



Academic Senate

College of the Siskiyous
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<http://www.siskiyous.edu/academicsenate/>

Academic Senate Minutes

Wednesday, May 8, 2024
2:00 pm in DLC Rm #3

Attendance:

Voting: Lyndi Cadola, Tevin Cadola, Patrice Thatcher-Stephens, Sherice Bellamy, Adam Groppi, Ann Womack, Tyler Knudsen, Chris Delcour, Kirk Thomsen, Jayne Turk, Kyle Heath, Jennifer Reynolds, Michelle Knudsen, Emaly Brann, Carly Zeller, Mike Tischler, Dawn Jacobson, Alison Varty, Maria Fernandez, Shannamar Dewey, Wenli Chang, Jenny Heath

Nonvoting: Mark Fields, Char Perlas, Christina Van Alfen, Patrick Walton, Valerie Roberts, Mark Klever, Charlie Roche

Convened at: 2:03 pm

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Appreciation was expressed to Andrea for her willingness to serve as Academic Senate President for another year.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) ZTC Incentives

ZTC funds from Chancellor's Office are helping to fund stipends for faculty members participating in activities related to ZTC resources development and adoption. Stipends are up to \$2000, amounts over \$2k would need to be negotiated. Faculty can also earn Flex credit. See the ZTC Canvas site for more information about the activities and stipends.

The goal is to develop ZTC pathways for COS students. Some ZTC degree pathways have already been mapped, and some are very close. Additional information can be found on the Canvas site.

The Chancellor's Office has a new initiative regarding course materials that will allow us to buy class sets of books if there is a plan to transition to ZTC. It is anticipated that there will be ongoing funding for this. Course materials also include supplies.

Is the long-term plan to mandate OER? – No, not locally or at the state level.

b) Fall Convocation Schedule – Char Perlas

Convocation is August 15, and the Flex day is on the 16th. The keynote will be Dr. Todd Bloomquist, former educator and administrator, current adjunct at SOU. Dr. Bloomquist specializes in neuroscience of learning. He provided a training ACEs (adverse childhood experiences) to some COS faculty and staff this year.

Convocation will be a half day of session in the AM, followed by lunch. There will be an SLO Assessment Dialogue session and division meetings in the afternoon.

For the Flex day, sessions will be mirrored in the AM and PM so faculty can choose which to attend. The rest of day may be spent working on preparations for the start of classes.

c) Senate Exec Elections

Elections are on-going until 5 pm today.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jayne Turk moved to approve the April 8, 2024, minutes. Kirk Thomsen seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved pending a correction to the attendance list. (Jayne Turk was listed twice).

4. ACTION ITEMS

a) Assign faculty to committees and taskforces

- i. Need a faculty member on Instruction Council – Lyndi Cadola (remove Andrea and add Tyler)
- ii. Need two faculty members for IPB – will work around schedules.
- iii. FDIP Coordinator – Alison Varty
- iv. SLO Committee – Kyle Heath

Neil Carpentier-Alting is continuing as Curriculum Committee chair.

Jayne Turk moved to approve all appointments. Patrice Thatcher-Stephens seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kirk Thomsen motioned to add Dawn Jacobson to Curriculum Committee. Maria Fernandez seconded. The motion was unanimously approved

a) Removing Advisory Committee Columns from Senate Committee Roster

Membership of CTE advisory committees is not assigned by the Academic Senate, so those appointments should not be the committee roster. CTE liaison should also be removed since we no longer use this position.

Patrice Thatcher-Stephens moved to make the above changes to the Senate Committees Roster. Jayne Turk seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

b) Updated EEO Plan – Char Perlas

We are waiting for information about how close to degree completion candidates need to be in order to apply. Equivalency is not necessarily needed. This can be handled by HR. Equivalency is needed only if the person is pursuing second degree to teach in a different discipline than their first master's degree.

What about doctoral candidates who have advanced to candidacy? Is that equivalent to a masters? This would need to go through the equivalency process.

After latest round of revisions based on Senate feedback, plan is making its way to the board.

Maria Fernandez moved to approve the EEO Plan on the condition that the aforementioned section about equivalency be removed (this should be handled by HR). In addition, the Senate recommends that applicants with pending degrees that meet minimum qualifications for the discipline they are applying for should be encouraged to apply. Patrice Thatcher-Stephens seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

c) Updated SEM Plan – Patrick Walton, Mark Fields, and Christina Van Alfen

Jayne moved to consider EEO and SEM plan. Kirk seconded.

The latest draft incorporates specific feedback that was received. The document was corrected for accessibility and errors. On page 12, context and information was provided for the inclusion of the equity goals in the SEM plan. On page 7, goals are related to the SCFF, and on page 15, goals and areas of responsibility have been integrated. The local AS in Biology was removed. There were no other substantial changes.

The SEM Plan was developed by the committee, not just the administrators. This is the institution's plan. The committee is still open to changes if specific feedback or suggestions are provided.

Concern was expressed about the communication of feedback expressed in Instruction Council to the SEM Plan Committee. Feedback that was shared with Patrick Walton via the Senate has already been shared in Instruction Council twice but was never relayed to Patrick or the Committee. This is frustrating and has slowed the process.

What is meant by efficiencies in the document? How is it being measured? It would be useful to that have more specific language where possible.

Administrators are looking at our program discontinuance AP and doing research to see what other colleges do.

Maria Fernandez motioned to approve the SEM Plan. Kirk Thomsen seconded. There was no vote on the motion.

Concern was again expressed that information is not being effectively relayed among VPs. This required faculty members to have additional conversations, emails, and phone calls to relay the information. The fact that approval was held up is not due to the Senate; it's due to lack of communication and preparedness among the committee tri-chairs. Issues were raised in Instruction Council twice, but that information was not relayed to the lead plan author.

Faculty input was disregarded in the SEM Plan Committee. Faculty advocated for more precision in goals, and this was resisted. The lack of incorporation of distance education in plan is concerning. Faculty consistently voted the plan down in the committee.

Plan is lacking specifics and direction. It doesn't guide action. There should be an emphasis on branding and marketing. Individual areas could have been tapped to offer specific goals that could have been incorporated into the plan. The general feeling was that the tri-chairs didn't want to dedicate time to this and just wanted to get it done.

Structure of plan is hard to follow and makes the content difficult to understand.

Shannamar Dewey motioned to approve the SEM Plan with the recommendation that the committee continues to meet and integrate data-driven action items into the plan. Kirk Thomsen seconded. The motion passed.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Status of Nursing Program – Hallie Coppi

Hallie had a nursing directors meeting and couldn't attend, so Dr. Perlas provided an update. 2nd level interviews have been completed for all three positions in the nursing area. We are on target to restart Step Up program in summer 2025. The current cohort of LVN students will graduate in December 2024. Hallie will appeal to the BRN to open applications for the RN program in the fall. The application for LVN program will open in fall for students to start in spring.

b) State of the Academic Senate – Andrea Craddock

Significant accomplishments for the 23-24 Academic Year included:

- Faculty were hired into several positions this year (Maria Fernandez, Sarah Kirby, Tevin Cadola, Adam Groppi, Theresa Gowan), and there are lots of other positions in the works.
- Modifications were made to GE pattern Area 5 and Area 6 was added.
- The Senate approved the Distance Learning Handbook, which tied ongoing professional development in DL to faculty Flex requirements.
- The Senate made an appeal to the Board for an accessibility specialist.
- Courses were added to AP 5140.

- The Senate approved an SLO Assessment philosophy and plan, and faculty completed the first round of SLO assessment under the plan.
- The Senate also approved pathways for Guided Pathways, an AI policy, and criteria for GE inclusion.
- The Senate worked with the bookstore to improve the textbook adoption process.

In the immediate future, work will include revising courses in GE areas, hiring an accessibility specialist to remediate documents, determining which programs fall under each pathway, updating the program review handbook, and working on our AP on termination of programs. Hiring priorities include a SAS director, ETHN, and ART.

Gratitude was expressed for the Senate Exec and the incoming Exec team.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Curriculum Committee – got through all the things
- b) Distance Learning – three flex activities coming up, preapproved for flex and going PD for DE (OTE). Accomplished all goals for the year. Reviewing software for document remediation. Software is integrated in Canvas. 5 more POOCR, 1 more course aligned, 2 courses in prep phase.
- c) Flex – planning for fall. Workshops will be presented twice to give faculty time to prepare for classes. Approved proposals and analyses. For this year, faculty need to submit by end of June. The handbook does not align well with Title V. We may need a study group to look at this. Discovered Flex must happen during the fiscal year. Flex done in the summer either counts for previous year if in June or following year if in July.
- d) IPB – meeting on June 5 because there has been in a delay in the budget. Faculty who are not on contract will be compensated for attending, if they choose to attend.
- e) SJEDI
- f) OER
- g) Instruction Council – last meeting was unproductive and not well managed. Chair was not prepared. Many APs and BPs needed to be tabled. There were interruptions because the chair has other things going on. A few APs and BPs were approved.
- h) SLO Committee – Did not meet in April. The committee is meeting on Friday to plan for dialogue and action planning in fall. Doing research. The eLumen assessment module is no longer going to be updated, and we may be switching to Insights, which is part of Canvas. We want to be cautious because we don't want to invest in a product that doesn't work well or has issues.
- i) Student Services Committee – a lot of APs and BPs have been moving through. Completed chapter 5 this year.

7. GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Shannamar Dewey will be changing her FT status next year but will be staying involved at COS as a PT faculty member.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at: 3:59 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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