



Academic Senate
College of the Siskiyous
800 College Avenue
Weed, CA 96094
www.siskiyous.edu/academicsenate/

Academic Senate Executive Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2020 (convened at 10:35 am) in Zoom

Attendees: Ron Slabbinck (President), Neil Carpentier-Alting (Vice-President), Liz Carlyle (Secretary), Ann Klein (At-Large), Shirley Louie (At-Large), Patrice Thatcher-Stephens (At-large), Sherry Ackerman (P/T faculty representative) and Sarah Kirby (P/T faculty representative). VPAA Dr Char Perlas, and DSPS Director Natalie Bradley also joined the meeting.

1) *Public Comment*

- No public comment

2) *Approval of Minutes*

- Academic Senate Executive Meeting, November 17th, 2020. Shirley Louie moved. Sherry Ackerman seconded. Motion approved.

3) *Discussion and Action Items*

a) Discussion with VPAA Dr Char Perlas—

- **GLEAN**--GLEAN is audio note-taking program that stores notes in the Cloud. Natalie Bradley reported that DSPS is looking to improve its note-taking services as it the most used service, and they are hoping to bring this service in line with the Online Education Initiative (OEI). Natalie noted that recording is an allowable accommodation requirement and would like to present at Senate to get feedback from Senators. The Senate Exec team discussed questions that may come up at Senate including the level of control over access for the instructor and faculty intellectual property rights and FERPA concerns for other students in the class. Dr Perlas noted that the California Community Colleges is partnering with Otter AI to bring closed-captioning to Zoom which may be also used with GLEAN.
- **VERTO Education**—College of the Siskiyous is considering a new Instructional Service Agreement (ISA). VERTO is a 3rd party organization (not-credited) that partners with accredited institutions, mainly 4-year colleges, and none are in California. They recruit students who study abroad and with College of the Siskiyous courses, California students could take classes abroad and get financial aid. We currently satisfy the requirements for two classes, and we would need five (5)

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additional classes developed for this ISA. There are content experts at VERTO who would help develop these courses if there are no faculty available to do so at COS. President Ron Slabbinck noted that there are a lot of variables at play. Outside entities building our curriculum is an issue. It might be less work intensive than initially thought. Can we do this incrementally? Can we currently staff our faculty needs, considering we are looking for to meet our requirements for Nursing and Ethnic Studies? The potential impact of this ISA is not clear yet, although Dr Schoonmaker mentioned at the beginning of the semester in a meeting with Ron that it would bring in about 30-50 FTEs. There has not been much discussion since this time and it is still unclear how much it would benefit the college. For example, the college paid our \$1.6 million to FIELD this year for services. Dr Perlas noted that this item will go to Instruction Council today, and then College Council. She can return to present to Senate but it won't be before the Board meeting on December 10. VP Neil Carpentier Alting asked if we are going to enter into a contract, what is our benefit? Is there data from other colleges? Dr Perlas will ask if Kent Gross, Director of Fiscal Services, can join Instructional Council to articulate these numbers. She believes it is an enrollment strategy to boost FTEs, but to what extent, it's unclear. Patrice noted that faculty feel like they're being marginalized or outsourced, so faculty should develop the curriculum if possible. Ron noted that there are many more lucrative colleges in California that VERTO could engage with. He is open to this idea, as long as faculty aren't being marginalized. What is the net gain for our college for long-term development and planning? Dr Perlas noted that the classes would be scheduled on our end, and students would be provided with training on how to enroll. Any assignments would be part of faculty load. From the website, VERTO is partnering with impressive institutions. Patrice said that she's interested, but it should be an informed interest. Does it have to be right now? Is December a hard deadline or can we hold off until the Feb board meeting? Study Abroad would be a good addition to our new Dorms, and the new Fine Arts and Performing building. Ron would be happy to meet with Dr Schoonmaker and Dr Perlas to have further conversations on the timeline.

- **Scale of Adoption Assessment for Guided Pathways**--This document shows our progress so far. It's been shared with the Guided Pathways Steering Committee and will also be shared with Academic Senate. There is a new section on challenges and what we need, and Dr Perlas noted that everyone is stretched thin. We need a GP coordinator and an SLO coordinator but Dr Perlas realizes that this will be dependent on ratification of faculty contract. Ron will send the document to the Academic Senate before the next meeting for review. Dr Perlas noted that it is a living document and it can be added to if she missed anything. There is an optional success story and Carly Zeller, the ASC Faculty Coordinator, is working on this

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- section. More students have taken advantage of tutoring services in the ASC this semester than in Fall 2019. This document needs to be signed off by the Academic Senate President and the College President; it goes to the Board as an informational item only. It is due by March 1, 2021.
- **Credit for Prior Learning**--Dr Perlas thanked the Senate Exec team for helping meet the deadline. It is going for a second reading at the next board meeting and will meet the state deadline by Dec 31.
 - **eLumen for SLO Assessment**-- There is a test module in eLumen for Program Review and SLO Assessment. Drs Rexford and Perlas will be working on this over Winter session to provide everyone training. Dr Perlas understands that the college needs the Senate's blessing to do SLO assessment using eLumen.
- b) Follow up on new GE Area F: Ethnic Studies—After the last Senate meeting, it was obvious to Ron that we need a FT hire for this position. If we are only offering one course to fulfill this requirement, it will fill up quickly if it's an entire GE Area. Ron will bring to the Senate the recommendation to prioritize an Ethnic Studies FT position. Val Roberts, Dean of LASS, would be the person to put the CQIP together.
- c) Liaisons with the Board—Patrice and Sarah are in contact with Kevin Dalton and they're still looking for a good time to meet. Shirley has sent two emails to Kathy Coon and not heard back. Liz has emailed Carol Cupp and not heard back. Ann and Neil are reaching out to their board members this week. There may have been an impression that the faculty were telling the board what to do, but this seems to be the opinion of one particular board member. It's more a matter of humanizing the faculty and the board for each other. At the next board meeting, there is an Open Forum agenda item on how the board can better engage and reach out to the community. Ron is encouraged that the board is looking at this as changing the dynamic is important moving forward.
- d) Faculty Handbook-- Liz has gone through the Faculty Handbook with her questions and comments. Neil and Liz will meet during finals week. It would be good to include PT faculty. Sarah Kirby has volunteered; there may be more PT faculty who are interested. It would be good to come up with a timeline for a reading and then a vote mid-semester in the Spring.
- e) SLO process--What can we do to get ready? We have to think about what data we want to use—hard data only or narrative descriptions. How will we use eLumen through Canvas? There is a loss when we only use hard data. The original SLO committee desired a qualitative section.
- f) Accreditation Steering Committee. There are leads for all four standards and we have established benchmarks. Dr Perlas is in charge and has generated steps that are achievable and defined.
- g) Accomplishments and Goals of the Senate Exec—Neil reflected that we've done good work this semester and we've changed the narrative on campus. We need to be

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strategic on our projects for the Spring. The Program Review Process and the Faculty Handbook are likely top of the list.

4) Good of the Order

- Patrice noted that there was an incident ten days ago in Ashland where a white man shot and killed a young black man in a motel parking lot. It shows that our work in equity and social justice is important and ongoing.
- We will have one more Academic Senate meeting in Finals Week. We will create an agenda and send it out to Senate Exec for review and approval.

Adjourned 12:02 pm

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