues that need to be addressed.
  - c. We are developing a position paper on Academic Dishonesty which is especially important during our current online/remote learning environment.
  - d. Please send any items you want the Academic Affairs Committee to address to me.
2. Professional Advancement Committee (PAC): Chair Janna Braun
  - a. The Spring 2021 Salary Advancement Deadline has passed.
    - Please continue to submit your Salary Advancement proposals and completions for review in advance of the fall 2021 Salary Advancement period. (The committee does not meet during the summer.)
  - b. We still need Faculty Representatives from Arts & Languages and Health Sciences & Public Service.
    - The committee meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 2:30PM – 3:30PM during the fall and spring semesters.
  - c. I will announce the 2021-2022 Sabbatical Recipients in April.
3. Committee of Chairs (COC): Chair of Chairs Terry Kohlenberg
  - a. The Department Chairs are working on scheduling and prioritizing the courses that need to return to campus.
  - b. We are brainstorming ideas on how to conduct courses without "Proctorio" support starting in fall 2021.
  - c. We will hold our second Chairs Academy FLEX Workshop in April.
    - We will discuss Scheduling.
    - Senator/Department Chair Lou Ann Gibson volunteered to lead a discussion on Faculty Conflict Resolution.
4. Curriculum Review Committee (CRC): Faculty Co-Chair Andrew Hoffman
  - a. The CRC has three more spring 2021 meetings.
  - b. The spring semester is a better time to update curriculum than during the fall.
  - c. Please contact Articulation Officer Juliette Parker before you start working on Program Changes.
  - d. The San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) Curriculum Chairs are working on a resolution to encourage the state of California to stop requiring the same amount of excessive paperwork for all changes.
    - We need the state to make a distinction between substantive and non-substantial program changes.
      - \* We should not have to submit 100% of the paperwork when we are only making a small change to our program.
      - \* The paperwork requirement serves as a disincentive for Faculty.
5. Program Review Committee (PRC): Acting Faculty Co-Chair Dina Miyoshi
  - a. Program Review has been on hiatus.
  - b. We are planning for 2021-2022 and we are working to streamline the process.
  - c. We are still looking for Faculty Representatives from Arts & Languages, Exercise Science, Health Sciences & Public Service and CTE.

### **B. Other Committees:**

1. The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE): Chair Judy Sundayo  
As reported by Judy Sundayo:
  - Encourages everyone to attend and refer students to attend the Women's History Month events at Mesa, e.g. Divine Feminine in African Art, Shattering Gender Bias Against Women in the Workplace, Mar. 16 @11:10 am, in addition to the many other events. Please see the Mesa College events calendar for complete listing.
  - The 10th Annual Gracia Molina de Pick Feminist Lecture Series was rescheduled for it has been rescheduled for Monday, April 12th at 9:30 am.
  - Co-hosted the internationally recognized speaker Dr. Joy DeGruy on Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome on Monday, March 8th.
  - Presented on the 13 Point Strategic Action plan for Racial and Social Justice to the AS, a PIE Taskforce and the District CDAC Committee.
  - Members spent a lot of time discussing the ZOOM Hate Crime Bombings at our last meeting. A subcommittee was formed to develop a position paper regarding this matter.

- Co-sponsored event, "Knowing Your Rights When Approached by Police" is in the process of being re-scheduled due to the e-mail problem of last week.
- Co-sponsored event, "Protecting Your Rights" is scheduled for March 25th from 11 am - 12:30 pm
- Co-sponsored Propelled by Protests FLEX on "Best Practices in Developing and Delivering Intentional Equity-Minded Assignments and Effective Student -Faculty Interactions" will be taking place in early May.
- Will meet next on Friday, April 23rd, from 11 am - 1 pm. Anyone wanting to attend as a guest may send an e-mail to [jsundayo@sdccd.edu](mailto:jsundayo@sdccd.edu) for the Zoom link

2. Mesa Pathways Committee (MPC): Co-Coordinators Marisa Alioto/Howard Eskew/Toni Parsons (5 Minutes)  
As reported by Marisa Alioto:

#### **Pathways Project Funding:**

- Application process closes March 15, 2021
- 12 proposals received
- The Leadership Team and MPC will be reviewing proposals
- Award recipients will be notified April 5, 2021

#### **Mesa Pathways Mixers:**

- Mixers provide an opportunity to sort Mesa's 191 degrees and certificates programs into Meta-Majors\* (*\*name change TBD*)
- A total of 9 Mixers will have taken place by the end of March
  - 6 instructional faculty mixers
  - 2 classified professionals mixers
  - 1 mixer for Deans Council
  - Remaining Mixers:
    - March 18, 3:00pm - 4:30pm
    - March 22, 8:00am - 9:30am
- NOTE: The Mesa Pathways Fellows have been in attendance and have contributed to these conversations. They have developed their own student-centered framework to add to the list of frameworks that have been presented. If you have participated in a mixer, Ian Duckles has sent out a follow up email and has asked attendees to please provide input on this new framework.

#### **COMS 170 + Pathways Collaboration:**

Howard Eskew and Toni Parsons met with Communication Studies professor Dr. Veronica Gerace. Her spring semester COMS 170 students are working on a Pathways-related project; as such, the leadership team is eager to see the results and have collectively put together project objectives. We hope to provide a future presentation highlighting the amazing student work at the end of the semester.

#### **Mesa Pathways Fellows:**

- Under the leadership of Trina Larson and Lead Fellow Dani Perez Padilla, our 12 Mesa Pathways Fellows are hard at work to obtain and provide the student voice for our Pathways work and have been actively involved in MPC, workgroups, and the mixers. Additionally, the Fellows plan to attend additional governance groups to get a feel for the Mesa experience.
- The Fellows are currently participating in one of three Interest Groups, each of which have specific projects for the semester:
  - Outreach: Fellows in this interest group are working on a video that will introduce the Fellows to students around campus. In the video, they will respond to thoughts and questions students have shared via a questionnaire that is in development.
  - Research: Mesa has received a grant to encourage student participation in Pathways. The Fellows Research Team, Research Office, and campus leaders have developed a longitudinal study to understand the ongoing experiences that support and undermine Black / African American student success. The study comprises five surveys that will be administered every two weeks through the end of the semester.
  - Social Media: Social Media is working with the Communications Office to develop a Facebook group for Pathways dialogue. The team is focusing on Facebook because of the tools available on that platform; however, this will be promoted on other college platforms like Instagram. To support their efforts, the Research Team has launched a social media survey.

3. Other Committee Reports:

a. Adjunct Report concerning the Academic Senate for CA Community Colleges Part Time Symposium and Faculty Association CA Community College March 2021 Workshop:

As reported by Carlynne Allbee:

- "I attended both of these events and found a common thread that I want to share with you today:
- As you know, both organizations include Faculty from all over California
- The focus for both was Racial Equality as can be expected
- There was another common thread, under the general subject of Equity and that had to do with Adjunct Instructors and how Overload has affected Adjuncts
- Overload assignments given to Contract Faculty, even when it is a priority in the scheme of assignments in our union contracts
  - Take classes away from Adjuncts
  - In this period of time when so many Adjuncts have been laid off due to budget constraints statewide, Adjuncts have already lost many if not all of their classes.
- It was reported by the participants at these two events that:
  - Many of the colleges have eliminated Overload assignments totally
  - Many have banned overload assignments for any Contract Faculty that are
- Department Chairs or
- Receive release time for any other reason
- Summer School is considered Overload at some colleges since Contract Faculty already are being paid for a full year and at those colleges:
  - NO Contract Faculty get Summer School Assignments since they are taking income away from Adjuncts
  - If they do get Summer School assignments, they are being paid Overload and meantime, the Adjuncts are getting paid for Unemployment
- When Faculty are being paid Overload and Adjuncts are getting paid Unemployment, in essence two employees are being paid for the same job.
- When the subject of eliminating Overload assignments have been brought up for discussion at various colleges, reactions from the Contract Faculty ranged from:
  - Yes, it is the thing to do
  - Laughter – You cannot expect us to give up OUR classes can you?
- Yes, it is a situation that is negotiable by the union. However, as was pointed out, just because it is in a union contract does not mean departments cannot choose not to give overload assignments"

b. Alison Primoza asked what can Contract Faculty members do to effectively support Adjunct Faculty.

c. Manuel Velez and Andrew Hoffman reported the American Federation of Teachers held a vote on Priority of Assignments (POAs) for Adjunct Faculty and it was rejected by the majority of Contract Faculty.

d. John Crocitti reported the majority of his Contract Faculty Members gave up their overload in order for Adjunct Faculty in his department to have an assignment.

- John said Contract Faculty with reassigned time should not accept an overload assignment if the overload assignment prevents them from completing their reassigned time work.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS:** None

**IX. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. CDAIE 13 Point Strategic Plan for Racial and Social Justice on Campus:** Sundayo

1. CDAIE Chair Judy Sundayo presented an overview of the plan.
2. Rob Fremland said some items in the plan will require the passage of Academic Senate resolutions.
3. Please send your questions to Judy Sundayo.

Motion to move the item to the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion and potential vote:

**M/S**

Fremland/Eskew`

**UNANIMOUS**

**B. Excused Withdrawal Petition Requests – Vice Chancellor Topham: Velez**

1. President Manuel Velez reported Vice Chancellor Topham is trying to streamline the process and reduce paperwork for Faculty.
  - a. Andrew Hoffman reported this was an agenda item for the district Curriculum Instructional Council (CIC) and he supports it.
  - b. President Manuel Velez said the process will be more centralized and he believes San Diego State University (SDSU) has adopted the same process and it is working well for them.

Motion to move the item to the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion and potential vote:

**M/S**

Hoffman/Sundayo

**1 Opposed**

**X. SENATE EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:**

**A. President Elect:** John Crocitti (No Report)

**B. Vice President:** Howard Eskew

1. Please send your Faculty Representative nominations for the Faculty Assessment Committee on Threats (FACT) to Howard by next Friday.

**C. Secretary:** Holly Jagielinski (No Report)

**D. Treasurer:** Mary Gwin (No Report)

**E. Senator at Large (1):** Alison Gurganus (No Report)

**F. Senator at Large (2):** Leslie Seiger (No Report)

**G. President:** Manuel Vélez

1. Virtual 2021 ASCCC Spring Plenary Session: April 15, 2021 – April 17, 2021 ([LINK](#))
  - a. The theme is “Transforming & Decolonizing Institutions”.
    - The Academic Senate can cover the registration for approximately 10 Faculty members.
      - \* Please contact Manuel if you would like to attend.
      - \* There are events throughout the day and only Delegates have to attend the events on Saturday.
2. The Faculty Assessment Committee on Threats (FACT):
  - a. FACT originally started in response to safety concerns in the classroom.
  - b. Vice President Howard Eskew has already sent out the call for Faculty Committee Members.
  - c. Manuel has sent a call to Classified Professionals President Charlie Lieu for a Classified Professionals Committee Member.
  - d. Rob Fremland suggested checking with City College, Miramar College and the District Office.
    - Manuel will put the item on the District Governance Council (DGC) agenda.
3. Chicano/a Studies Department Chair/Senator Cesar Lopez will be at the Sharp Hospital Rehabilitation Center for 3-4 weeks after suffering a massive stroke.
  - a. His wife reported that Cesar is improving every day.
  - b. Please send your get well wishes to:  
Cesar Lopez/co Sharp Rehabilitation Center  
2999 Health Center Drive – Room 150  
San Diego, CA 92123
  - c. Thekima Mayasa reported Cesar’s wife is reading his messages to him.
    - We are working on an electronic card for Cesar. ([LINK](#))
    - His doctors say positive messages and videos will help Cesar in his recovery.

**XI. ROUND TABLE TOPIC: Zoom Meeting Security** (Mesa Press Article: [LINK](#))

- A.** President Manuel Velez reported Vice President of Instruction Isabel O'Connor already created a task force to address the Zoom attacks and she created a Zoom Meeting Security Response Team with Candace Katungi and Thekima Mayasa.
- B.** President Manuel Velez would like the Senate to have concrete ideas on how to address the issue by the end of today's discussion.
- C.** A Zoom attack can happen to anyone and attacks have emotional tolls.
- D.** Thekima Mayasa said we need to purchase software to identify the attackers.
- E.** Candace Katungi said she believes that Vice President O'Connor has made a call out to the Mesa College Community to join the task force.
  - 1. The task force has shared our ideas on how to systematically respond to Zoom attacks as a campus.
    - a. Alison Primoza suggested that Candace share the ideas from the brainstorming session.
      - Candace said a lot of voices need to be part of the solution.
  - 2. We will support the work of the Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE) by continuing to think about how we can support CDAIE by doing the work ourselves.
- F.** Judy Sundayo reported CDAIE discussed the Zoom attacks during their last meeting.
  - 1. We created a subcommittee with Thekima Mayasa and seven (7) other Faculty Members to address the issue.
    - a. The entire district needs to look at this issue.
- G.** Rob Fremland asked if the attacks were reported to the media and the other campuses in the district.
  - 1. Judy Sundayo said we need to look at what is happening on other campuses we should receive press coverage about what we are doing to address the attacks.
- H.** Mary Gwin reported two (2) City College community members reported Zoom Bombing incidents.
  - 1. Mary will present an Academic Senate resolution in support our effort to address Zoom attacks to the Senate Exec by their next meeting.
    - a. President Manuel Velez will take to the resolution forward to the District Governance Council (DCG).

**XII. Proposed April 5<sup>th</sup> Round Table Topic:** Alison Primoza

- A.** We need to develop a response to Students who report they feel discriminated against by the use of Equity Signature Tags that support Black Lives Matter, Dreamers, LGBTQ Students and other marginalized groups.
  - 1. The Mesa College Academic Senate needs to clarify what our response should be when Students express opposition to Signature Tags.
  - 2. Inna Kanevsky asked if Students' Preferred Pronouns should be part of the same discussion.
    - a. President Manuel Velez said that is a different topic.
      - Judy Sundayo said she agrees with Manuel.

**XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A.** Please encourage your Students to participate in the 2021 Mesa College Research Conference: ([LINK](#))
- B.** The next Academic Senate meeting is April 5, 2021 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM.
- C.** The next Academic Affairs meeting is March 22, 2021 from 4:15PM – 5:30PM.
- D.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is March 24, 2021 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM.
- E.** The next Professional Advancement meeting is March 17, 2021 @ 2:30PM.
- F.** Please donate to the Resiliency Fund to keep the dream of a higher education alive for our Students. ([LINK](#))
- G.** Please donate to The Stand and help our Students succeed. ([LINK](#))

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT @ 4:21PM.**

Motion to adjourn:

**M/S**

Allbee/Sundayo

**UNANIMOUS**

Submitted by Sue Saetia

Approved by the Academic Senate: April 5, 2021