



Academic Senate

College of the Siskiyous
800 College Avenue, Weed, CA 96094
<https://www.siskiyous.edu/academicsenate/>

Academic Senate Minutes

Tuesday, December 5, 2023
2:00 pm in DLC Rm #3

Attendance:

Voting: Andrea Craddock, Patrice Thatcher-Stephens, Tyler Knudsen, Tim Frisbie, Neil Carpentier-Alting, Leigh Moore, Ann Womack, Ed Kephart, Sherice Bellamy, Karen Ziegler, Shirley Louie, Jude Baldwin, Carly Zeller, Emaly Brann, Liz Jungermann, Michelle Knudsen, Jayne Turk, Kirk Thomsen, Chris Vancil, Ron Slabbinck, Shannamar Dewey, Maria Fernandez, Sarah Kirby, Noelle Collier, Mike Tischler

Nonvoting: Valerie Roberts

Convened at: 2:01 pm

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

The annual OER survey was distributed. Paper and online versions are available.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Guillermo from Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) Program will discuss their program and student enrollment.

Program information (Future Educator Support (Teacher Preparation) Program) is available on the COS website.

The program operates statewide with a focus on non-traditional students and is open to all California residents who want to be K-12 teachers.

Students are provided an advisor who went through the program and currently works as a teacher. The program also supports students through coursework.

At COS, there will be several online lecture courses, each paired with a fieldwork course. The program offers a total of 22 classes across all partner institutions. Coursework supports students through the process of earning their credential.

There are 320 students who will be registering for the courses offered at COS in Spring 2024.

BCOE identifies the instructors and recruits students. COS provides infrastructure and institutional support.

b) Update on Faculty Hirings

Equivalency Committee is reviewing applications for ETHN/HIST position for candidates that applied for equivalency in ETHN. Math faculty are reviewing applications for PHYS/MATH for candidates who applied for equivalency in math.

Dean Valerie Roberts is hoping to meet with other committees before break to finalize position descriptions. The goal is to post the position announcements by mid-January.

Hiring committees may need to meet over break for about 2 hours to work on job descriptions. Their time will be compensated. Anyone who cannot meet over break should contact Andrea so they can be replaced on the committee.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jayne Turk moved to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2023, meeting. Ed Kephart seconded. The minutes were approved with one abstention.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a) Assign faculty to committees and taskforces – none to consider at this meeting.
- b) Approving courses that will populate updated Area 5 (i.e., Lifelong Learning and Self-Development) in the COSGE pattern.

Reviewed discussions to date. In October, the change to Area 5 to Lifelong Learning and Self-Development and addition of Ethnic Studies area changes were approved.

Counselors created list of courses to be included in Area 5. For courses that needed to be removed, they identified other GE areas where they can go. The only exceptions were Business and Computer Science courses, which no longer fit into any of the GE areas.

Jayne Turk moved to approve changes. Kirk Thomsen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- c) Academic Senate Resolution addressing hiring Accessibility Specialist

Revisions were made to the resolution to focus more on OER adoption as the motivation for the position request. The position description was modified so that it no longer overlaps with the DL Coordinator and Instructional Design position.

Examples of accessibility issues with an OER textbook were shared.

The President/Superintendent is supportive of hiring this type of position, though there may be some concerns about the 50% rule.

The inclusion of references to prior litigation related to accessibility was questioned.

The recommendation was to leave the references in because it may increase the chance that the board will respond.

Jayne Turk moved to approve the resolution. Patrice Thatcher-Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Senate President Andrea Craddock will read the statement to the Board at their next meeting.

d) AI Policy for Academic Purpose

Reviewed content of the policy including suggestions for appropriate use for students and faculty.

The statement is a good start but is not specific enough and does not help faculty determine what to do when they encounter AI plagiarism.

Reviewed a more specific example from Point Loma that included student-facing text about guidelines depending on the level of AI use allowed by the instructor.

If we have more detailed guidelines, we can tailor trainings for students using the ASC.

There was suggestion to remove the word “tutoring” so that we don’t confuse tutoring, which involves a relationship, with what AI provides.

Support was expressed for the statement about faculty not using AI to grade.

There was suggestion to make it very clear in our syllabi if AI is not allowed.

We can help students understand our policies by adopting standardized options and language that are used across courses. There should be transparency from faculty about when they use AI if we are going to expect transparent from students.

There was a suggestion to include specific examples of acceptable use for courses that do allow use of AI.

There was substantial discussion about AI and its use in education. We don’t know if there are long-term the impacts of AI usage on student learning. Use of AI could take away a student’s unique voice, ideas that students have ownership of, critical thinking, etc. Students feel a lot of pressure to be perfect right now. It’s important to be transparent with students about our thoughts on AI and acknowledge that we’re still figuring things out too. It’s important to discuss with students how AI is being used in industries where they are hoping to have a career.

Andrea Craddock will make modifications and bring the statement back for Senate review at the February meeting.

Jayne Turk moved to table the item pending revisions. Mike Tischler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- e) AP 5140 (DSPS) – Providing substitute courses (that have critical/analytical thinking components) as alternative for Math courses.

The list of courses was revised based on input from fulltime faculty.

This has never been used before, but we are required to have a policy.

Courses on the list are offered frequently enough that they will be available should a student need them.

Students are not required but are encouraged to attempt a math course first.

Jayne Turk motioned to approve the list. Seconded by Kirk Thomsen. The motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Curriculum Committee – There are 8-9 courses for approval at the upcoming meeting. Revisions for non-substantive changes to courses and programs must be submitted by February 16. Contact Neil if you have questions.
- b) Distance Learning
- c) Flex – The committee meets tomorrow to consider some proposals and analyses.
- d) IPB – Faculty are encouraged to speak with IPB (5-10 minutes) about their program reviews because it helps the committee understand funding needs and requests. This isn't required.
- e) SJEDI – The committee is shifting focus from student involvement to language, policies, procedures for the Spring semester. They inventoried progress from fall and plans for spring at their last meeting. The committee hosted several successful events with our local tribal communities. Thanks to Leigh Moore for her involvement in those activities. Student Right and Responsibilities document is almost ready for the participatory governance process.
- f) OER – The committee met last week and finished up the annual faculty survey. Jude will email the link. The OERI survey about compliance and workgroup on campus was completed last week. This Friday at 5 pm is the deadline to apply for the OER Coordinator position. There is at least one application so far.

- g) Instruction Council – The committee hasn't been meeting. The last two meetings have been cancelled. Student Services council will attend the next meeting.
- h) SLO Committee – The committee is getting close to completing our first semester of this iteration of assessment. The committee is working on our assessment philosophy statement and planning Flex activities.
- i) Student Services Committee – The committee held a joint meeting with Instruction Council to go over shared APs/BPs.

7. GOOD FOR THE ORDER

- a) The ASC and Library have extra hours this week and final weeks. Please spread the word to students.
- b) Andrea will not be running for Senate President next year. Faculty were encouraged to consider running.

Adjourned at: 3:11 pm

Academic Senate Officers:

President: Andrea Craddock
Secretary: Ann Womack
At Large: Tyler Knudsen

Vice-President: Patrice Thatcher
At-Large: Jayne Turk
Past President: Ron Slabbinck

It is the policy of College of the Siskiyous not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in its educational programs and its employment practices.
(<https://www.siskiyous.edu/humanresources/nondiscrimination.htm> and
<https://www.siskiyous.edu/mainfiles/titleIX.htm>)