



## **Academic Senate**

College of the Siskiyou

800 College Avenue, Weed, CA 96094

<https://www.siskiyous.edu/academicsenate>

## **Academic Senate Minutes**

Friday, September 8, 2023

11:00 am in DLC 3

**Attendance:** Liz Jungermann, Tim Frisbie, Emaly Brann, Kyle Heath, Noelle Collier, Shannamar Dewey, Michelle Knudsen, Jenny Heath, Linda Chrisman, Jayne Turk, Leigh Moore, Neil Carpentier-Alting, Lou Mero, Alison Varty, Ann Womack, Andrea Craddock, Maria Fernandez, Kirk Thomsen, Chris Delcour, Sherice Bellamy, Carly Zeller, Sarah Kirby, Patrice Thatcher-Stephens, Ron Slabbinck, Jude Baldwin

**Convened at:** 11:06 am

### **1. PUBLIC COMMENT**

It was asked if the Lodges have a COVID policy in place. If athletes in the Lodges test positive, they are asked to isolate for 5 days with masking and then continue to mask for 5 days after ending their isolation. The College as a whole does not have any active COVID policies. Concern was expressed that we don't have the ability to support students who are forced to isolate including delivery of meals. Concern was expressed about inconsistencies with policies, lack of a notification system, and lack of supervision on site at the lodges in the evenings and weekends.

Andrea will ask the President for clarification about policies, if / how COVID positive students in the Lodges are being supported, and expectations for faculty and staff should they test positive or be exposed.

### **2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) Organization of Academic Senate Meetings – Please read information and be ready to move through action items to allow time for discussion.
- b) Holiday Food Baskets for Students – ASM would like help putting food baskets together.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jayne Turk moved to approve the May 16, 2023 minutes. Kirk Thomsen seconded. Unanimously approved.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS

a) Assign new Faculty Members a Mentor

- i) Sarah Kirby – Maria Fernandez
- ii) Jennifer Reynolds – Jayne Turk

Neil Carpentier-Alting moved to approve all new mentor assignments. Maria Fernandez seconded. Unanimously approved.

b) Assign Members to Committees and Taskforces – Space Utilization Taskforce – Jayne Turk and Lou Mero

Chris Vancil moved to approve the appointment. Alison Varty seconded. Unanimously approved.

#### 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Changes to COSGE to accommodate Ethnic Studies and Cal-GETC

- i) Dedicate October Academic Senate Meeting to discuss COSGE changes – Friday, Oct. 13 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in DLC 3.
- ii) Neil Carpentier-Alting, Michelle Knudsen, and Andrea Craddock are going to meet to compile information about course offerings in the GE areas before the next meeting.
- iii) The COSGE pattern needs to be revised including addition of an area for Ethnic Studies. We want to keep Cal-GETC in mind when making changes.
- iv) The changes need to be in the catalog by Fall 2024, so we need agree on modifications by the end of this fall semester.
- v) Future discussion will include changes to the areas including what to do with the current Area 5 Multicultural / Living Skills, selection of courses under each area, and remove courses that we no longer offer.

b) Faculty Prioritization Taskforce

- i) Training Faculty to be EEO Representatives
- ii) The taskforce is co-chaired by the Academic Senate President and the VPAA.
- iii) Membership includes each of the Deans plus one faculty representative from each division.
  - Jayne Turk and Valerie Roberts for LAS
  - Kirk Thomsen and Mark Klever for CTE
  - Tim Frisbie and Charlie Roche for Athletics

- Not clear if Health Science is represented
- iv) In November 2022, the College approved and budgeted for 5 new hires. Of those, only the DL Coordinator and an English instructor were hired. Math / physics, ethnic studies / history, and business were not hired, nor was a SAS Director.
  - v) New needs include EMS for Mendocino, English, Communications (replacement), Art (photography, faculty athletic trainer (move from staff position back to faculty, currently being negotiated).
  - vi) IPB approved two LVN to RN positions.
  - vii) It was suggested that we could open all positions and keep them open until filled.
  - viii) Math / physics is probably going to be very difficult to fill because it's rare for someone to have equivalency on both disciplines. We need to consider creating two separate positions.
    - We need to have physics to be able to offer STEM degrees. Students need physical science courses. We are currently sending students to Shasta college for this. We have a goal of increasing transfer rates – not having physics is a barrier to this for our science students.
    - Our environmental science degree requires a geology or physics course – we don't offer either.
    - Regarding math, we only have one person who can teach face to face math right now, and they are overloaded.
    - Students are asking for upper level math courses to be offered in-person.
  - ix) It was suggested that we could float ethnic studies + any other discipline and not limit it to history. Perhaps we could get another discipline we need like political science.
  - x) HR is a primary hold up in the process. The Fire program has been waiting over a year to get instructors hired. ECE, the FDIP program, and others also had tremendous difficulty getting people hired even when a qualified candidate has already been identified. Not being able to hire is preventing programs from expanding and even operating.
  - xi) Lack of EEOs has also been identified as an issue. Faculty can be trained to be EEO reps for hiring committees. Maybe we could contract out for EEOs.
  - xii) There are fewer than normal CCC positions available right now. This is an opportunity for us to attract strong pools of applicants.
  - xiii) Chairs of hiring committee will now be responsible for assembling the committees and scheduling the meetings. There is concern that this could slow things down more.

- xiv) It was suggested that the Academic Senate could put together a resolution regarding lack of effectiveness in HR in posting position and hiring position. This could be an action item for the next Senate meeting agenda.
- xv) The resolution could include language about these positions were approved by IPB last year. It would be helpful if we could quantify the impacts the lack of hiring is having on students, number of classes, FTEs, etc. For example, 8 fire classes per year could be taught if we could get the instructors through the hiring process.
- xvi) The resolution should emphasize that the perceived problems rest with HR as a department not with the individuals. Areas that have had recent problems with hiring include FIRE, ECE, FDIP, ZTC, and THEA.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Curriculum Committee – The first meeting of the committee this academic year was focused on training and setting goals. Neil Carpentier-Alting sent out an announcement about course reviews for non-CTE courses. Curriculum review years weren't correct on the calendar, to a timeline was also sent out. If you want a course approved for GE, please start now. It must be submitted to Curriculum Committee by October 13 (there is some wiggle room). More emails and reminders to follow. Reach out if you want to revise programs or courses.
- b) Distance Learning – The committee has its first meeting next Tuesday. They will be looking at the handbook, which has been converted to a Canvas shell from a PDF. They will also be looking at RSI across the disciplines and will make recommendations. The professional development portal has been refreshed. The eLumen there will be no more DE addendum attachment. It will be built into the COR.
- c) Flex – Everyone satisfied requirements last year. There are new accessible forms for electronic submission. There is an optional flex day on October 21. For the required flex day in January, there will be more training on accessibility, equivalency, SLO assessment, and a possible safety session. Some would like to add a mandatory flex day or replace one of the independent ones. There is need for assessment dialog day (3 hours). It was suggested that we open independent flex days to instructional days to encourage participation in activities like the upcoming EEO trainings.
- d) IPB – The committee met last Friday and approved the budget. The budget was made available to allow time for questions. Progress has been made with transparency and functionality of the committee.
- e) SJEDI – Ron Slabbinck will send out reports of goals, projects, and opportunities. A main priority for the committee is to center student voice. They have created a Canvas module for students to explore opportunities for engagement. The module will put in Canvas Commons for easy access if you would like to add it to your course.
- f) OER – The first meeting will be in a couple of weeks. Tech services will be implementing LTC icon shortly.

- g) Instruction Council – The first meeting was Thursday (9/7). The committee goals and mission didn't make sense to the faculty in attendance. Committee members took a survey last spring, and the main takeaway was that Chair does not seem prepared for meetings. The committee is lacking organization and progress tracking. Committee members do not feel like the meetings are productive.

## **7. GOOD FOR THE ORDER**

- a) The SLO Assessment Committee is meeting next week. Thank you to all who have submitted planning documents. The committee will be reaching out about mapping soon.
- b) The EMS Bachelor's degree program application was submitted last week.

**Adjourned at:** 12:55 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>)