



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

Academic Senate Executive Meeting Minutes

Sep 13th, 2021 (convened at 3:02 pm) in Zoom

Attendees: Ron Slabbinck (President), Neil Carpentier-Alting (Vice-President), Liz Carlyle (Secretary), Ann Klein (At-Large), and Patrice Thatcher-Stephens (At-large), and Monica Harle (part-time Faculty rep).

1) Public Comment--no public comment

2) Approval of Minutes

- Academic Senate Executive Meeting, Aug 27th 2021. Shirley Louie motioned to approve; Neil Carpentier Alting seconded. No discussion; minutes were approved unanimously.

3) Discussion and Action Items

- a) Senate goals for Academic Year 2021-2022—Ron Slabbinck reported that four faculty responded with their priorities. Although this isn't a large sample size, there were similar priorities. The team decided that all the goals were likely manageable this year.
- Developing an Academic Integrity statement and codifying the disciplinary process makes it more equitable for students. Liz Carlyle noted the lack of process was evident in revising the faculty handbook. Ron Slabbinck reported that VPSS Patrick Walton is ready to engage with these policies.
 - Neil Carpentier Alting noted Department Chairs should probably be viewed within the framework of visioning an institutional and administrative structure. Dr Nathan Rexford has started a "Save the College Taskforce." Department chairs could fall under this taskforce and could be an item to monitor until a decision is made at the administrative level.
 - SLO, Annual and PR update cycle and the faculty hiring process were top of the list for items to monitor. Neil asked if we can recommend committees, councils or taskforces that align with these goals to start this work? For example, EMP could take on the department chair discussion. OER is potentially in the purview

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of DL committee. There is a state-wide training on OER being offered for 40 faculty to adapt an anti-racist curriculum that uses OER. Although faculty may not see it as priority, the state is interested in pushing for it as they see textbook costs as an equity issue.

- There has been no discussion of the GP coordinator position.
 - Faculty Hiring—in IPB in the revised budget, it was recommended we add three faculty positions. We have two positions that are vacated, so we could hire up to five faculty. Neil Carpentier Alting noted that we need to create a mechanism to evaluate programs and whether we can hire further faculty. Some programs are FTE generators, while others create connections with community or fill in GE requirements. Even thinking through this process will help us come up with a plan of action. Ron Slabbinck noted that Hold Harmless is a good time to let low-enrolled classes go and see where the momentum is building. Dr Char Perlas has suggested a Town Hall to bring all the constituents together. Monica Harle noted that in the business world, it is someone’s job to do projections, analyze the numerical and historical events, and visualize the data. Patrice Thatcher Stephens suggested that we bring in an expert to help us with our organizational structure. Ann Klein noted that we are constantly in triage, wondering if our administrators have the bandwidth to deal with this. Also, administrators have been pulled out of their areas of expertise.
- b) Accessibility—regarding 3rd party content. Students can sue instructors and the college, whether the instructor intentionally used inaccessible content or not, if they cannot access the content. We can’t rely on a 3rd party claim that a program is accessible. We need an alternative media specialist to vet these programs.
- c) Committee appointments—We will bring vacant appointments to the Academic Senate at the next meeting
- d) Flex day for SLO assessment— Mark Klever is in support of SLO assessment training for faculty. Faculty Association and administrators will meet to discuss. Neil Carpentier Alting is not in favor of adding more flex days and would prefer release time or stipends. Liz Carlyle noted that adjunct faculty need to be included in the trainings and they would not be supported by Flex.
- e) Use of Boards Docs—the team decided to not use Board Docs until administrative support is provided to capture the votes and support faculty. With the number of voting members, and the fact that the secretary is also a voting member and would need to be monitoring the board, it is not feasible at this time.

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- f) ASCCC visits Do we have the bandwidth to support a visit from ASCCC? How many things can we really take on?
- g) Faculty Handbook—Liz Carlyle reported that she, Patrice Thatcher Stephens, and Val Roberts met to go over the revisions. The majority of suggestions were incorporated into the handbook and sections were sent out for a second review as needed. It is ready to go live, hopefully by the end of this week.
- h) Discuss ongoing faculty needs and support during Covid pandemic—this will be an item on the agenda for Friday’s Academic Senate meeting
- i) Agenda for Academic Senate on Friday Sept 17th—Liz will send out the draft agenda for approval.

4) Good of the Order

Adjourned 4:34 pm

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