



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

Academic Senate Executive Meeting Minutes

January 26th, 2021 (convened at 10:01 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).

Public Comment

- No public comment

1) Approval of Minutes

- Academic Senate Executive Meeting, December 3rd, 2020. Sherry Ackerman moved. Shirley Louie seconded. Motion approved.

2) Discussion and Action Items

a) Updates from Exec members—

- President Ron Slabbinck informed the team about three FT faculty members starting in the Spring. We will introduce them in the upcoming Academic Senate meeting during Flex and assign faculty mentors.
- The Faculty Handbook is going through a test run with the onboarding of the new faculty. VP Neil Carpentier-Alting, Liz Carlyle and Sarah Kirby met at the end of Fall semester and established a workgroup in Teams; Dean Val Roberts is also collaborating on this project. Ron noted that it is good to see faculty working closely with the Deans. It is a good message for the community.
- Program Approval process—Neil has attended several meetings. The process should be in place by March and it will go through participatory governance for approval.

b) GE Area F: Ethnic Studies—Senators at the last Academic Senate meeting wanted to address the GE Area F more deeply than we had time for. Neil shared that the Curriculum Committee had discussions regarding GE approval as we have no FT faculty member to approve courses in this new area. Patrice Thatcher-Stephens noted that we will get more guidance in this area in Flex in the Cultural Audit of Curriculum workshop with Matt Lawrence from Long Beach City College.

Academic Senate Officers:

President: Ron Slabbinck

Secretary: Liz Carlyle

At Large: Ann Klein

P/T faculty rep: Sherry Ackerman

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At-Large: Patrice Thatcher-Stephens

P/T faculty rep: Sarah Kirby

- c) Equity and Social Justice—Ron has been working on a draft of the Senate resolution. There were four state-wide resolutions that were passed in Plenary in November. All actions at the state level will be in place by Fall 2021. The Support the Anti-Racism pledge asks faculty to examine their personal contributions and work towards anti-racist systems on campus. Ron is uncomfortable requiring faculty to sign this pledge. Sherry Ackerman noted that about 20 years ago, there were several mandatory pledges that met resistance, and under the current campus climate, requiring faculty to pledge may lead to more divisiveness on campus. Ron noted that if the pledge is optional it is likely to be more sincere. It is our obligation to ask faculty to consider it, even if we don't require them to sign it. State Senate has also resolved to provide training resources so there may be more buy-in from faculty to sign the pledge. State Senate would also like to change the Title V language in hiring and job requirements. The final resolution is to adopt the Anti-racist Education paper. It could be an information item to share out in Senate. Patrice added that this paper could be pre-approved for Flex to encourage faculty to read it. Ron and Patrice will prepare a draft resolution based on language in the State Senate resolutions to bring to the Senate Exec team for review.
- d) SLO process: eLumen training—Senate Exec needs to talk the Faculty Association President to see how the contract will impact the SLO committee. There is a training during Flex on eLumen on how to input PLOs and SLOs. The issue is that this process doesn't align with the SLO Manual and there is little faculty buy-in at this point. Canvas and eLumen communicate well together and this was not an option when the SLO Manual was created. Accreditation is also highly dependent on SLO work being completed.
- e) Discuss committee reports-- How best can we present reports at Senate? The team discussed the value of the committee reports at the beginning of the Senate meetings. The consensus of the team was to keep them at the beginning. We can perhaps ask those who report out to share 3-4 bullet points of information to make the process quicker and allow for questions. We can also email reminders to those who report out from the various committees before the meeting to improve the process. The Academic Senate meetings will now be 90 minutes long, so this will also help with time for extended discussion on items.
- f) Senate Agenda for January 29th, 2021—The team created the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

3) Good of the Order

- Sarah would like to know if she can be a club advisor for Creative Writing club as a PT employee of the college. As student clubs fall under ASB, Doug Haugen may have the answer.

Adjourned 11:29 am

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