

## AFA is working for you. The strength of faculty working together.

## **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

December 9, 2015
(Approved by Executive Council on January 27, 2016)

Executive Councilors present (noted by \*):

\*Karen Frindell Teuscher, presiding \*Molly Matheson \*MJ Papa

\*Filomena Avila \*Terry Ehret \*Jacqueline McGhee \*Margaret Pennington
\*Paulette Bell \*Deirdre Frontczak Bud Metzger \*Karen Stanley
\*Denise Beeson Andre LaRue \*Terry Mulcaire \*Julie Thompson
\*Shawn Brumbaugh \*Michelle Hughes Markovics \*Dwayne Mulder \*Michelle Van Aalst

Officers/Negotiators/Appointed Positions present: Ted Crowell, Mark Ferguson Staff members present: Candy Shell, Carol Valencia

The meeting was called to order at 4:17 p.m. in Doyle Library, Room #4245, on the Santa Rosa campus and video-conferenced to PC Room #602 on the Petaluma campus.

## **PRESENTATION**

**FACCC Legislative Report** (Andrea York, Director of Government Relations, Faculty Association of California Community Colleges)

- Andrea thanked the Council for the invitation and introduced FACCC colleagues Austin Webster (Director of Communications) and Evan Hawkins (Director of Political & Member Outreach).
- FACCC is using the current legislative recess to get ready to present its legislative issue package.
- It's an interesting time in California with the upcoming Governor's race, but AFA has a strong advocate in Senator Mike McGuire.
- Last year's State budget had new money for colleges, and we are seeing them start to recover from the cuts during the recession.
- Last year's FACCC-sponsored Bills:
  - AB 626 would have allowed colleges to use Student Success money for faculty hiring with a link to the Ed Code rather than making it part of a budget bill. It was hard-fought with legislators. It's a two-year bill so it will come up again this year, but we're not sure what will happen. (See <u>AB 626</u>.)
  - AB 404 was signed into law. An accreditation performance review is now required, and all California Community College (CCC) stakeholders can comment, addressing specific criteria. It enjoyed bipartisan support and sailed through. (See <u>AB 404</u>.)
  - AB 1010 regarding part-time faculty re-employment rights is also a two-year bill. Last year it did
    not move forward because the California Teacher's Association (CTA) & California Federation of
    Teachers (CFT) had legal issues with the language. FACCC will support it again this year, but it is
    currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee and might not move forward. (See <u>AB 1010</u>.)
- 2016 FACCC Priorities (based on committee recommendations and last year's issues):
  - Repeatability and audit fees
  - o Transfer degrees and the cap on high-unit majors
  - Faculty staffing and compensation: part-time office hours funding. Julie Thompson asked how a bill like this would affect a District (like SRJC) that already has mandated paid office hours, and whether such a District could use the office hour funding to pay for increased part-time/full-time parity in other areas? Andrea responded that FACCC hopes to have intent language in Ed Code that says that part-time faculty members will hold and get paid for office hours equal to those required of full-time faculty members. FACCC will contact AFA later about the question above.

- Accreditation: There is education and engagement on this issue at the Chancellor's office. FACCC is part of the delegation in Washington DC testifying at the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality & Integrity (NACIQI) hearing. There is a March deadline for the Chancellors office regarding the accreditation decision. ACCJC held a public hearing in response, and about 20 people spoke up on their behalf. ACCJC also issued a statement about their goals for improvement. There are a few small pockets of administrators who still support ACCJC.
- Campus Mental Health Initiatives: There will be a bill addressing this along with a slew of other bills addressing safety issues. FACCC's bill will address improving the delivery of mental health services. The bill would provide money to hire psychologists/counselors and purchase health management software.
- Retirement: This is a standing issue, but there are no current bills. CalSTRS recently conducted a study regarding the correct reporting of load for part-time faculty members and found that SRJC's reporting was correct. There are still many future unknowns regarding retirement issues. Terry Ehret asked if there is any movement on allowing part-time faculty members to pay into Social Security. Andrea responded that FACCC supports it if the local union wants it. There are periodic movements to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)/Government Pension Offset (GPO), but the Republicans want to tie it to Social Security reform.
- o Student Services: Extension of the sunset of Equal Opportunity Programs.
- FACCC Upcoming Events:
  - Policy Forum on the future of accreditation (see <a href="http://www.faccc.org/event/policy-forum-2016/">http://www.faccc.org/event/policy-forum-2016/</a>).
  - Advocacy & Policy Conference focusing on moving forward with the next generation of leaders (see <a href="http://www.faccc.org/event/ap2016/">http://www.faccc.org/event/ap2016/</a>).
  - Veteran's Summit (see <a href="http://www.faccc.org/event/veterans-summit-2016/">http://www.faccc.org/event/veterans-summit-2016/</a>).
- On a personal note, Andrea will be resigning from FACCC at the end of January. She told the Council that it has been a pleasure representing and working with AFA over the years.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carol Valencia.