

Biological Sciences Department Meeting Agenda

March 19, 2015

Attendance:

Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name	P	A
Cindy Anderson	X		Jennifer MacDonald		X	Carmen Rexach	X	
Frances Borella		X	Jeremy Marion		X	Sherry Schmidt	X	
Chris Briggs	X		Beta Meyer	X		Sarah Scott		X
Alison Chamberlain	X		David Mirman	X		Cindy Shannon	X	
Mark Cooper	X		Loni Nguyen	X		Deidre Vail	X	
Lynda Hoggan	X		Virginia Pascoe	X		Naomi Velarde-Jang	X	
Karyn Kakiba-Russell	X		Craig Petersen	X		Carola Wright	X	
Janine Kido		X	Melissa Presch		X			
Betsy Lawlor	X		Tim Revell		X			

1. Senate report by Senator Briggs

Desired outcomes: dept is informed of the meeting, directs Chris how to vote for us, and has their questions answered.

Important points from the Academic Senate (AS) meeting were:

1. POD still has travel funds.
2. Counseling has way to connect to college departments to better direct students. This tool is an online grade book, including attendance records. More information will follow on this.
3. AS meeting time was discussed in an effort to connect to individual's ability to participate. The question was asked whether or not the meeting time should be moved to later in the day. The AS received an analysis of time blocks that would accommodate more people. At 3pm the number of people available to attend AS meetings would increase. There would be no more of an increase in availability at 4:30pm.

Years ago, AS and FA were set at the same time block on Tuesday and Thursday. If these meetings weren't at the same time, the top AS and FA leadership would have to block out 2 different times during the week.

The Biology Department requested a 3-3:30 Tuesday meeting time but it went no where. This may be because afternoons are when most college committees and counsels meet

2. Special admit students prohibition list by David

Desire outcome: department decides if any changes are needed to this list

Special admit students are high school students taking Mt. SAC classes. They can be prohibited from our classes due to, for example, overnight field trips or adult content. This is the current list of courses we prohibit these students from taking:

Anat 10A, 10B, 35, 36, 40A, 40B, Bio 6L, 12A, 12B, 15, 15H, 21, Bot 3, HT 17-20, Micr 1, 22

The department decided to add these courses to the list.	The department decided that these courses were not needed and can be removed from the list
Bio 3	Bio 12A, 12B Bio 21 Bot 3 Micro 22

Anthr 5 and 22 were discussed but not added to the list. The department confirmed the other courses on the list should remain on the list.

3. FA report by Deidre and Beta

Desired outcome: Department is informed of the meeting and has their questions answered.

President's Report

1. Eleven members attended the Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB) training in January. It is not yet decided whether FA will utilize IBB with the District.
2. Eleven delegates attended the CCA Winter Conference in San Diego. The workshops were primarily focused on bargaining.
3. CCA Spring Conference is in Costa Mesa, from 6 pm on April 24 to noon on April 26. There are still spaces available, contact Eric (kaljumagi@mtsac-fa.org) if you want to attend.
4. CCA leadership academy will run concurrently with the next three CCA Conferences (April, October and February). The purpose is to prepare faculty to take leadership roles in their local chapters. The application is at <http://www.cca4me.org>.
5. There are vacancies on the following FA committees: Hospitality and Scholarship (vocational scholarship applicant readers are especially needed).
6. A general call for committee work will go out later this month for expiring committee positions.
7. NEA Representative Assembly will be held in Orlando, FL this year, July 3-6. If interested in attending contact Eric (kaljumagi@mtsac-fa.org).
8. The HE-8 seat on CTA State Council, currently held by Linda Chan is up for reelection. Election timeline is not yet known. The term is June 26, 2015 to June 25, 2016.
9. Thirty faculty have expressed interest in mediation training. An all-day training will be held on May 22, Cindy Anderson and Tim Revell from our department have offered to participate; there are no spaces left.
10. Over Winter session, the FA President has started to meet with Board of Trustee members and Division Deans. If there are any topics you think Eric should bring to their attention please contact Eric (kaljumagi@mtsac-fa.org).
11. CTA Service Center One has awarded Trustee David Hall one of their COATS Awards for his outstanding service to faculty and his support for public education.
12. Three Board of Trustees meetings have occurred since the December FA Representative Council meeting. The Walnut United Taxpayers have been very vocal in their opposition of the parking structure. Administration advised the Board not to move the structure due to millions of dollars in increased costs. Faculty, staff and students were able to dissuade the Board from using private investment to build student housing. The Board of Trustees had an all day meeting in La Verne for a Board Study Session.

Eric talked about new endeavors on campus: STEM Center, Equity Center, and Men of Color Workgroup. The District is completely rewriting its website. Accreditation is going well; potential issues still exist with an inadequate mission statement, outcomes, and the library's role in curriculum. The District is planning for a successor bond issue and will access the remaining Measure RR money in a three step process.

Vice President's Report

1. Joan has been shadowing negotiations and attending FA Negotiation team meetings.
2. The PAC meeting discussed issues with the smoking area in front of the gym. PAC also discussed Budget Management, Institutional Review Board, Alcoholic Beverages and Conference and Travel.
3. The Ethics task force is starting its work. One non-Executive Board member is still needed.
4. The Political Action Committee is going to work on the PAC bylaws. There is an election in Fall, 2015 and they need to work on the process for endorsing candidates.
5. Grievance Committee has a meeting scheduled March 17th to finish the Grievance Training.
6. Joan Sholars has been elected to finish Luisa Howell's term as our CTA State Council Representative.
7. We are holding a membership drive from March 10-May 26. Prizes will be awarded to those that have both the greatest percentage increase in membership and the greatest number of new members. We were given a list of fee payers from our department; about 23 of our part-timers are on the list. They pay the same amount of money, but are not members and don't get the membership benefits. Will contact them.

Treasurer's Report

Al Kirchgraber went over the financial report.

Other Reports

1. The Director G report was submitted by Eric Kaljumagi. He discussed several items of interest, saying that ACCJC has backed off a bit on accreditation. One of the colleges placed on warning status was Crafton Hills College which has now lost its BA program because it did not get full accreditation. He said many of the directors spoke of accreditation problems, some concerning SLOs on the syllabi.
2. Service Center One/CTA State Council report was given. Several items of interest were presented: a) the Governor has more money in the budget due to Prop 98 funds, b) Vegara case- group known as "Students Matter" are lobbying Sacramento against seniority and tenure, c) Friedrichs vs. CTA/NEA (case challenges agency fees) was thrown out by the 9th circuit court. There has been an effort to turn California into a right-to-work state.
3. Academic Senate Report discussed several items: a) Senate elections for Fall, 2015 will open at the March 19th meeting, requirements for various positions were described. b) faculty hiring update – there were 60 new hire requests this year, two additional positions (#11 Physics/Engineering and #12 Welding) are going to be flown. Also, the administration has indicated it will accept applications to hire a 1 year temporary full time faculty and to allow adjunct professors to exceed 67% of load for 2 out of 6 semesters. c) Nominations are now open for the Academic Senate Outstanding

Awards. Nominations are due March 27th at <http://academicsenate.mtsac.edu>. D) the list of open committee positions was also presented.

4) Negotiations report. Four negotiations team members attended the Interest Based Bargaining training in January. Eric and Joan attended the CCA Winter Conference Bargaining Academy on February 20-22. On the first draft of the State budget released on January 9th, COLA was listed as 1.58% and growth was 2%. There is still some discussion on what will happen to a potential \$125 million line item marked “operating expenses”. (not sure what will happen with that) Since early January the Negotiation team has met 8 times and engaged the District in three negotiation sessions. So far only two Tentative Agreements have been signed. (one regarding the District providing a safe working environment and the other regarding bullying and harassment in the work environment).

Old Business – Action Items

1. The 2015-16 FA Election Timeline was presented and approved.
2. Nominations for FA elections were opened, they will close at the April 7th meeting.
3. A resolution in Support of Fair Accreditation for California Community Colleges was presented and passed.
4. Version A of the college calendar had been approved, but the District asked we consider another, Option F, with a mid-week start for Winter. (See the attached calendar.) Need to have at least 5 instructional days in summer.

The District needs more teaching days to fall in a certain window of time or it will cost us money. There was much discussion and a suggestion for alternative start dates. A vote was taken on the proposal, but there was a question whether there was still a quorum, as the many had left since the meeting ran really late. I suspect there will be continued discussion on this item at the next meeting.

The differences between these versions of the college calendar are still being discussed. FA still prefers option A.

The Biology Department supports the FA decision to reject option F and stay with option A.

New Business Discussion Items

There was an item on Interest Based Bargaining. Since the meeting ran so late I do not believe this was addressed. I had to leave for a 1:15 class and it looked like most people were leaving, so I assume it will be addressed at the next Representative Council meeting.

4. Curriculum and SLO reminders by David

Desired outcomes: department completes required course outlines and course SLO assessments on time.

NO course outlines are late, some course outlines due this May. Some courses are late with SLOs. SLOs assess how well students are learning specific concepts. Most of our SLOs show that our students are getting what they should out of our courses. We need to make the SLOs about something that is challenging for our students.

Course outlines due to EDC by May 31, 2015:

Need to be done: Anat 35, 40A, 40B, Bio 1, 6L, 15, 15H, 24, 34, 34L, Micr 1

Done, pending feedback from dean or EDC: Bio 21, HT 12 and 14 and Micr 22

Course SLO assessments overdue, must be done by May 1, 2016:

Anth 5, 22, HT 14

Course SLO reminder – each course should assess at least one course SLO per curriculum cycle

Questions were raised about when SLOs are due if one has been done already. Will they be due during this cycle or next?

There is a lot of concern at the FA State level that when SLOs added there will be more workload.

SLOs go to David who sends them to the outcomes committee.

Department members had a previous discussion about the need to show the value of field trips. David suggested that this can be done through SLOs. If field trips are challenged later, SLOs would be valuable in providing data about the importance of field trips. The SLOs can be assessed through pre/post field trip quizzes.

5. HT bachelor's degree by David

Desired outcome: department decides whether or not to pursue HT bachelors for the Apr 16 deadline.

Twelve bachelor's degree programs were approved by the California State Chancellor's Office. Two are consulting with Chancellors office. There is 1 opening for another bachelor's program for community college and possibly 2-3 more. The Chancellor's office is opening 2 additional applicant opportunities. Our AS executive board voted against putting in an application for a bachelors program. The question is, do we still want to pursue this? If so then we need to talk to AS executive board and complete the application which is due Apr. 16, 2015.

Dean Judd is encouraging us to pursue this. He will support us. Jennifer mentioned previously that she was interested in pursuing a bachelor's degree program in histotechnology (HT). There are no colleges on the west coast that offer a bachelor's in HT. We have the faculty to teach. Carmen has the paperwork and some documentation, but needs data and cannot do this alone.

Arguments: Some senators are against starting a bachelor's program at Mt. SAC conceptually for the same cost. We also can't certify that we have faculty that can teach the upper division courses.

Procedure: David, Jen, Carmen will ask to speak to the AS executive board. Beta will ask Dan Smith about how to proceed. Carmen expressed urgency in completing the application. Carmen is concerned that if we don't get our foot in the door now we may lose our opportunity since this is a pilot for the State of California. This is a great opportunity for our students.

Chris is concerned about effort put forth by people that are already doing so much on campus. He discourages pushing Carmen and Jennifer to take on this huge project. Carmen will pull out the paper work, and contact Jen to see what she thinks, if the dept. wants this. Chris is interested in helping.

By secret ballot, the biology department expressed interest in pursuing HT Bachelors degree now: 15 were in favor, 1 was against.

We are currently offering a Bachelor's degree in Business in partnership with LaVerne. In this program we are providing space for University of LaVerne courses.

Beta needs people to make public comment if appropriate, next Thursday at the AS executive board meeting: 11:15-1:15pm. Those who are willing to make a statement need to be there when it starts, David, Beta can make public comment. There is also a Webinar for people that are completing the application, at 11am.

Carmen mentioned that the new Mt. SAC Mission Statement marginalizes postbacc students.

6. Report from the Galapagos by Carola

Desired outcomes: Department learns about the Galapagos and enjoys Carola's photos.

Carola shared her pictures from her trip to MachuPichu, Peru and the Galapagos Islands. She talked about what she learned about the culture and the people. She and her parents visited Lima, Peru first. Peru has been promoting tourism. A lot of the culture still shows its roots in the ancient Inca civilization. They visited Machu Pichu, and saw Llamas, Alpacas, and Viguias. The next stop was at Lake Titikaka, where the whole community, live on house boat huts. They lose many children that fall in the lake. The last stop in Peru was the island "of the knitting men."

In the Galapagos visitors are limited to limit disturbance to wildlife. Though it was very hot and dry, she saw iguana, frigate birds, blue footed booby, and sea lions.

Everyone enjoyed seeing Carola's pictures and sharing in her travels.

7. Review of commitments made

- a. Beta will ask Dan Smith about how to proceed with appealing to the AS about the HT Bachelor's Program.
- b. Carmen will talk to Jennifer about the HT Bachelor's Program
- c. Chris will cover for Beta so that she can make a public comment.
- d. Beta, David, and Carmen will make a public comment at the next AS meeting

8. Announcements and events

- **Please review the paper copy of Fall schedule in the mailroom reference box by the end of the day Tuesday. Only ½ of our classes were entered earlier, the rest should have been entered. There will be 3 more drafts.**
- **Cesar Chavez holiday. John O Keefe, Nobel Laureate, 949-824-5193. UCI at the Beckman Center. 4pm Mon. Mar. 30th.**
- **Earth Week: Wed: Apr 22nd Robert John 11:30-12:55, Christopher Nyerges 1:30-3, Thurs: Apr 23rd. James Adams, 9:45-11. 12-2 James Stone will have a guest speaker in AG building focusing on President Scroggin's signature on the Climate Change Initiative.**

- **Reminder, health conference, registration slow, \$35 on line, \$30 in cash, til next week.**
- **Research through the Mert, competition, Beta will send information on Monday. Chris, resource conservation coop open house Apr 11, Lyndas smoking video May 21 1:30-3 Building 9C**
- **Next department meeting April 2 food by Loni and Janine**

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