

Meeting Minutes

Merritt College Academic Senate

Thursday, December 2, 2021

12:30-2:00 pm

Zoom URL: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/99184622859>

MEMBERS:

VOTING – List full name below, identify which constituency group each individual represents (place X in box adjacent to name when present)			
X	Tom Renbarger, President	X	Mary Ciddio, Vice President
X	Jennifer Yates	X	Arja McCray
X	Heather Casale	X	Isela Gonzalez Santana
X	Lowell Bennett	X	Monica Ambalal
X	Ron Moss	X	Stefani de Vito
X	Derrick Ross	X	Maria Suarez
X	Anthony Powell	X	Jack Smith
Guests – List full name below, identify which constituency group each individual represents (place X in box adjacent to name when present)			
X	Nathan Pellegrin, Director of Research		

GUESTS:

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
I. Call to Order	12:34 pm	
II. Adoption of Agenda	MOTION (Ciddio): Approve agenda as amended with new items 5C and 5D. Unanimous.	Chair – Email to merrittgovdocs@peralta.edu
III. Approval of Minutes	MOTION (Ciddio): Approve minutes from 11/18/21. Unanimous.	Chair – Email to merrittgovdocs@peralta.edu
IV. Public Comment and/or Announcements	None.	
V. Action Items/ Presentations	<p>5A) DAS Constitution Approval (Renbarger): MOTION (Ciddio): approve changes made to DAS Constitution.</p> <p>5B) MCAS Special Election (Renbarger): There was just one formally-nominated candidate, Grace Idowu, for 2 openings. 15 votes and 8 abstentions. Hilary Altman and Inga Marciulonis were write-in candidates, one vote each. Both openings are for Spring 22 only.</p> <p>MOTION (Ciddio): accept MCAS Special Election results with Grace Idowu elected and Tom to follow up with write-in candidates.</p> <p>Comment (Ciddio): Who will serve as Treasurer, since Jen Yates retires at the end of this month? In Spring 22,</p>	<p>Approved unanimously.</p> <p>Follow up: Tom will check with write-in candidates to see if they're willing to serve.</p> <p>Approved unanimously.</p>

	<p>Treasurer runs point on MCAS Scholarships. Volunteers? Comment (Santana): How can we better publicize the MCAS scholarships, as we never have many applicants? (Bennett): The application is cumbersome. How to streamline?</p> <p>5C) Course Cancellation Schedule (Bennett): Schedule sent by VPI is too aggressive: we cancel “low enrolled” classes too soon. Comment (de Vito): Consider motion or Resolution to suspend the practice of cutting low-enrolled courses for Spring 22 due to COVID and the fact that we are on “hold harmless” funding until 2024-25?</p> <p>MOTION (de Vito): Amend the Spring 2022 class cancellation schedule to read: “On or before January 17: Review and consider cancelling courses with 10 or fewer students.” No other deadlines or enrollment minimums.</p> <p>Comment (Santana): we need student voice on the topic of enrollment/return to campus. (Pellegrin): Guided Pathways is researching this/created a student survey.</p> <p>5D) Faculty Hiring Advocacy Task Force (de Vito): Last year, the Task Force gathered data that became the basis for a MCAS Resolution advocating for nine full-time faculty positions. Suggest adopting this same approach this year rather than passively waiting for District to tell us how many FT positions we can have. Volunteers? Lowell Bennett, Heather Casale, Tom Renbarger.</p> <p>5E) Educational Master Plan Task Force (Renbarger): Our EMP has expired; need to re-write with more faculty input. Pellegrin: shared task list/timeline/focus area teams. Not many faculty involved yet. Volunteers? Comment (Santana): Counselors needed on AB705 team to share real-world impact of AB705 on student success. Tentative volunteers: Isela Santana, Mary Ciddio.</p> <p>5F) Open Educational Resources Liaison (Renbarger): We have not had an OER Liaison since Tim Hackett retired. Both librarians are overcommitted. Volunteers? It’s stipended (ASCCC) \$1000/year – can it be advertised to adjuncts (de Vito) as a paid position? Ciddio: Strong Workforce funds might be available to augment?</p>	<p>Follow up: Elect Treasurer at 12/16 meeting. Streamline MCAS Scholarship application and publicize scholarships more widely.</p> <p>Approved unanimously</p> <p>2022 Task Force Volunteers: Lowell Bennett, Heather Casale, Tom Renbarger. Tom will contact Brad Balukjian and Chairs/PDs requesting FT Faculty this year to solicit more volunteers.</p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>Tom to follow up with making it a funded position.</p>
VI. Standing Items	<p>DE Report (Ambalal): Students can now find Merritt online courses on CCCCO’s CVC-OEI website; they can search by college or subject. Any student worldwide can see what online courses we offer. Once a class has been “badged,” students who enroll through this website can take Merritt classes and receive credit for them on their home college transcripts. “Badged” = your course has</p>	

	been reviewed/approved by the state for participation in the consortium. Faculty should consult Marilyn Varnado to get their online classes approved for CVC-OEI.	
VII. New Business	None	
VIII. Old Business	None	
IX. Announcements	None	
X. Adjournment	2:03 pm	