



## OFFICIAL MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

Academic Senate President, Leila Safaralian, respectfully acknowledged that MiraCosta is on the traditional territory of the Luiseño/Payómkawichum people. Today, the meeting place of MiraCosta College and its surrounding areas is still home to the six federally recognized bands of the La Jolla, Pala, Pauma, Pechanga, Rincon, Soboba Luiseño/Payómkawichum people. It is also important to acknowledge that this land remains the shared space among Kumeyaay and Ipai peoples. In addition, we pay respect to elders both present and past, the respected keepers of history, culture, wisdom and knowledge. The meeting was called to order at **9:00am**.

### II. Remote Member Attendance

Description: *Academic Senate will consider remote participation of members under the provisions of AB2449, if any.*

**Erica Duran and Hossein Ravanbaksh requested remote participation under the Just Cause provision of AB2449. Erica Duran and Hossein Ravanbaksh attended the meeting via Zoom under the Just Cause provision of AB2449 by unanimous consent.**

### III. Roll Call

**Members present:** Robin Allyn, Angela Beltran-Aguilar, Shawn Firouzian, Julie Graboi, Jim Julius, Don Love, curry mitchell (President-Elect), Candy Owens, Brian Page, Leila Safaralian (President), Nate Scharf, Alexis Tucker-Sade, Krista Warren

**Members present via Zoom under Just Cause:** Erica Duran, Hossein Ravanbaksh

**Members absent:** Sunny Cook (ex-officio)

**Others present:** Adrean Askerneese, Theresa Bolanos, Scott Fallstrom, Tim Flood, Mikalah Hutchinson, Oswaldo Ramirez, Lori Schneider,

### IV. Persons Wishing to Address the Senate

Alexis Tucker-Sade wanted to make everyone aware that this is Domestic Violence Prevention Awareness Month. Please share information you receive via email with your students.

Erica Duran announced that on October 13<sup>th</sup>, she will be hosting the First Annual Independent Life Skills Social at the CLC to bring together adult learners with disabilities and their families from 10am to 1pm.

### V. Changes to Agenda Order – None.

### VI. Consent Calendar

#### A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2023

The consent calendar was approved by unanimous consent.

### VII. Reports

#### A. Academic Senate President

Academic Senate President, Leila Safaralian, reminded everyone that it was decided that each full-time senator will attend the ASG meetings throughout the year.

September 15 through October 15 is ChicanaX Latinx History and Heritage month. Thanks to all committees for putting all the events together.

Upcoming events include the virtual ASCCC Area D meeting on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm, where they will talk about resolutions that will be passed along to the Plenary Session.

The Strengthening Student Success Committee has a workshop in San Francisco, October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

The ASCCC Fall Plenary is November 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. Reach out if interested in attending.

Reported on behalf of Adrean Askerneese and Thao Ha for Guided Pathways. As the two GP leads on campus, they are tasked with generating discussion and solutions to structural changes to support student success. They would like to address question number two of the AS goals, what are the hidden roadblocks preventing students from accessing, persisting, and completing programs. There are three areas where

faculty play a role in instructional barriers in student program completion.

1. Prerequisites: consider your discipline's course outline of record. The challenges that students face in regard to prerequisites.
2. Scheduling: Consider the way we schedule and the challenges that this creates for students in getting the courses they need when they need them.
3. Basic needs: Consider the complex societal challenges that students face and the classroom policies and practices that don't allow flexibility to meet students.

#### **B. College Superintendent/President**

Vice President of Instruction, Denée Pescarmona reported on behalf of Superintendent/President, Sunny Cooke. Reported that the college has received a received NSF grant. Of the 18 awarded, only two were community colleges. Sent a shoutout to our teams and STEM doing great work. This is a pipeline from K-12 into higher education and into our baccalaureate program.

Recognition to everyone who has done so much work around the Title 5 grant. We are one year in and have hired over 20 students. They are students in churches, community service organizations, and there to represent MCC. This is an opportunity to build pipelines with our community-based organizations. Also, we have awarded 20 internships for work-based learning opportunities with the grant. Huge praise for Isabelle Rocha Duarte who is the activity director.

The college has finished the accreditation review cycle. The team is in the process of finalizing their report and will send it to Dr. Cookie and our accreditation liaison office, Chris Harmon, for errors of facts. There will be no formal recommendations from the visiting team. They have made a number of complimentary comments including our strong commitment to the work of IDEA. They want to recognize the design and implementation of a number of effective academic and student services support programs for historically marginalized and disproportionately impacted students, and also potentially commend the strong stability of the MCC leadership and recognize the culture around collaboration and collegial governance.

Last Friday, 300 students and their families from our various communities came for barrio empowerment. We had a Guided Pathways Institute, i.e., CA 2.0 institute. It was about if we press pause right now, what are the structural barriers that still exist in terms of student success and access. What do we need to do better or differently? What have we bolted on versus what do we actually need to stop and redesign.

Mark your calendars for the Community Leaders Breakfast on 10/20 at the Westin Carlsbad Resort to welcome and interact with about 200 stakeholders from our community.

The TCI is having their community showcase today from 3pm to 7pm.

#### **C. Classified Senate – Lori Schneider**

Not present. No report.

#### **D. Associated Student Government – Hutchinson**

Associated Student Government, AS representative, Mikalah Hutchinson, indicated that ASG has been busy. They have been recently supporting National Voter Registration Day and are encouraging students to register to vote. They have tables at all three campuses with a QR code that takes them directly to the voter registration website. ASG has had a successful executive training meeting. ASG executives are looking forward to attending the Community Leaders Breakfast on the 20<sup>th</sup>. They are currently working on developing goals for the year with an emphasis on DEI. SAN is working on a resolution for a safe access bike lane on campus. The CLC workgroup is working on a reform language to make the Child Development Center accessible to all students including noncredit or part of a certificate or diploma program. DEI is working on goals to emphasize support and advocacy for historically marginalized students. Legislative Affairs had their first meeting and are working on resolutions to bring the General Assembly in the spring. ASG will be supporting the upcoming transforming event on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **VIII. New Business**

#### **A. AP 6250 Budget Management – Tim Flood**

Description: *Language was removed regarding the county filing requirement. The district is fiscally independent, therefore, this requirement no longer applies.*

Flood discussed the changes made to AP6250 Budget Management and mentioned that legacy language was stricken that no longer applies. MCC no longer reports to the county office superintendent. We are fiscally independent and no longer have to report issues regarding payments and transfers.

Julie Graboi provided a handout (attached to these minutes) and shared that with respect to the first item

number one there is a list of codes that are referred to. She focused on the classification of expenditures by object which are academic- There are a list of codes that #1 refers to – wanted to focus on the classification of expenditures by objects which are academic, classified, non-academic salaries, employee benefits, supplies and materials, other operating expenses and services, capital outlay and other outgo. As a new member of AS, she was hoping someone with more knowledge could ask some clarifying questions. It was also asked why MCC was part of the SD County superintendent of schools and why we are no longer part of them. It was explained that once MCC became fiscally independent around 2018 so the district could take control of their fiscal finances, and we no longer reported to the county.

This will come back to the next meeting for a vote.

**B. BP 6250 Budget Management – Tim Flood**

Description: *The reserve percentage was changed from 5% to 17% or two months of expenditures and reflects the new requirements and mirrors the AP language.*

It was explained that this is a language clean up especially a strikethrough the no less than 5% reserve and the insertion of the 17% reserve in coordination with the Chancellor's Office guidelines and recommendation. This language is already in BP6300 and AP6305 and the percentages have already been established. The recommendation was from the Community College League of CA who gives us updates for our board policies and administrative procedures when there are legislative changes or legal changes or requirements. This is also in alignment with what the Chancellor's Office has recommended regarding us keeping a minimum of two months' worth of reserves to be fiscally prudent. This was also a component of the agreement with the Chancellor's Office when we accepted the financial protections emergency conditions allowance dollars. This was COVID-19 protection, protection of our FTES, and protected the dollars associated with both. It was further asked if the changes in the AP and BP will have any affect concerning funding prioritization such as salaries. It was noted that nothing will change because it is already housed in board policy and the Board has already approved it.

This will come back to the next meeting for a vote.

**C. Office Derby Process Update – Leila Safaralian**

Description: *The Academic Senate office procedures document has not been updated since 2009. The AS leadership has reviewed the document and brings it to AS for review and a first read.*

Some of the changes to the AS office procedures document were shared. The word council was removed throughout the document. In Part B of Assignment of offices, this is not our practice and language was updated and taken from the SL Handbook. Removed "squatter's rights" and will change to gender neutral terms from his or her to "their." On page 6, added #7 to include offices will be vacated by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Will also delete the last line in #5 which is now point #7.

**D. AS Goal Setting – Leila Safaralian**

Description: *The AS has decided this year to have themes each month, helping all faculty to engage deeply with the 10+1 implications for key initiatives of the college based on lenses of classroom practice, program completion, and community-building. This is a first read.*

The table of monthly visits and the themes was reviewed. This will come back to the next meeting for approval.

**IX. Information / Discussion**

**A. CPC and Legislative Liaison Updates – Scott Fallstrom, Theresa Bolaños**

Description: *Updates from CPC will be presented related to AB1705, AB928, and AB1111, along with other important areas of focus for this year. The state finished up a legislative cycle and important bills are going to be signed into law (and others vetoed). An update will be provided on specific bills related to Community Colleges.*

Bolaños explained that the college was asked by the state to sign off on its annual curriculum approval certification form. This certifies that CPC is following all the rules that have given local control of our curriculum and all the rules for credit and noncredit courses that still have to go through the Chancellor's Office. The last bullet on the form talks about mandatory training for curriculum committees and responsible administrators regarding curriculum rules and regulations in compliance with the law. They had a two-day training before this fall semester for new and returning committee members.

There is a lot of curriculum coming through and right now they have the six-year mandatory modifications for over 100 courses with a deadline of October 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is also a sunset list of 42 inactive courses. Fallstrom outlined what CPC is dealing with related to state legislative updates.

AP1705 was passed. This semester we are required to make sure all advisories and prerequisites that still mention any pre-transfer math or letters courses had to be removed.

AB928 Cal-GETC which is a single pathway to the UCs. That implementation is coming July 2025.

AB1111 common course numbering system. This would require a change to every course and mandate

specific language. This is currently being negotiated with legislators to hopefully move the deadline a little further down the road. The deadline currently is next July, just nine months away, which would require every course be revised, modified, and into the catalogue by February. Hoping the deadline is moved to allow for flexibility to do this well and not rush through it.

CPC has a few pieces they are looking at as goals and have subcommittees working on some things involving honors making it a little easier for students to reduce some of the red tape. They have a taskforce working on how to integrate one of the acronyms DEIA, DEIAA or IDEA into future course outlines of record. It was noted that if a department misses the deadline of the six-year update, the course will be removed and not taught the following year. For a full list and summary of bills either on the Governor's desk or already signed into law, visit this [comprehensive document](#) from Fallstrom.

**B. Conversation with Counselors** – Don Love, Adrean Askerneese, Candy Owens, Oswaldo Ramirez

Description: *The AS is going to have thematic months throughout the year. For the month of October, we are focusing on collaboration with counselors, and we have invited some of our counselor colleagues to join us to have a conversation about counseling services for our students.*

The counselors conducted a fishbowl activity with Don Love, Adrean Askerneese, Candy Owens, and Oswaldo Ramirez. They shared their thoughts and stories about their experiences with students. Senators were asked to listen, take notes about what they heard from this and bring back feedback to the next meeting and take this conversation to their constituents. Love noted that part of what got them focused on this format was our students and added that students are very stressed right now. He asked that we keep that in mind. There are students who are struggling, and their instructors may now know this. To view and

listen to the full conversation, visit this link [Counselors Collaborate at AS Meeting of 10-06-23.mp4](#).

Before sharing his stories, Ramirez noted that they are not just a student but a brother, sister, parent, etc. and they are in noncredit and coming back to school after a long time. There are concerns such as is transportation available and do students have the tools they need. Instructors may not understand all the struggles their student has gone through.

Owens noted that just like with noncredit, the same issue exists in credit where everything is waitlisted even classes that start on 10/16. Students are having a hard time; EOPS, life, and not academics. Many are having financial issues; losing jobs, their kids are sick. It is the hope that students will be able to continue to meet on Zoom. Students have a lot of personal issues. Counselors are booked solid.

Askerneese noted that, as an institution, students are meeting where we are at and not the other way around. He suggests going through the process to register for classes yourself if you want to know what a student goes through to get into your class. Students need an Ed Plan, yet we only know the classes being offered in the current semester and not what will be offered the next semester. Students then get delayed and can't finish their requirements on time. In his opinion, if you know the class is really needed, then make the class a requirement. The requirements for prerequisites are cumbersome; students go to A&R to declare a prerequisite, then if A&R does not clear it, the student has to challenge it and then go to the department, then back to A&R, but then the class is already filled. Why not have the department clear prerequisites to eliminate barriers for our students.

Love suggested you have to know the student. If we are just delivering the ed plan, we have at least two or three appointments to work with the student. It's a struggle for students trying to navigate so many things; their heads are swimming. How do we work through that process and where our students are mentally and academically. He asks students what excites them. We have a relationship with faculty members, and they are working with the counseling department. Ramirez added, that when meeting students, do you understand their story, what is the stress they have. Need to look at the cultural wealth model. A student may need to learn math, but do you understand all the other skills they have.

Senators were asked to share what they heard, what they observed, and their feelings. Many were conflicted and overall, it was noticed that the process is difficult for students, and we are not offering more classes when there are waitlists of up to 40 students. Perhaps some practices that no longer work need to be revised. At the next meeting, they will bring questions for the counselors. What can AS do for more support, specifically in the classroom. as we collaborate with the Counseling Office?

## X. Senator Reports

Sean Firouzian announced that the Data Scholars Club is collaborating with the Math Club and Computer Science and bringing another panel of data scientists and educators sometime in the spring. This will be held on the Oceanside campus.

## XI. Adjournment

– The meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.