Officer present
Lori Petite, Sandra Guzman, Troy Myers, Kandace Knudson

Senators present

Senators absent
Jamil Malik, Deskaheh Bomberry, David Griffin

Non-voting members present
Renee Medina, Annette Barfield, Rebecca Goodchild, Angela Block

Guests
Julie Oliver, Gayle Pitman, Carrie Bray, Steve Cirrone, Shantra Muther, Michelle Poliseno, Margret Lednicky, Albert Garcia, Belinda Lum

Preliminaries (10 mins)
1. Called to Order
2. Approval of agenda—with amendments to add a tribute to Norman Walker and an additional information item concerning the college catalog.
3. Approval of minutes—correction for “next meeting” date
4. Announcements and confirmation of new officers as a result of President Pitman accepting a position as Dean of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness
   a. Lori Petite, President
   b. Sandra Guzman, Vice-President
   c. Kandace Knudson, Secretary

5. Welcome/Introductions of guests
6. Announcements
   a. Thank you to outgoing Senate President Gayle Pitman! Past President Myers presented her with a resolution of appreciation and a traditional nickname of Gayle “Pit Bull” Pitman.
   b. Math Professor and Senator Norman Walker passed away last week. The senate honored him with 60 seconds of silence and fond remembrances:
      i. Joe Phillips remembered Walker for his brilliance and humility: he was a brilliant mathematician. Born with a big brain, he could do in a minute what others could do in a month. He was a best at whatever he put his mind to, and it was unreal how much talent he had, whether it be playing piano, building a house, or solving a math equation.
ii. Patrick McDonald also commented on Walker’s talent and humility. Walker would create student assessments and run them by McDonald to make sure they weren’t too hard for students; he was always kind, sweet, and caring.

iii. Gayle Pitman explained that Walker had a heart of gold. She referred to the senate secretary job as the “curse of the devil” to be in charge of the nametags, printing them on a “disastrous piece of junk” senate office printer. Norman saw her struggling with this and came in with a stack of them already printed because he wanted to be helpful and of service.

Decision Items (10 mins)
1. Confirmation of appointment of new Senators:
   a. Wondimagegn Shewa, full-time, Chemistry
   b. Tyffani Upton-Benton, adjunct, Communication
2. Low-cost educational materials definition: Rebecca Goodchild & Angela Block (co-chairs of the Affordable Education Resources Committee) (2nd reading).

The senate reviewed the proposed definition of low-cost instructional materials, which defines a total cost of $40 and under as qualifying a course to be identified by the “low cost” icon that students can see if they click on the “I” icon in the course schedule online. The goal is to have each academic senate in the district approve this definition. It was suggested and approved as a friendly amendment that “textbooks and/or materials” be changed to “instructional materials.” It was also suggested that we keep our cost limit ($40) the same as Sac State’s so that if theirs changes, we should change ours to match because students appreciate that consistency. Goodchild said she will bring that back to the task force as a suggestion. It was clarified that faculty self-identify their courses as low-cost or zero-cost; there is no checking mechanism and no recourse if an instructor identifies a course as low-cost and then chooses materials that cost more than $40 per student. Motion passed unanimously to accept the proposed definition with the friendly amendment.

Information Items (5 mins)
1. Critical hires and backfill position—Albert Garcia
   Garcia explained that we have an opportunity for three new critical hires to start Fall 2020. Nine were approved already, and 2 of the 3 will be added to next year’s total positions; one will not because it is to replace a first-year faculty. The critical hires include one librarian to replace the vacancy in the Library department with Nicole Woolley’s 3-year reassignment as Online Course Design Coordinator, one nursing faculty position to replace two resignations, and one psychology position to replace the unexpected vacancy from Pitman’s transition to administration. Garcia explained that there is a lot of demand in psychology and that we will not be able to adapt to the expected growth in that discipline unless we fill that position. Garcia will get consent for these 3 critical hires from his fellow VPs and VPSSs across the district.

2. Renee Medina: Curriculum Committee Chair
   All campuses are replacing printed catalogs with fully online catalogs, printing a minimal amount of non-glossy catalogs. This will happen 2020-2021 barring any technical issues. Positives: it is easy to navigate, much like the new schedule of classes. FLC has one already on their new website. Only what’s needed will be there—no extraneous information will be included. We are expected to lengthen our curriculum timeline because we will no longer need to allow for printing time when we place it directly online. The new catalog will be downloadable PDFs in pieces, not one full PDF. Mauricio Gonzalez pointed out that College Source keeps copies of college catalog PDFs in a database. We need a whole PDF for that. Medina will talk with the PIO to follow up on that. We are currently preparing for the printed version as well as the online version in the event of technological problems. Medina added that Crystal Thornton is the new curriculum liaison.
Discussion Items (25 mins)

1. Pronoun Project, Canvas—Lori Petite
The college senates are asked to provide feedback to the District Academic Senate (DAS) about the future use of gender pronouns in Canvas in order to honor students’ choices of gender pronouns. There is a survey to gather more data and input from faculty. This is at the early stages of discussion, and the discussion and survey are facilitated by Emilie Mitchell of the ARC Pride Center. The gender field resides in Peoplesoft. DAS president Julie Oliver will distribute the link to senates for further distribution to faculty across the district.

2. Faculty Safety Incident—Steve Cirrone, Shantra Muther, Carrie Bray
A faculty member was mugged while walking from south lot to campus at about 11:30 a.m. last week. The concern was raised that it happened in the middle of the day when the shuttle was not available. It was mentioned that construction is likely continuing in the area for a couple more years, and suggestions were made to expand the hours of the shuttle so that the SCC community can park at the South lot and safely be transported to campus. The campus safety committee will review the situation, and the senate will receive word of their discussion from Bray. It was suggested that SCC negotiate with the City of Sacramento to allow SCC community members to park in Land Park during the time of construction. Parking on the top level of the parking structure and use of a transportation app to see real-time tracking location of the shuttle were suggested.

Committee Reports
Faculty committee chairs: Please provide a written report (when possible) and send to Gayle or Sandra to be included in the minutes. If you would like discussion on a report item, please send a request to Gayle to agendize for a future meeting.

Upcoming Meetings
Senate: Meets 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays at noon in RHN 258
Next meeting: Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Future Agenda Items:

To place items on future agendas, email Lori Petite PetiteL@scc.losrios.edu