



OFFICIAL MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Academic Senate President, Leila Safaralian, respectfully acknowledged that MiraCosta College is on the traditional territory of the Luiseño/Payómkawichum people. Today, the meeting place at MiraCosta College and its surrounding areas is still home to the six federally recognized bands of the La Jolla, Pala, Pauma, Pechanga, Rincon, Soboba Luiseño/Payómkawichum people. It is also important to acknowledge that this land remains the shared space among Kumeyaay and Ipai peoples. In addition, we pay respect to elders both present and past, the respected keepers of history, culture, wisdom, and knowledge.

The meeting was called to order at **9:02am**.

II. Remote Member Attendance

Description: *Academic Senate will consider remote participation of members under the provisions of AB2449, if any.*

No members of Academic Senate requested remote participation under the provisions of AB2449.

III. Roll Call

Members present: Robin Allyn, Daniel Ante-Contreras, Sunny Cooke (ex-officio), Angela Beltran-Aguilar, Julie Graboi, Jim Juluis, Don Love, curry mitchell, Brian Page, Hossein Ravanbaksh, Leila Safaralian (President), Nate Scharf, Alexis Tucker Sade, Krista Warren

Members absent: Shawn Firouzian

Others present: Carl Banks, Theresa Bolanos. Scott Fallstrom, Trisha Hanada-Rogers, Stacey Hull, Jeff Ihara, Valeria Pineda, Aaron Roberts, Jim Sullivan

IV. Persons Wishing to Address the Senate

Candy Owens read an anonymous statement from a constituent with concerns about Jim Sullivan's presentation at the last AS meeting. While this faculty members appreciates that Sullivan recognizes the great work being done cross the college and that we may be taking on too much, they take issue with the idea that professional learning, not professional development, needs to shift form focusing on students to focusing on student learning, focusing on the student is a holistic approach attending to students' basic needs. Using a trauma informed approach engaging in community building and building trust with students are not mutually exclusive to student learning. In fact, they are essential to providing the environment for successful student learning. It is the hope that our joyful teacher in residence can embrace a professional learning ethos that includes a holistic approach to creating and sustaining an optimal student learning environment. Lastly if what Sullivan shared is true, that we are stretched thin, and that many full-time faculty are being tapped to lead in different capacities, the AS needs to advocate hiring more full-time faculty.

Erica Duran read a comment from Annie Ngo. She says at the last AS meeting, Sullivan talked about how faculty are on so many initiatives hitting home for her as department chair. She thinks something to consider that could address this is the need to hire more full-time faculty. Then there would be more of us to do such initiatives while also teaching. It is also getting harder to rely on associate faculty who do not want to teach in person.

V. Changes to Agenda Order

Discussion/Information item A. BP7400 Employee Travel was pulled from the agenda.

The time certain for agenda item X.B. Professional Learning Update under Information / Discussion was moved from 10:40am to 9:35am.

The time certain for agenda item IX.I. Sabbatical Leave Reports under Old Business was moved from 9:35am to 10:40am.

VI. Consent Calendar

A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2024

B. Ratify Office Assignments for Full-time Faculty for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

C. Ratify Committee Assignments for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

D. Ratify the Academic Senate Calendar for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

E. Approve 2024-25 Materials Fees – Theresa Bolanos, Scott Fallstrom

Description: *The materials fee list is updated every year to reflect any changes to materials fees in the fall when curriculum is approved. The list is also sent out in early spring to department chairs for review and any updates or requested changes to their course materials fee. One art course was removed due to the course being archived. Drama increased the fees for their courses due to inflation and added some fees to existing courses. Nursing updated the fees for their courses as they have transitioned to a new vendor.*

F. Equivalencies – Jeff Ihara

Description: *Approve three equivalencies; one full-time faculty for Psychology and two associate faculty for Computer Science.*

The consent calendar was approved by unanimous consent with a minor change to the minutes of April 5th to include Daniel Ante-Contreras in attendance and a correction to the spelling of Brian's name.

VII. Reports

A. Academic Senate President

Academic Senate President, Leila Safaralian, April and May are celebration months for students and faculty. The 60th Medal of Academic Merit was announced this week. The winners are Michaela Garcia, Anne Kelly, Kenneth Pilco, Natalie Trautt, and Cody West. This is the highest award for our students. Thanks to the faculty who are part of the scholarship committees for our students.

At last night's board meeting, there was a great presentation from the Child Development Center faculty including Dean Al Taccone, Zhenya Lindstrom, and Ben Gamboa where a lot was learned about the amazing program for faculty, students, and the community at large.

Currently, Safaralian, mitchell, and Julius are attending the ASCCC Plenary virtually. VPI, Pescarmona, is attending in person and will give a presentation on Artificial Intelligence. They will be working all day tomorrow working on behalf of MCC to vote on the resolutions.

Just after the May 17th Academic Senate regular meeting, we will celebrate and acknowledge outgoing and incoming senators, retirees, and award winners, and faculty leaders.

Please join everyone at the Spring Celebration of Excellence on April 26th at 2pm in the OC cafeteria.

B. College Superintendent/President

Superintendent/President, Sunny Cooke, thanked everyone for all they do at this busy time. She further recognized all the people who are putting on the many events occurring at this time.

She attended the president's breakfast as part of ASCCC conference in Nashville and was there on behalf of Gabriel Bartoli, one of our students who won two PTK national honors. She heard heartwarming and remarkable stories from students across the nation who persevered in getting their education against all odds.

New Board member, Heather Conklin, has been attending many events. There will be a second new trustee member in November representing the area of George McNeil in Oceanside. He is stepping down from the Board so that seat will be open for election in November.

Cooke, along with other MiraCostans spent some time at the Artificial Intelligence Revolution (AIR) expo at the convention center. She encourages folks to go next year. There is a lot available for us in education. It was connected to the AZ State University GSV Conference that is in its 15th year of bringing together educational leaders, ed tech, folks that create solutions, venture capitalists, and universities. All these people are on the cutting edge of innovation and universities that we really need to be keeping an eye on because they've got interesting models that are serving people all over the world. Cooke presented on a panel about CCCs in particular, and how Ed Tech can support our needs as a system and as an individual college, as well.

C. Classified Senate

Classified Senate Vice President, Carl Banks, noted he is part of the PD steering committee along with Toni Sharp and Lori Schneider. He is happy to hear the conversation about PD today.

Classified Senate has determined the outstanding employee of the semester who will be revealed at the April 26th Spring Celebration of Excellence. At the CS meeting Omar Jimenez said that June and July will be reimaged for CS and will inform a master schedule, committee appointments, and bylaws, policies and procedures. What we are working for as classified professionals is working and staying together and working hard to maintain a relationship and looking forward to a continued partnership as curry mitchell as becomes AS President.

D. Associate Student Government

ASG representative, Valeria Pineda, noted that executive members of ASG attended the SSC conference where resolutions were approved.

VIII. New Business

A. AP4040 Library and Other Instructional Support Services – Stacey Hull

Description: *An update was made to the section titled “Academic Support and Tutoring Services” due to learning center reorganization.*

Stacey explained the reason for these changes to align with the reorganization of the Learning Center.

B. AP5070 Attendance Accounting – Stacey Hull

Description: *Minor updates were made to align with the CCLC template.*

Straightforward changes to align with the CCL template. Maintenance referred to the calendar but now just says 175 which is the Title V requirement for days of instruction. The template did not include the word calendar.

C. AP7211.2 Minimum Qualifications and Equivalencies - Jeff Ihara

Description: *The Equivalency Committee has drafted a revision to our AP on Equivalency in order to comply with statewide Academic Senate standards regarding qualification by eminence while providing objective and measurable alternative guidelines that can replace eminence for those disciplines in which eminence has historically been used to qualify. A document of Section A – Alternative Equivalency Guidelines for Specific Disciplines is also attached.*

Ihara provided a clear guideline and detail of the changes for this AP. Nothing else was changed apart from eminence. After much discussion about the changes, it was observed that all APs differ between MiraCosta Community College vs. MiraCosta College. Generally, in BPs it just says, the district. It was agreed to put the word “Community” back into the AP. This AP will come back for approval in May.

D. Full-time Faculty List for Emeritus Status Consideration – Leila Safaralian

Description: *Each year, the college President presents to the Academic Senate the names of retiring full-time faculty who meet the qualifications for emeritus status. The Senate reviews the information and makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Refer to [AP 7280.4 Employee Recognition: Full-Time Faculty](#)*

Only one full-time faculty member, Sue Simpson, is eligible for emeritus status at this time.

E. Associate Faculty Retiree List for Emeritus Status Consideration – Leila Safaralian

Description: *Each year the college President presents to the Academic Senate the names of retiring associate faculty who meet the qualification for emeritus status. The Senate reviews the information and makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Refer to [AP 7780.5 Employee Recognition: Associate Faculty](#). This is a first read.*

Five AF are up for emeritus consideration. Joe Chirra was mentioned as a mentor and a long-time AS member and for all he has contributed to the college. Krista Warren thanked AS for recognizing AF for emeritus consideration noting that this did not use to exist. The terms of service shows how valued our AF are. She further noted that Joe Chirra has been awarded the David Millroy part-time faculty award from the CCA. He has been diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic liver cancer and will not be attending any celebrations at this time.

IX. Old Business

A. BP4020 Program Curriculum and Course Development – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *There was a minor modification to work experience education for Title 5 section 55253.*

MSU (Owens / Page) to approve BP4020 Programs Curriculum and Course Development as presented.

B. AP4020 Program and Curriculum Development – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *There was a minor modification to work experience education for Title 5 section 55253.*

MSU (Duran / Love) to approve AP4020 Program and Curriculum Development as presented.

It was asked if there is going to be a specific marker on other courses. Will there be a way to designate a list of all the courses to mark them as well? It was explained that this is state mandated to have ethnic studies in the AP. We do have specific courses, however, that part is a challenge right now. The state is requiring us and only accepting ethnic studies currently. We are at the mercy of the Chancellor’s office and the state of CA.

C. BP4025B Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *Modified (simplified) the title. Removed irrelevant information about the local general education pattern. Aligned philosophy with ACCJC reports and revised standards. Added Title 5 references. These are legislative changes to Title 5 section 55060, Philosophy and Criteria for the Associate Degree and General Education, affected the philosophy of lower division GE included in this BP.*

MSU (Julius / Tucker Sade) to approve BP4025B Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education as present.

D. AP4025B Philosophy and Criteria for Baccalaureate Degrees and General Education – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *Modified (simplified) the title. Added course approval process, which is reports. Replaced “U.S. regionally accredited” with “accredited by a national recognized accrediting agenda” to align with recent legislative changes. Added a bachelor’s degree satisfies the lower-division GE requirement, per legislative changed. Added referenced. This aligns with Title 5, sections 55060 and 55062.*

It was suggested to offer a friendly amendment to the motion to pass this AP to replace “U.S. regionally accredited” with “accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.” However, after discussion, this AP was **tabled** and will come back at the meeting of May 3rd.

E. BP4100B Graduation Requirements for Baccalaureate Degree and General Education – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *Modified (simplified) the title. Removed reference to competencies as a graduation requirement to align with legislative changes. Replaced “Us regionally accredited” to align with legislative changes. Added Title 5 reference. Recent legislative changes to Title 5, section 55060.*

Tabled this AP for same reason as stated under AP4025B above.

F. AP4100B Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates – Baccalaureate in Science Degree – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *Modified (simplified) the title. Added Title 5 reference. Replaced “Us regionally accredited” and clarified a bachelor’s degree satisfies the lower division GE requirement per changes to Title 5. Legislative changes to Title 5, section 55062.*

Tabled this AP for same reason as stated under AP4025B above.

G. BP4100C Graduation Requirements for Adult High School Diploma and Noncredit Certificates – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *This is a periodic review. A minor addition was made to show how many college credits are required to satisfy the high school diploma residency requirement.*

Tabled this BP because of wording about college credits vs. units.

H. AP4100C Graduation Requirements for Adult High School Diploma and Noncredit Certificates – Scott Fallstrom

Description: *This is a periodic review update. A minor addition was added to show how many college credits are required to satisfy the high school diploma residency requirement. Also updated competency requirements per Title 5.*

Tabled this AP because of wording about college credits vs. units.

I. Sabbatical Leave Reports – Trisha Hanada-Rogers

Description: *Eight (8) sabbatical leave reports come to Academic Senate for a second read and approval for returning faculty members Raymond Clark, Leigh Cotnoir, Zulema Diaz, Michelle Farnam, José Jara, Thong Nguyen, Leola Powers, and John Turbeville. These reports are reviewed to meet the following standards: (a) comprehensive, professional quality reports that clearly communicate and document the purpose, objectives, activities, and achievements of the sabbatical leave, (b) alignment of applications and reports, (c) adequate documentation, (c) minimum number of hours met, and writing reflects standard of profession. Sabbatical leave reports are forwarded to the President/Superintendent for approval.*

MSU (Sade Tucker / Duran) to approve the Sabbatical Leave Reports for returning faculty members Raymond Clark, Leigh Cotnoir, Zulema Diaz, Michelle Farnam, José Jara, Thong Nguyen, Leola Posers, and John Turbeville, as presented.

X. Information / Discussion

A. BP7400 Employee Travel – Tim Flood

Description: *BP7400 Employee Travel comes to Academic Senate for information only. CCLC recommended removal of optional language the district chose not to include in the BP. This is a reference update only and there are no changes to the BP.*

This discussion item was **pulled** from the agenda and will come back at a future meeting.

B. Professional Learning Update – Aaron Roberts

Description: *PDP Coordinator, Aaron Roberts, will give an update on the progress on the campus-wide professional learning taskforce regarding the mission and goals for faculty, classified professionals, and administrators.*

PDP Coordinator, Aaron Roberts, talked about what PDP has been talking about lately. At their last meeting, PDP discussed a recommendation they were going to provide to the calendar taskforce as to whether or not we would stay on the Flexible calendar program. The committee voted strongly that it was agreed to by the committee that they would recommend to the calendar committee that faculty

would like to remain on the flexible calendar system. They felt that flex helps to protect faculty and allows us to maintain our freedom to learn as we choose to set our own professional development goals. It is part of our faculty culture here at MiraCosta that we can come and go as we please with our professional development. The committee acknowledged there are chances to discuss how many days we might have for professional development; how many flex days there might be, and when they are scheduled. As a committee, they are still preparing a finalized recommendation, but they believe that reducing the number of flex days, for example, is okay because we have our flexible calendar system. They also acknowledge that having flex days throughout the semester can be beneficial and not having them all in one week. They also want to reiterate that flex is something that happens throughout the whole semester. We are in our flex call and trying to promote ongoing trainings or trainings that have workshops that happen throughout the semester rather than just in the first week. Roberts has seen some early feedback from folks who really want to have student voices during flex week and throughout the semester. So, they are hoping to have a flex system model with what a calendar change to flex could possibly look like such that flex days are scattered throughout the semester. He would encourage Senators to send the link to the flex call to your constituents and reiterate that this conversation has happened. That we really do want to have more opportunities to be together throughout the semester rather than cram that week full at the beginning of the semester. Next, discussion ensued about the Professional Development Steering Committee. They have been meeting throughout the last year to year and a half with three representatives each from faculty, classified professionals, and administrator groups. They recognize that while all these changes to professional development and the calendar are going on, faculty have a system that they like and works for them and they will not be shifting to a model where we are under any umbrella of sorts as a whole group where faculty will lose their ability to report to faculty, where budgeting is controlled by faculty, and scheduling is controlled by faculty. They believe strongly that faculty need to maintain these things and that has been reiterated in our professional development steering committee meetings. A lot of those meetings have been contentious. The steering committee has done a lot of really good work as a collective, representing a lot of different constituencies and created a shared mission, vision, and values statement. There is also conversation happening about a shared space where faculty, classified, and administrators could come together in a center like that of the faculty C3 that exists now. Faculty and PDP are open to that idea. Faculty maintain our primacy over professional development. They have done a lot of work to lay out how PDP is not a standalone entity. They are under Academic Senate and have the 10+1 implications in our work. We have had the assurances from the administrators we are working with and also our own constituent groups that faculty will not lose the ability to control their professional development, the ability to control the money spent for their professional development, and the ultimate decision making about what and when is scheduled. mitchell added that we are entering a decision-making phase of two processes; the year-long calendar system with the choice to choose a flexible calendar and the second is four-year, long form process of looking at professional development at the level of the whole institution. We're getting to a decision-making moment. The inflection point that those two things have created will ask us to clarify a lot of things, a student-centered approach and learning-centered approach. The mission statement that the steering committee formulated together says we believe that at MiraCosta, every employee should have access to professional development that will help them grow in their job and that is without controversy. The vision is can we do that together/ Not just faculty doing it together, classified doing it together, administration doing it. Could we all do that together; not all the time and how does that work? What does that look like? This requires clarification. So, when Jim Sullivan returns today, it is an opportunity for us as Senators as a Senate to work in that space of clarification. It's a time as we reach these decisions for all of us to come together to be involved in that decision-making process. Dr. Cooke also added that we started this conversation four years ago about how we can improve professional learning for all employees at all stages of their career. At no point in the discussion was there ever a consideration of control or taking away faculty purview. In no way should we be operating professional development for faculty without the loudest voice being the voice of faculty. However, it is believed that we can do things together, leverage resources and share and build on what we have to make opportunities for classified staff, who really have very few right now, and for administrators, and to be together more. She wanted to dispel any notion that anything was ever said about whether there should be flex days or not. Dr. Cooke has not been involved in the calendar conversations or to say anything about how professional development should be delivered or not delivered. It is a given that

MiraCosta faculty will have purview over their professional development. Can we do things together? Absolutely, and it is hoped that we will do more of that.

Warren noted that as a Senator who represents at least 125 associate faculty, part of our culture is to suggest that our associates can get involved in extra work and that the leaders suggest that they can do this work and tap into their PD hours. There are other ways to do this. It is not the case for the vast majority of AF who are pressured to do work and use their PD hours and not be compensated. With over 500 associate faculty who teach more than half the classes, the majority will not be able to attend.

Tucker Sade asked what was meant by the word “job.” mitchell discussed the differences between whether you are a brand new classified professional or a seasoned faculty classroom practitioner, there are things about MCC that we need to learn about. There may be new technologies that we both need to be trained in and there may be new assignments that require each of us to develop into leaders. It is through learning and development and training that we grow in our jobs. It is a process of doing, getting feedback, and doing that together. Training and learning fits across all of that.

Roberts noted that to Jim Sullivan’s point about the department leading, we get away from outside of our purview. The flex transcript is the reporting of the entirety of the person’s growth.

C. C3 Teaching and Learning Center and Professional Development – Jim Sullivan

Description: At the last AS meeting, the joyful teacher, Jim Sullivan, 1) shared an overview of what he has been up to in the C3 and elsewhere, 2) outlined some plans for the future of the position and the center, and 3) suggested some ways the faculty might re-imagine professional development related to teaching and learning. Senate members will discuss these areas and share their thoughts and those of their constituents. The joyful teacher will still not be giving away free Tesla’s during this visit to the Senate, but once again cannot, in good faith, make any promises regarding costumes or other ridiculous behavior.

The Senate body started a discussion and conversation while sharing suggestions and thoughts with Jim Sullivan about his presentation at the last meeting.

For the full conversation listen to the recording at this [LINK](#).

XI. Senator Reports

Angela Beltran Aguilar mentioned she had a great experience attending the ASG meeting last Friday, and she witnessed how passionately they discussed three resolutions written by ASG members and they kept track of time limits. She further shared that MESA is starting recruiting for their Fall 2024 cohort. Expect an email within the next few days. If you are not a STEM faculty member but would like to receive emails, let them know.

Alexis Tucker Sade noted that after Sullivan’s presentation, she sent a survey to her constituents about that and the scheduling summit. She compiled the information and observations from the feedback and a lot was about experiences in the classroom. Tyrone Nagai wrote a great statement, and she would like to continue the conversation on May 3rd feeling is merits a bigger conversation.

Also, this is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and they are having the film screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary of *To Kill a Tiger* on April 24th from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the CLC.

Krista Warren echoed about our students and their progression at the college. Listened in on the Board of Trustees meeting, there was a highlight of the Child Development Center being a learning lab and job and career opportunities in that field and ended with students and the work everyone in the department is doing and paid internships for students.

Brian Page agrees with the crucial need to increase the number of paid positions available for associate faculty on campus governance committees. He also noted that associates are beginning to be paid for some of ad hoc committees and department activities, but we need to institutionalize that at a broader level. Warren noted that AS can make a resolution about this, and they can carry it forward for negotiations with the district.

Don Love noted that next week is Black Student Success Week and there are a range of events happening on campus.

Theresa Bolanos noted the STREAM even happening on May 5th.

Daniell Ante-Contreras noted he will be accompanying some of our students to the Honors Transfer Council Conference at UC Riverside find out if Kenneth Pilco will win their exemplary achievement award. won it or not. Honors transfer council conference – exemplary achievement award.

XII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:24am.