



Cosumnes River College

Academic Senate Minutes January 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:30pm

Present:

Cori Burns

Brian Noel

Teresa Aldredge

Sandra Carter

Julie Oliver

Georgine Hodgkinson

Jason Newman

Juana Esty

Ben Wingard

Linda Hoang

Jason Patterson

Ron Breitenbach

Rachel Aptekar

Terri Patten Armbrust

Cheri Fortin

Rhonda Farley

Greg Beyrer

Rick Schubert

Camille Moreno

Gail Dartez

David Weinshilboun

Hiram Jackson

John Seamons

Approval of the Agenda: Approved by consensus

Introduction of Guests

- Cheryl Aschenbach, ASCCC North Representative
- Gayle Pitman, DAS Representative, SCC AS President
- Dan Crump, ASCCC Elections Chair, DAS Secretary, ARC Faculty

DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS

- 1. Discussion and Decision regarding interim Academic Senate Leadership Team for Spring 2019 semester.**

How is hierarchy of state, district, and local senates? Local and district represent local faculty. ASCCC is a resource for the entire system. Will assist any local/district senate as needed. Also work at state level with legislature and governor.

Can interim leadership be appointed today? There is no direction in CRC documents. Need to work outside of the bylaws.

Appointment needed as soon as possible. Time does not exist for election process.

Concern about appointment of interim leaders seems problematic.

Is there any precedence from other senates across the state? No precedent for the loss of an entire executive team.

How to avoid an even worse situation? Having a thought out appointment of interim team may be a better solution.

Moving quickly is important for process. Perhaps use Convocation as a captive audience for some part of the process—introduction, voting...

Advice based on student government—if something isn't addressed in documents, then the members of the 'board' should make the decision.

Fixing Constitution and Bylaws-need to be fixed for the future. Need revision this spring through a work group.

Historically, there has never been, in Los Rios, the resignation of entire executive team. No direction for how to replace the entire executive team.

Without action taken today, no appointments may be made to committees (including 19 faculty hiring committees) and work groups. This failure would be devastating.

Clarification, need interim leadership for this semester. Then the regular election process will happen in the spring for normal two year term.

Perhaps, remaining executive member should make or at least be involved in the appointment process.

Appointment with affirmation by electorate may be an option.

Clarification of who constitutes the executive team—President, Vice President, Secretary, Past President.

Recommendation from T. Aldredge to consider a slate of officers

- Ellen Arden-Ogle past CRC President and DAS President, recommending as interim President.
- Lisa Marchand, also past CRC President, recommended as interim Vice President
- Teresa Aldredge, current senator and past CRC President, recommended as interim secretary

Slate of past senate presidents shows we have experienced leadership to help through this interim crisis.

Any other alternatives to consider?

Two other past presidents—Rhonda Farley, Georgine Hodgkinson—to consider

Are Ellen and Lisa ok with being nominated? Yes (both present)

Lisa, I am willing to serve. Would undertake it with the dignity and respect with the faculty in mind. Responsibility to respect the history of the senate and respect the existing documents. Needs to be a balance between respecting history, current place, and future plans.

Ellen, I am willing, but do I want it, no! But I will do it and I know what it entails. I know the responsibilities. I am here to make sure the work required to be carried out is able to be carried out.

Wealth of knowledge of the proposed team is appreciated. There is a history of mentoring of VP in preparation for stepping up to President. Concern about that lack of mentoring.

Release time for executive team. How would that be handled? ESL has a plan in place, as does communication studies.

Appreciation of phrase "transformative semester"

Statement made to support the integrity of Ellen, Lisa, and Teresa and very grateful for their willingness to step up.

Important for future Senate leadership to be well informed and have a clear platform on which to run. Need diverse voices and points of view.

CRC was in a good place when Ellen, Lisa, and Teresa were members of the executive team, and would be nice to have that leadership guiding us through this interim time.

Need to evaluate civility and respect for the future. Need to support a new team.

We are a different group of people now, so there should be a confirmation or affirmation of any interim appointed leadership team. Statement should be does electorate affirm the new group or should we go back to another election.

Who would fulfill the position of past president in the future after the interim slate was done?
Past President would still be Julie Oliver

Open discussion, please speak up with ideas and discussion so we have all ideas on the table.

Perhaps having an intermediate group working between the executive team and the full senate. An advisory board for the new slate.

How would such an advisory board be appointed?

Could senate run without leadership for a semester? Local needs are greatest. District senate cannot handle our local needs. Have to have a president to make appointments

Precedence for sitting President and VP to job share a position? Someone learning from current leadership.

CRC has a history of moving up the ladder in leadership. Other Los Rios colleges, like SCC, have not had that clear leadership succession. Lots of past leadership at CRC, so lots of possibilities for mentorship both formal and informal. There are people who can mentor both at CRC, within the district, and with ASCCC assistance.

People who run for office should have some knowledge of process and protocols. Job descriptions within documents, Why not have a mentoring process for any faculty considering leadership? Interim leaders could mentor interested faculty. PD Committee will host some leadership sessions this spring.

Making assumption that one needs to be on executive team to be an effective leader on Senate. There are people to mentor.

Maybe have discussions of how to have more mentoring for executive team.

CRC has had a few instances when there was a past president who was not the immediate past president. If immediate past president isn't available then keep going back to find one from the past to serve.

Might make sense to not add additional structure now, to keep things simple. Allow interim leadership to simply make sure what needs to be done gets done.

Bylaws election process starts in February; next agenda item.

Motion to appoint Ellen President, Lisa Vice-President, and Teresa Secretary as interim leadership team for remainder of spring 2019 semester. Motion seconded.

Cheri Fortin Yes

Teresa Aldredge Yes

Sandra Carter Yes

Jason Newman (no longer at meeting)

Ben Wingard Yes

Hiram Jackson Yes

Linda Hoang Yes

Camille Moreno Yes

Jason Patterson Yes

Ron Breitenbach Yes

Rachel Aptekar Yes

Terri Patten Armbrust Yes

Gail Dartez Yes

Rhonda Farley Yes

Brian Noel Yes

Greg Beyrer Yes

Cori Burns Yes

John Seamons Yes

Georgine Hodgkinson Yes

David Weinshilboum Yes

Rick Schubert Yes

Amanda Procsal Yes

Julie Oliver Yes

Passed with 22 "Yes" votes, every voting member present voting "Yes".

2. Discussion and Decision regarding timeline for regular Spring 2019 AS Officer elections for 2019-2021 term.

First regularly scheduled senate meeting is Fri Feb 8th. Nominations need to be submitted by Thurs Feb 14th.

Is this a realistic timeframe in this “transformative” time?

DAS leadership talked about CRC elections timeline, and they all felt it might be a heavy lift to happen so quickly.

Elections committee met last semester before resignations to talk about regular timeframe.

Did elections committee think the timeframe would be possible? At the time they met yes, but that was before the recent resignations

DAS concerned about resignations and if there were any new people interested in jumping into leadership. Seems like a quick turn-around time.

What downside for a one month delay? Not sure there is a downside. SCC elections are about a month later. Other colleges not until late April/early May.

With May retirements for two members of interim team (President and Vice President), there is a concern about time for mentoring.

The resignations and this January meeting may encourage people to step into leadership.

Faculty across campus understand we lost most of executive team, and faculty are interested in proceeding with bylaws timeline.

If elections committee feels it can meet the needs of the timeline, then they should proceed.

Delay might be useful if there is a larger field of interested parties to allow for debate and discussion.

There are seven past presidents serving on the CRC Senate now, and even after Ellen and Lisa retire there will be five. We have tremendous mentoring opportunities.

Period of “palate cleansing” seems advisable. Since there is a tendency that people may not be interested in serving given recent trauma. Delay might allow faculty to see improvement in leadership atmosphere.

Allow some time to have everyone experience a better atmosphere in senate before having elections so quickly.

Postponement of process-people making commitment to run need some time to form a reasonable platform based on facts and logic.

PD Committee would like to be directed to help create opportunities for people interested in faculty leadership to get information and mentoring to construct a successful platform.

Could delay of a month happen without serious ramifications? There are pros and cons which have been previously discussed.

Elections committee (all members present) see no problem with delay.

Hope that anyone seeking information and mentorship would start that early, even before process.

Delay is about allowing people to get informed regarding the large system—district and state—and politics.

Fall retreat perhaps should focus on discussing how to best support senate leadership.

Elections committee could develop a new timeline. A few weeks will not make a great change.

Any changes or suspension of bylaws to have a later election, requires that the changes are presented to faculty two weeks in advance of having the changes on the agenda at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm

Next meeting: February 8, 2019

Minutes submitted by Julie Oliver, Past President