

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2013

(Approved by Executive Council on September 25, 2013)

Executive Councilors present (noted by *):

*Julie Thompson, <i>presiding</i>	*Dianne Davis	*Jacqueline McGhee	*Margaret Pennington
*Filomena Avila	*Terry Ehret	*Bud Metzger	<i>vacancy (contract)</i>
*Paulette Bell	*Deirdre Frontczak	*Terry Mulcaire	<i>vacancy (adjunct)</i>
*Shawn Brumbaugh	*Andre LaRue	*Dwayne Mulder	<i>vacancy (adjunct)</i>
*Paula Burks	*Sean Martin	*Nikona Mulkovich	

Officers/Negotiators/Other Appointed Positions present: Karen Frindell Teuscher, Matt Murray, Warren Ruud

Faculty present: Karen Stanley

Staff members present: Candy Shell, Carol Valencia

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. in Doyle Library, Room #4245, on the Santa Rosa campus.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. **Negotiations Report**. This report and discussion were conducted in closed session.
2. **Conciliation/Grievance Report**. This report and discussion were conducted in closed session.

Closed Session adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Open Session reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

Faculty member present: Karen Stanley

1. **Deirdre Frontczak, FACCC Board of Governors representative, continued with an Advocacy Update from Closed Session.**
 - a. AB 955 is about two-tier enrollment and is now scheduled for signature; it needs action now. (You can use the "point & click" on the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) website to register your opinion.) You can also complete a blog post where you offer a two-sentence opinion. All are encouraged to register their views. http://www.faccc.org/govrelations/index.cfm?gr_event=billsdisplay&action=list
 - b. The Department of Education (DOE) has reviewed complaints about the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) accreditation standards being unfairly applied. FACCC sent out a notice asking California Community Colleges to generate third-party comments to DOE. The deadline was last Friday. There was not time to go before the Council, so the Cabinet approved a resolution.

- There was a discussion regarding how best to register opinions on the issues above. Julie explained that FACCC believes these public responses do make a difference and can affect an outcome.
- Margaret Pennington asked if the third-party letter AFA wrote would be shared with faculty members at some point. Julie responded that we could look into putting it on the website, along with the response published by California Community College Independents (CCCI)—perhaps creating a button under Hot Topics on the AFA home page. Margaret encouraged everyone to do something—no matter how small—and to respond as soon as possible when you receive emails because time is of the essence. Julie added that even though it's time consuming to do this, it's important. FACCC reaches out to us for help and support, and they use these responses in their meetings with legislators.

MEMBER CONCERNS WITHIN AFA'S PURVIEW

1. Paulette Bell asked the Council to remember that it's 9/11 today.
2. Margaret Pennington explained that she received an email from Vice President of Academic Affairs Mary Kay Rudolph regarding accreditation. She thought Mary Kay's message made it sound like there was an expectation that we all should be *doing* something. Margaret asked, "Is she asking us to do something that we [adjuncts] are not being compensated for?" Julie responded that there are some adjunct representatives on the committees, but it's elective. Margaret clarified that she was not referring to committee people. Bud Metzger explained that when Dr. Rudolph says she wants all to be involved, it's because the accreditation people want to see that all College employees were provided opportunities to be involved in the process; her email is documentation of that.

MINUTES

The Council reviewed the minutes from the August 28 Executive Council meeting, and the following corrections were noted:

1. Dianne Davis noted that Mary Kay Rudolph's name was misspelled.
2. Karen Frindell Teuscher noted that Terry Ehret's name was misspelled on one page.

By unanimous voice vote, the Council approved a motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the August 28, 2013 Executive Council meeting as corrected (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

(Approved minutes are posted at <http://www.santarosa.edu/afa/minutes.shtml>)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Compressed Calendar Negotiations Task Force Final Report: Spring 2013

Julie explained that the Task Force ended last December and the Report came out on May 24; it was written by Janet McCulloch and is the culmination of the work of the task force. AFA will be talking with the Academic Senate (AS) about it. We will ask AS President Robin Fautley to host a faculty conversation about the report. Julie also reported that the Cabinet was invited to join in part of the Senate retreat this Friday and plan to talk about it then. They will also discuss purviews for AFA and the Senate—the academic calendar is one area of overlap. There should be more to report in two weeks.

2. Adjunct Faculty Councilor Vacancies

Julie noted that Council members have three interest statements in their packet for the Councilor vacancies. The Council now needs to decide how to proceed. As background, Julie relayed a situation that occurred two years ago. In that situation, the Council called for

interest statements and then decided to hold an election for the vacancy. Since the Council decided to hold an election, those who had submitted interest statements were required to complete a nomination form and submit a picture for the ballot. However, one candidate was able to access email only at work and didn't get the message in time to get on the ballot. There was significant ill will created in that situation. In addition, it's significantly more work for AFA office staff when we hold an election. So when there was a Council vacancy last year, the Council decided to make an appointment. Now we have three names of interested candidates. We can appoint or hold an election.

- The Council briefly discussed the past situation where ill will was created, and decided to move forward with the current vacancies.
- Bud Metzger asked if anyone on the Council could speak for the three candidates.
- Paulette Bell stated that if we had one or two names, she would favor appointment; however, with more than two names, an election would be better. In that way, the Council would not be making a decision in the absence of information about people. She stated that the manner of filling the vacancies should be decided first.
- Nikona Mulkovich stated that if the three candidates were expecting an appointment, the Council would now have to go back and tell them there will be an election. Paulette added that maybe in the next vacancy situation, people should submit all the forms and pictures for an election, just in case it's needed later. Julie responded that next time the Council could also decide in advance of the announcement, per our Bylaws, which way the vacancy would be filled—appointment or election.
- Margaret Pennington stated that she agreed that the Bylaws give the Council the power to decide, but also agreed that the number of seats and number of candidates is relevant to the decision.
- Bud Metzger asked if the Council should vote on appointment or election.
- Sean Martin stated that he would like to decide after hearing about the candidates. Bud responded that it's a procedural question versus an actual question. He added, "Do we want to be democratic or autocratic?" Sean responded he believed that to be a false dichotomy since appointments can be democratic with the Council, needing a two-thirds majority to appoint.
- Nikona Mulkovich suggested a possible compromise—the Council could appoint Publications Coordinator Matt Murray, one of the faculty members expressing interest, for one position and hold an election for the other position. Paulette stated that she still believed the Council should hold an election for both vacant positions. Margaret added that, in an election, only adjuncts would be able to vote; however, in an appointment, a minority of adjuncts [Council members] would decide. Julie added that with the other contract Council vacancy coming up, there would be another decision just like this one. Terry Ehret weighed in, stating she was intrigued by the compromise and asked which position would have the longer term [one or two-year]? Julie responded that the Council would make that decision. She added that, since the Publications Coordinator has a one-year term, it might make sense for Matt to have the one-year Council term. Terry Mulcaire stated that he didn't see any downside to appointing someone now, so the Council can move on to more substantive issues.
- Sean Martin stated that there has been some precedence of good appointments in the room. He added that if the Council appoints now, the new member will be subject to a full vote when his/her term ends, and the Council is voting for the appointments here, as well. He supports an appointment.
- Nikona made a motion to appoint Matt to the one-year term and hold an election for the two-year term. It was seconded, approved, and moved to an Action Item (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

3. Contract Faculty Councilor Vacancy

Julie explained that Audrey Spall has stepped down from her seat. Julie asked if the Council wanted to proceed to fill this vacancy with a call for interest statements to the faculty. The Council agreed to move forward.

4. AFA Standing Committee Appointments for 2013-14

- Paula Burks talked about the New Faculty Committee, explaining that AFA holds an annual new-faculty outreach at an AFA officer's home. It's a place to get them signed up for AFA. She added that the committee primarily needs someone to help plan the event. Dianne Davis volunteered to join the committee.
- Dianne also explained that she was on the Benefits Workgroup last year, but they never met.
- Julie moved on to the Retirement Issues Taskforce and explained that it was created as part of the Negotiations Team at one time, but they have never met. AFA is considering disbanding this committee.
- The Publications Workgroup is still open. Filomena Avila volunteered for that committee.
- Jacqueline McGhee put her name forward to be on the PAC Steering Committee. It's mostly needed for check signing. Julie asked if there was any other interest.
- Bud Metzger would like to be on the Budget Advisory Team.
- A motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote to move the slate of committee appointments above to an Action Item (14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

5. AFA Representatives to District-wide Committees for 2013-14

- Paulette Bell explained that the Adjunct Issues Committee (AIC) met and started a discussion on the "ideal"—where all interested and available adjunct representatives have an appointment to a District-wide Committee. The AIC decided to continue the discussion when all the adjunct Council seats have been filled. Julie and Paulette went through the adjunct Councilors one-by-one: Deirdre is already on two committees; Terry is interested in Petaluma Faculty Forum, but that is the Senate's purview; Margaret is not available to serve on any committees; Paulette offered to serve on the Fringe Benefits Committee, if needed; Dwayne is interested in serving on Fringe Benefits but has a conflict with the meeting time; and Paulette is interested in District Online but has a conflict with the time.
- Julie asked to move the slate of committee representatives to an Action Item. The motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

6. AFA Fall Membership Survey

Julie noted that the Council seems to be lacking momentum on the survey. The original plan was to discuss the results at the retreat, but it looks like creating the survey questions will be on the retreat agenda instead.

ACTION ITEMS**1. Adjunct Faculty Councilor Vacancies**

- The Council considered the motion made by Nikona Mulkovich during Discussion. Dwayne Mulder asked if the office workload is the same for an interim election as for a regular election. Julie responded affirmatively. Terry Mulcaire asked how long an election would take. Julie explained that the results could be in by the next Council meeting. Sean Martin asked if the Council would be required to open up the election to new candidates, and Julie responded negatively since the Bylaws were clearly explained in the call for interest statements.
- Nikona re-stated her motion: The Council would appoint Matt Murray to the one-year term and hold an election between the other two candidates for the two-year term. The motion was seconded and a hand vote was taken (10 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions).
- Sean Martin asked if the vote needed was two-thirds of the Council or two-thirds of those present. Julie responded that there are currently 16 Councilors, with the President casting a vote when needed. Julie voted in favor of the motion; final vote (11 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions).

2. AFA Standing Committee Appointments for 2013-14

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the following slate of new AFA Standing Committee Appointments for 2013-14: Bud Metzger to Budget Advisory Team; Dianne Davis to New Faculty Committee; Jacqueline McGhee to Political Action Committee Steering Committee; and Filomena Avila to Publications Workgroup. Included in the motion was the disbanding of the Benefits Workgroup and Retirement Issues Task Force.
- The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote (14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

3. AFA Representatives to District-wide Committees for 2013-14

- A motion was made and seconded to approve a slate for the following open seats on District-wide Committees for 2013-14: Bud Metzger to Budget Advisory; Andre LaRue and Sean Martin to Department Chair Council Liaison; Dave Harden to District Online; Ted Crowell to District Tenure Review and Evaluations; Paulette Bell to Fringe Benefits; Shawn Brumbaugh and Deirdre Frontczak to Professional Development; Nikona Mulkovich to Professional Growth Increments; and Andre LaRue to Sabbatical Leaves.
- The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote (12 in favor; 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

OTHER REPORTS**1. President's Report.** Julie reported briefly on the following items:

- a. There will be an AFA Social Mixer on Sept. 30 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Santa Rosa's Doyle Center for New Media. After the mixer, there will be an adjunct workshop. More information will be forthcoming via email. She asked all Councilors to please attend. We will also schedule an AFA Social Mixer and adjunct workshop in Petaluma, TBA.
- b. The CCCI fall conference will be Oct. 17-19 (Thursday-Saturday) in San Diego. Warren and Julie will be attending; two more Councilors need to attend. Our policies say one person should be an adjunct, if possible. Please respond by Sept. 28 if you're interested.
- c. Please send your schedule template to staff.
- d. Please complete the Doodle survey for the Nov. 27 Executive Council meeting.
- e. Thank you to Deirdre for her hard work on the third-party response on ACCJC.
- f. Matt is working on our first *Update*.
- g. Our fall retreat will be Sunday, Oct. 6, at Pepperwood. More information will come via email. Topics will include reviewing the AFA Mission statement and completing the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carol Valencia