

Meeting Minutes

Merritt College Academic Senate

Thursday, March 17th, 2022

12:30-2:00 pm

Zoom URL: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93056455708>

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	Arja McCray
X	Heather Casale	X	Grace Idowu
X	Lowell Bennett	X	Monica Ambalal
X	Ron Moss	X	Stefani de Vito
X	Derrick Ross	X	Maria Suarez
	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)			

GUESTS:

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
I. Call to Order	12:31 pm	
II. Adoption of Agenda	Added item 5f, MCAS Nominations for 22/23. MOTION to approve agenda as amended (Ciddio). Approved unanimously.	Chair – Email to merrittgovdocs@peralta.edu
III. Approval of Minutes	Correction to 3/3/22 MCAS minutes: wrong Zoom link posted at top of minutes. MOTION to approve 3/3/22 minutes as amended (Ciddio). Approved unanimously.	Chair – Email to merrittgovdocs@peralta.edu
IV. Public Comment	NONE	
V. Action Items/ Presentations	<p>a) Fall 2022 Contract Faculty Hires (Johnson): TENTATIVE plan: President Johnson will advocate with District leadership for 6 FT Merritt faculty positions for 2022/23. Per this year’s faculty prioritization process, order is: Nutrition, Radiologic Science, Biosciences, Medical Assisting, Centro Latino (Counselor), Natural History/Sustainability.</p> <p>Discussion: Faculty will be needed for hiring committees! Due to compressed timeframe, this may mean meeting in Summer.</p> <p>Q: Who posts these positions – Department Chairs? A: VPI and VPSS generate Requests to Advertise (RTA) with budget line for each position; these go to District HR (Vivian Farmer), who posts the positions for internal and external candidates (4-6 week application period). At time of posting,</p>	<p>Follow-up: President Johnson is meeting with Chancellor this week; VC of Finance Adil Ahmed will need to confirm.</p>

	<p>Vivian asks MCAS President to find faculty volunteers for each hiring committee.</p> <p>Q: How was the number of positions (6) arrived at? A: Funds for these positions are from salary savings from faculty retirements and one-time funds from CCCC for FT faculty hires. Unclear whether projected adjunct salary savings (Bennett’s analysis) have been factored in.</p> <p>5b) Resolution on Class Caps (Renbarger) Shared Resolution written by COA’s Academic Senate:</p> <p><i>Resolved, Peralta District Academic Senate recommends that discipline faculty in their respective divisions participate in determining class caps for each of their courses based on pedagogical, health, and safety factors, such as but not limited to the methods of instruction, course modality, objectives and outcomes of the course, and the assessment methods as established on the Course Outline of Record (COR), and</i></p> <p><i>Resolved, Peralta District Academic Senate and its constituent campus academic/faculty senates will work jointly with collective bargaining agents to see these changes codified as policy in their collective bargaining agreement.</i></p> <p>MOTION: to endorse the Class Caps Resolution as written (Bennett). Discussion: Chairs don’t have enough training on our role/authority in determining, approving, rejecting class caps.</p> <p>5c) Resolution on 2022/23 FTEF Allotments (Renbarger) Shared previously-approved MCAS Resolution on FTEF Allotments (passed 11/18/21). Tom notes that despite this, our FTEF for next year is lower than the current year.</p> <p>Discussion: Edit first “Be it resolved” to read “Be it resolved the MCAS formally requests, per #10 of the 10+1, Institutional Planning and Budget Development, that college administrators shall protect the classrooms and students by…” and strike the second “Resolved,” which pertained to Spring 2021.</p> <p>MOTION to reaffirm/approve updated Resolution (de Vito). Comment: “If we want to stop losing FTES, we should stop cutting FTEF.”</p> <p>5d) Merritt College Core Values, Strategic Goals, and Equity Commitment Statement (Renbarger) Shared three statements approved by Institutional Effectiveness Committee. IEC asks for MCAS’s endorsement/approval.</p> <p>Comments: The revised Merritt Mission Statement was developed through a collaborative process involving student, Classified, Faculty and Administrative input over the course of multiple meetings. This is the first time we’re seeing these three</p>	<p>Follow Up: All interested parties should attend PBC Meeting Friday 3/18 to ask VC of Finance Adil Ahmed re: salary savings from replacing PT with FT faculty.</p> <p>Follow Up: Resolution will be taken to State Academic Senate Plenary</p> <p>Tom has sent this resolution to PFT President Shanoski and the other Academic Senate presidents.</p> <p>Passed Unanimously</p> <p>Passed Unanimously</p>
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	<p>statements: what is their genesis? What was the process? For example, has the Ethnic Studies department reviewed the Equity Commitment? A: Some came from Planning Summits and were incorporated into Educational Master Plan (EMP).</p> <p>Question: Is the EMP where we find the “how-to’s” to get these things done? A: Yes.</p> <p>Comment: We should include transparency, communication and data-driven decision-making in our Core Values.</p> <p>Comment: Regarding Strategic Goals, how were the numbers arrived at? A: Modeled on CCCC’s Vision for Success goals.</p> <p>5e) Faculty Leadership Awards (Renbarger): Casale nominates: Lowell Bennett, Stefani de Vito. Ambalal nominates: Feather Ives. Suarez nominates: Hilary Altman.</p> <p>MOTION to nominate these four faculty members for MCAS Leadership Award (Idowu).</p> <p>5f) Nominations for 2022-23 Academic Senate (de Vito): There are 2 openings for PT faculty and 6 openings for FT faculty. Nominations close Tuesday 3/22.</p>	<p>Follow-Up: MCAS needs more information before approving these 3 items.</p> <p>Passed Unanimously</p>
VI. Standing Items	<p>College Budget Committee Report (Bennett/Renbarger): VPAS Kwiecen reported huge overruns in Merritt budget for part-time faculty last Fall. Yet we are still within our allotted FTEF. So, there appears to be a disconnect between the FTEF allowed by District and the budget District gives us to support these positions. \$1.6 million dollars is “missing.” Overspending by a tremendous amount in Object Code 1351. VPI is working with VPAS to resolve the discrepancy. Is it an accounting error in the Business Office? Did VPAS misspeak/misread budget expenditures? Could it be due to certain CE faculty whose FTEF can’t be factored in until the end of the semester? According to Merritt’s books, we’re in the red in Fund 1, but District has not said anything to this effect.</p>	<p>Follow-Up: VPI Richardson and VPAS Kwiecen are working to resolve the issue. Tom will invite them to 4/7/22 MCAS meeting.</p>
VII. New Business	NONE	
VIII. Old Business	NONE	
IX. Announcements	NONE	
X. Adjournment	2:06 pm.	