



Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE
August 20, 2018

APPROVED

PRESENT: Melinda Carrillo, April Cunningham, William Dalrymple, Kelly Falcone, Jenny Fererro, Erin Hiro, Teresa Laughlin, Sierra Lovelace, Jackie Martin, Ben Mudgett, Wendy Nelson, Lillian Payn, Steve Perry, Travis Ritt, Seth San Juan, Tara Roach, Candace Rose, Craig Thompson, Fari Towfiq, Lori Waite, Anastasia Zavodny

ABSENT: Ellen Weller

GUESTS: Amber Bancroft (ASG), Lesley Blankenship-Williams, Peter Bowman, Marquesa Cook-Wherty, Lacey Craft, Patti Dixon, Justin Enriquez, Mark Evilsizer, Marlene Forney, Luis Guerrero, John Halcón, Barb Kelber, Gregory Larson, Chris Lowry, Leanne Maunu, Patriceann Mead, Linda Morrow, Kian Nourollah, Patrick O'Brien, Linus Smith (Telescope), Susan Snow, Connie Sterling

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President Travis Ritt at 2:30 p.m. in the Howard Brubeck Theatre.

Please note: All votes are presumed unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

Approval of Minutes: No minutes were presented for approval.

Motion 1 MSC Laughlin, Towfiq: To suspend the Agenda to discuss Information Item B, President's Contract. The motion carried.

President's Contract: Travis Ritt welcomed Senators and guests and asked that the Faculty Senate receive guidance from faculty following discussion and comments at last week's campus Plenary. He briefly reminded those present of the district's Academic & Professional Matters Board Policy 2510, which states that ... "the Governing Board elects to rely primarily on the advice and judgment of the Faculty Senate on academic and professional matters." He added that in the near future a survey will be distributed to faculty members asking for their input and suggestions of issues they would like to see brought to the Senate.

Senator and PFF Co-President Teresa Laughlin responded to several inquiries she has heard since the Plenary's Friday PFF/Senate meeting regarding whether the PFF intends to take any formal action, such as a no-confidence vote, against the college president. Laughlin stated that the PFF has had no such discussion and that many of the rumors being spoken across campus are false. She encouraged faculty to read the PFF minutes to stay up-to-date on the issues currently being discussed by that group. She added that she, along with many faculty members, were disappointed by the lack of transparency with the Superintendent/President's contract. There was no opportunity for discussion or input in any format. In conversations that Laughlin has had with some faculty members who were also concerned by the top-down, authoritarian-type nature of the current leadership, at no time was gender or ethnicity ever referenced. Members of the PFF, and others, believe

strongly that faculty and other members of this campus community nearly always strive to remain collegial when criticizing or disagreeing with administration's policies.

Some other faculty members who were present also expressed their offense with Dr. Blake's recent comments regarding gender and ethnicity, and shared their personal as well as professional experiences. There are many individuals on this campus who have worked tirelessly to promote all aspects of diversity not only in their careers but their personal lives as well. Senate President Travis Ritt was asked to receive clarification from Dr. Blake on what her intent was in making that statement.

Several faculty members expressed their opinion regarding the President's recent contract, particularly the annuity included in the package. Clarification was requested on the exact definition of what an annuity is because of a difference in what was being said by Board members. There was also lengthy discussion on the proposed remodel for the President's office and the high cost to the district and the taxpayers without following the current shared governance process. Lengthy discussion occurred on the frustration felt by faculty and staff as a result of the lack of transparency, shared information, and opportunity for discussion. One example presented was the recent process of filling Interim or Acting positions without utilizing district procedure. This process of appointment is actually a detriment to these individuals as it doesn't allow dialogue and input from the collective voice. Other faculty members referred to an upcoming bond measure and the lack of information being disseminated.

There was also recommendation that a Senate Resolution be drafted asking that the district share with faculty, staff, and students exactly what their short and long-term goals are.

Governing Board members Mark Evilsizer and John Halcón expressed their gratitude to Travis Ritt for the invitation to this meeting, and to all of the faculty members present for their open dialogue. They welcomed additional comments from faculty and staff by contacting them via email.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Hiro, Secretary