



Academic Senate

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

Academic Senate Minutes

Friday, October 13, 2023
11:00 am in DLC 3

Attendance:

Voting: Andrea Craddock, Liz Jungermann, Emaly Brann, Michelle Knudsen, Tim Frisbie, Neil Carpentier-Alting, Ann Womack, Sarah Kirby, Patrice Thatcher-Stephens, Lou Mero, Leigh Moore, Jennifer Reynolds, Shannamar Dewey, Carly Zeller, Kyle Heath, Kirk Thomsen, Jude Baldwin, Noelle Collier, Ron Slabbinck, Lyndi Scholl, Shirley Louie, Jenny Heath, Alison Varty, Linda Chrisman, Mike Tischler, Sherice Bellamy (Chris Delcour, Wenli Chang, Dawn Jacobson on Zoom?)

Nonvoting: Patrick Walton, Valerie Roberts

Convened at: 11:03 am

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Results of Faculty Prioritization Taskforce

The DE coordinator, English, Math/Phys, Ethnic Studies/History, and Business were budgeted for last year, but only DE and English were hired.

The Math/Physics hiring committee will have their first meeting today as will the Ethnic Studies/History committee.

It was decided that hiring a business instructor would be put on hold in order to hire an EMS instructor for Mendocino.

Regarding the SAS director position – We haven't been able to find anyone who meets minimum qualifications. It has been suggested that we "grow our own" which would involve hiring counselor and training them as SAS director. The next step is for Patrick Walton to talk about this with the Faculty Association.

Posting of the LVN to RN instructor positions has been delayed because Hallie Coppi wanted to make sure that Fairchild Medical Center would be offering these nursing instructors the same compensation package as in the past. This has been confirmed so these positions should be posted soon.

IPB met last Friday – positions we are going to try to hire in no particular order:

- EMS (Mendocino)
- Art
- Communications
- Math/physics – if combo fails, going to hire physics, requested budget to hire separate math
- English
- Kinesiology/Baseball coach
- Kinesiology/Asst Football Coach

The cost for hiring these positions is estimated to be around \$350,000, which brings us closer to compliance with the 50% law. It's not clear if the estimate includes separate math and physics positions.

We likely won't be able to fill all the position, but we need to focus on getting as many hired as possible.

Hiring managers now have more responsibilities to help make sure process is moving along while HR is understaffed.

b) Tuition Reimbursement for Employees

The idea of tuition reimbursement for faculty and staff was proposed by Jayne Turk at start of the semester. The President / Superintendent supported idea. The creation of an AP / BP is currently in process which would allow spouses, children, and immediate family members to take a limited number of classes for free.

c) "Wet Lab" volunteers for Police Academy

The Academy needs 3-4 volunteers on the afternoon of October 23 to drink according to provided profile to achieve varying levels of intoxication to allow cadets to practice field sobriety tests. Participants will need to take the afternoon off from work. Drinks will be provided as will a ride home.

d) Letters to nominate Emeritus Faculty due by Monday, October 30

An extension for emeritus nominations was provided. Please send letters to Andrea or Ann by the new due date. Official approval will be at the Nov. 6 Academic Senate meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jayne Turk moved to approve the September 8 minutes. Kirk Thomsen seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a) Assign new faculty mentor to Dawn Jacobson

This would only be for one semester. Jude Baldwin volunteered. Jayne Turk moved to approve Jude as Dawn's mentor. Kirk Thomsen seconded. Unanimously approved.

- b) Assign faculty to committees and taskforces – Hiring Committee for EMS Instructor

Lou Mero and Kirk Thomsen volunteered. Jayne Turk motioned to approve their appointments to the committee. Jude Baldwin seconded. Unanimously approved.

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

The current Area 5 courses were reviewed as was the proposed GE pathway from the Chancellor's Office which has seven areas.

We need to add an area for ethnic studies, which will be Area 6.

There was a discussion around revising Area 5 to remove "multicultural" and re-naming it "Lifelong Learning and Self-Development". This would remove some classes from the area, some of which are under other GE areas. The downside of including this area is that it doesn't align with Cal-GETC.

The objective for the meeting is to determine our areas and outcomes for our local GE pattern.

It was proposed that we the GE pattern from Cañada College as a model as it would be a simple transition and would align with the CSU pattern.

How many students graduate with local degrees versus transfer degrees? Unsure.

There was support for including a Lifelong Learning area. Many of the courses in the area are most helpful early in college, although the CSUs are making it an upper division requirement. Most CCCs have a similar area.

Concern was expressed that nursing students are unable to meet their math requirements because, like all CCCs, we can no longer offer intermediate algebra. Most nursing students take stats. We have lab time built into college algebra and stats that can be used for remediation.

Curriculum committee along with discipline faculty and counselors will work together to create list of classes that would fit under a modified Area 5.

Concern was expressed that modifying Area 5 in programs, like ADJ, would limit student exposure to an important area of learning.

Retaining Area 5 adds 3 units to the pattern but is not expected to significantly delay student completion.

Students who will transfer will use Cal-GETC, so they won't have a similar requirement. If they decide not to get transfer degree, they have to fall back on local GE pattern. We want to set students up to keep this relatively simple.

Jayne Turk motioned to keep Area 5 and broaden to "Lifelong Learning and Self-Development" using the CSU outcome and adding Area 6 for Ethnic Studies. Ron Slabbinck seconded. The motion passes with one abstention.

We have a legal obligation to remove courses and programs from our catalog that we haven't offered in the last 3 years. The decision to archive falls to area faculty in consultation with the appropriate dean. For programs/courses with no discipline faculty, the dean initiates process. The sentiment was that faculty do not want to eliminate GE courses that don't have FT faculty member.

A question was raised about making the math requirement mandatory meaning students cannot meet the requirement by taking algebra II in HS. This might be challenging because we can't offer intermediate algebra.

Statistics is easiest course for most non-STEM students. We may want to wait on establishing this requirement until we have another math instructor so we can expand our course offerings to including a CTE- or liberal arts-focused math course that is less than 4 units.

There was support for making math mandatory, and it was argued that statistics is important for being an informed citizen and is applicable to many careers.

Concern was expressed that there are some students who may not complete the degree if they have to take math.

Mike Tischler motioned to make taking a math course mandatory to satisfy the local GE requirement. Jayne Turk seconded. Motion carried - 19 ayes, 1 no, 2 abstentions.

We may have to waive requirement if we can't meet student needs for the courses.

The next step for revising the pattern is to determine which courses will fall under the new Area 5. The Curriculum Committee Chair will meet with counselors and the committee and identify possible courses. They will contact discipline faculty as needed. A taskforce can be formed later, if needed.

Will courses already in that area be grandfathered in? Yes, that would be expedient.

There needs to be a window of time for faculty to request addition of courses to the GE areas.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Curriculum Committee

The committee is contacting instructors in science and business who have prerequisites of math 0900 and ask that that be removed. They will provide some suggested prerequisite language to warn students of expectations.

b) Distance Learning

The Handbook has been updated. DE Chair will present updated version at the next Senate meeting.

c) Flex

The new forms are working. Please provide specific, non-contract dates when working on long-term courses if you want them to count for flex. There is an upcoming optional flex day on OER. Dr. Mark Fields will facilitate. The committee is planning activities for the spring Flex day.

d) IPB

Faculty hirings were approved at the last meeting. There was discussion about changing the composition of IPB and reducing the number of faculty. An alternative plan with 5 faculty and 5 staff (classified and ASM) and non-voting co-chairs was proposed. That proposal passed.

e) SJEDI

Indigenous People's Day was Monday and celebrated with event in the student center. Leigh Moore is college liaison to help us connect with our local tribal communities. She will be a point of contact for local tribes. A link was sent to a Canvas module to encourage students to engage in our committees and processes. The committee is working on developing a DEI survey to collect qualitative data.

f) OER

Many things are stalled because we don't have a coordinator. A coordinator hasn't been hired because proposed duties have expanded beyond \$2000 worth of work, so it will require an MOU. LTC icon is now displaying. Until there is an OER coordinator, library will continue to put ZTC list together. The committee will be exploring ways to spend funds for supporting ZTC.

It was commented that the college needs to hire someone to help faculty make OER accessible. This should be a priority. Jude will continue to advocate for this. Funds from the ZTC grant may go towards that. The Academic Senate could put together a resolution to encourage hiring of this position.

Mike Tischler motioned that the Senate write a resolution to ask the college hire an accessibility expert. Jude Baldwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

g) Instruction Council

Progress has been made on the two APs they have been working on. Thanks to the Deans who are working on program discontinuance.

h) SLO Assessment Committee

The committee is getting started on mapping SLOs. The goal is to have all SLOs mapped by the end of spring 2024. Fall planning is now complete. Faculty will start seeing assessments in your eLumen inbox soon. The committee will be working on an assessment philosophy statement and developing training materials for completing assessment in their upcoming meeting.

i) Student Services Committee

Reviewing APs and BPs from Chapter 5 which are due to review.

6. GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Adjourned at: 12:53 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

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