



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

April 22, 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: Rolando Barrientez, Bruce Davis, Frances Ervin, Curtis Ogland, and Mahmud Yusuf

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

Senator Linda Robertson-Schule made a motion to approve the March 11th, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator Dee Joseph. The motion passed unanimously. Senator Amanda Martin motioned to approve the April 1st, 2022 special election minutes. Senator Jennifer Caraway seconded, and the motion passed.

III. Board of Trustees Meeting – Senator Kim Hochmeister reported that during the Board meetings a presentation was made that acknowledged the work of Dr. William Conan Davis from St. Philips College. The following SAC professors were acknowledged: Dr. Dan Dimitriu, and Ms. Sylvia De Leon. President Ruby Martinez gave a presentation for Executive Faculty Council (EFC) on Faculty Evaluation. They are seeking a new tool for faculty evaluation, and integrating professional development into the tool. The philanthropic nature of the Colleges was acknowledged. For example, \$77 million for the Alamo Smart Program led by Associate Vice-Chancellor Kristi Wyatt. The Wellness 360 Clinic is available at SAC and PAC. The \$3 student service fee will fund the Come Back to Campus Campaign. An Associate of Applied Science Nursing Degree at PAC was approved. In their presentation, they mentioned that they hoped that their students would become our students with our Bachelor's of Science Degree.

The Board Meeting concluded with a 30-year SAC tenured professor's termination. The Board meeting agenda contains a 700-page document of Mr. Rickey Hopkins's tenured faculty termination appeal hearing <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/679?meeting=521251>. Senator Kim Hochmeister encouraged senators to read the document.

President Ruby Martinez stated that Alamo Advise made a presentation to the Board. They are proposing for a 300:1 ratio and for certified peer advisors. Per their presentation, first time in college (FTIC) students will need to seek special advising.

IV. Reports of Officers

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

President Ruby Martinez gave Executive Faculty Council (EFC) updates. The faculty evaluation ad hoc committee made a presentation to District for Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) on April 11th, 2022. The Chancellor and others showed strong support for the presentation. Chancellor Flores suggested that when the committee presents to the Board, it should be one slide to summarize everything. The slide was presented at the April 19th Board Meeting.

President Martinez gave United Faculty Senate (UFS) updates. President Ruby Martinez stated that the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) was invited to the UFS meeting to discuss the tenure proposal. The SLT thought that the word 'tenure' should be removed from the proposal, and replaced with 'rolling year contracts'. The presidents do not support the tenure proposal as it is written. A meeting is scheduled for April 25th, 2022 with SLT, UFS, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors to search for common ground on the tenure proposal. The April 25th meeting will determine if the tenure proposal presentation will be made to the Board on May 17th, 2022.

Leadership Meeting with Drs. Vela and Lovato. At this meeting the following topics were covered:
Funding for Textbooks for Fall – SAC has received an extension on HEERF funds for one year; however, the Chancellor does not want to use these funds for Alamo Books. The cost is around \$17 million. Dr. Vela wants to negotiate with Barnes and Noble to create a flat rate, rather than paying for books at cost. Dr. Vela feels that there should be a cap on the amount spent per student, maybe somewhere around \$200. The Chancellor is also interested in OER; however, it is not a perfect fit for all courses according to Dr. Vela.

Updates on Ad Hoc Groups: Faculty Evaluation, Tenure, Student Mentoring - Faculty Evaluation – April 11th to SLT, and May 10th to the Board. We discussed the possibility of a minute order. Dr. Vela asked if a minute order is necessary because a change in procedure can be done at the Chancellor level. However, if policy, rather than procedure, then they will need Board approval.
Tenure – go to Board on May 17th. Dr. Vela asked if we received any traction with tenure. He feels multi-year contracts are a good idea and worries about the door being shut on tenure.
Student Mentoring will meet sometime in April.

Year -Round Scheduling – Rolling out in Spring 2023, and starting the schedule build in Fall 2022.

Budget and Threeness for Faculty and Adjunct Faculty

Dr. Vela stated that there are so many things that need to be funded (general wage increase, Alamo Books, etc.). This topic will need to be discussed at the Board retreat on budget. Threeness is still in process and in the mix.

BSN Degree and the development of a math course for BSN candidates

Dr. Vela appreciated the work towards creating college algebra or statistics for BSN candidates. Drs. Vela and Lovato agreed that it is a good idea to try and keep students at SAC. Dr. Vela is interested in creating a pathway, and stated it is an opportunity for a learning community.

The results of our election of SAC Faculty Senate Leadership election were shared with Drs. Vela and Lovato.

The following are notes from Dr. Vela:

- 9% decrease in contact hours, so expect a budget cut. There is a \$2.3 million short fall.
- Seeing good enrollment trends.
- We are still hiring 34 new faculty members. They may put a stop to staff hours.
- They are thinking about starting a cohort for faculty new hires. They would also invite faculty hired during the pandemic to participate. People involved: Amy Gates, Aurelia Rocha, Joan Jaimes. They would like to create something for adjunct faculty as well.
- If UFS takes a unified stance, we could increase adjunct faculty pay. At the moment, they are paid \$1,000 less than most other schools.

Senate Vice-President Isabel asked for senators willing to serve as graduation marshals.

Senate Secretary Robyn McGilloway: No Report.

V. Adjunct Faculty Council

Senator Amanda Martin: Senator Amanda Martin stated the ACE Award Nomination Forms are available until early May. The Council is collecting comments about the Adjunct Faculty Handbook, and will have the Handbook completed in August.

VI. Topical Items

- **SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule** – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule stated that the Committee is meeting quarterly, and their next meeting will be April 27th. Senator Linda Robertson-Schule encouraged faculty to get the online course training.
- **Year-Round Scheduling Committee – Senator Lennie Irvin** – The schedule build will begin September 6th, 2022. Senator Lennie Irvin is concerned about the timing of faculty requests, and the logistics of the implementation of year-round scheduling.

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 reopened the issue of creating a resolution regarding faculty service hours. There was discussion among senators, and a [resolution](#) was generated. Senator Bruce Norton motioned to pass the resolution. Vice-President Isabel Garcia seconded the motion. The motion to send the resolution forward was passed unanimously.
- Research – Senator Patricia Portales, Chair
No Report.
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Anahita Lorestani, Chair
No Report.

VIII. New Business/Announcements

- Senator Dee Joseph discussed that the wording of the DSS letter of accommodation (Reasonable extension of assignment due dates) has been changed without faculty input. Senator Linda Robertson-Schule motioned to move the topic discussion to our next meeting due to limited meeting time.
- The new business topic from Senator Saumil Christian will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Senator Luis Rodriguez stated that we should be thinking about making a resolution to pressure the district to move hiring to earlier in the semester, so that we do not get stuck with rushing through a hiring the last weeks of the semester.

IX. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, May 6th, at 12:30 pm.