



MERRITT COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE

Merritt College Academic Senate (MCAS)

Meeting Agenda

Thurs., December 15, 2022

12:30 – 2:00 P.M.

Zoom URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88461880114>

Membership

Voting

Thomas Renbarger
(President)

Monica Ambalal
(Vice President)

Frances Moy
(Treasurer)

Dan Lawson
(Recording Sec.)

Lowell Bennett (PT)
(At-Large DAS Rep.)

Stefani de Vito
Arja McCray
Isela Santana
Heather Casale
Maria Suarez
Janine Nkosi
Rosa Perez
Nghiem Thai
Noël Fagerhaugh
(PT)

Quorum

6 voting members

- I. Call to Order
- II. Agenda Review, Changes and Adoption – *2 min.*
- III. Approval of December 1, 2022 minutes – *5 min.*
- IV. Public Comment – *3 min. per individual, 9 min. max*
- V. Consent Calendar: Pending approval of the Consent Calendar, the following items will be adopted without discussion. Items pulled from Consent will have a 10-minute discussion period. – *4 min.*
 - a) Resolution on Adoption of a “Low-Cost” Textbook Definition
 - b) Resolution on Advance Notice of Participatory Governance Committee Meetings
 - c) Resolution on Mask Usage for the Morning Plenary Session of the In-Person Merritt College Flex Day Program on Friday, January 20, 2023
 - d) Approval of proposed 2023-28 Educational Master Plan Strategic Goals
 - e) Approval of proposed faculty hiring prioritization as determined by the Council of Department Chairs and Program Directors
- VI. Action Items/Presentations – *60 min.*
 - a) Presentation on the Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Grant (Chavez) – *20 min.*

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- Action: MCAS will receive a report on and take possible action on faculty involvement with the newly awarded HSI Grant.
 - b) Presentation on Guided Pathways (Irving Chen) – 15 min.
 - Action: MCAS will receive a report on the current state of Guided Pathways integration into the operation of Merritt College and consider action on any shortcoming noted therein.
 - c) Peralta Registration Website Malfunction (M. Mofidi) – 10 min.
 - Action: MCAS will receive a report and take possible action on remedying a malfunction of Peralta’s registration website.
 - d) Adoption of Board Docs for posting agendas and minutes for participatory governance meetings (Renbarger) – 10 min.
 - Action: MCAS will discuss and take possible action on adopting Board Docs for use in Merritt College’s participatory governance processes.
- VII. Standing Items – 10 min.
- a) Reports From Officers (Pres., VP, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary)
 - b) Reports From Committees (Curriculum, Council of Department Chairs and Program Directors, College Budget Committee, College Facilities Committee, Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Merritt Technology Committee, Distance Education Committee, Career Education Advisory Council, Student Success and Equity Committee, Guided Pathways)
 - c) Accreditation
 - d) Equity
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Old Business
- X. Adjournment
- Next meeting: Feb. 6, 2022

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Resolution on Adoption of “Low-Cost Textbook” Definition

Whereas, The Merritt College Academic Senate supports efforts to increase student access to high-quality open educational resources (OER) and to reduce the cost of textbooks and other instructional materials for students in courses for which OER may not be available;

Whereas, The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office has implemented Management Information Systems data element XB12 to track instructional material costs, including “low instructional material costs (as defined locally);”

Whereas, Students may register for courses at more than one college within the Peralta Community College District, and varying definitions of low cost at each college may be confusing and even misleading to students; and

Whereas, College of Alameda and Laney College have already adopted a low-cost textbook definition of \$50;

Resolved, That the Merritt College Academic Senate adopts a local definition of a low-cost textbook as any instructional material (such as, but not limited to, textbook, workbooks, lab manuals, online homework, and required printouts) whose total combined cost per course does not exceed \$50; and

Resolved, That the Merritt College Academic Senate advocates to the District Academic Senate to adopt the same definition for the Peralta Community College District.

Contact: Nghiem Thai, OER/ZTC Coordinator, Merritt College

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Resolution on Advance Notice of Participatory Governance Committee Meetings

Whereas the Merritt College Academic Senate (MCAS) is subject to the Brown Act, which requires public posting of agendas no later than 72 hours in advance of the meeting time,

Whereas the following committees, as committees of MCAS, are also subject to the Brown Act: Career Education Advisory Committee, Council of Department Chairs and Program Directors, Merritt College Curriculum Committee, Distance Education Committee, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee,

Whereas the timely advance posting of agendas for all Merritt College committees facilitates the smooth functioning of the participatory governance process,

Resolved, that the Merritt College Academic Senate requires all the committees of MCAS enumerated above to post their meeting agendas no later than 72 hours in advance on a publicly available platform, in accordance with the Brown Act.

Resolved, that the Merritt College Academic Senate urges all other Merritt College participatory governance committees to post their meeting agendas no later than 48 hours in advance on a publicly available platform.

Contact: Tom Renbarger, Academic Senate President, Merritt College



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Resolution on Mask Usage for the Morning Plenary Session of the In-Person Merritt College Flex Day Program on Friday, January 20, 2023

Whereas the Spring 2023 semester masking policy of the Peralta Community College District (PCCD) makes provision for faculty teaching face-to-face classes to mandate mask use during their class sessions,

Whereas there will undoubtedly be attendees of the morning plenary session of the Merritt College Flex Day on Friday, January 20, 2023 who face the risk of significant health complications should they contract COVID-19,

Resolved, that the Merritt College Academic Senate directs the Professional Development Committee to make provision that facilitators of the workshops during the morning session of the January 20, 2023 College Flex Day to require mask usage during their presentations, consistent with PCCD's classroom masking policy for the Spring 2023 semester.

Contact: Tom Renbarger, Academic Senate President, Merritt College

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Motions to be passed on the Consent Calendar

Motion to approve the Council of Department Chairs and Program Directors (CDCPD) faculty hiring prioritization list: Move that MCAS approves the faculty hiring prioritization list for academic year 2023-24 as determined by CDCPD.

Motion to approve the proposed Strategic Goals for the 2023-28 Merritt College Educational Master Plan: Move that MCAS approves the proposed Strategic Goals for 2023-28 Merritt College Educational Master Plan developed by the Institutional Effectiveness Committee and Educational Master Plan Task Force to align directly with the updated California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Vision For Success.

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