



santa rosa junior college
All Faculty Association

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2022

(Approved by Executive Council on February 23, 2022)

Executive Councilors present (noted by *):

*Sean Martin, <i>presiding</i>	*Brenda Flyswithawks	*Steven Kessler	*Kat Valenzuela
*Ashley Arnold	*Deirdre Frontczak	*Jessica Paisley	*Sarah Whyly
*Paulette Bell	Laura Larqué	*Salvador Rico	*Catherine Williams
*Leticia Contreras	*Erica Lohne	Dawn Urista	<i>Contract Vacancy</i>
*Claire Drucker	*Matthew Martin	*Carlos Valencia	

Negotiators/Appointed Positions present: Anne Donegan, Casandra Hillman, K. Frindell Teuscher

Councilors-Elect present: Michelle van Aalst

Staff members present: Stephanie Simons

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m., via Zoom Conferencing.

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.
3. **Cabinet Report.** This report and discussion were conducted in Closed Session.

Closed Session adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Open Session reconvened at 4:01 p.m.

MEMBER CONCERNS WITHIN AFA'S PURVIEW

1. Vaccine mandate and SRJC working conditions. A member reported that the FDA and CDC have noted harmful side-effects from the COVID-19 vaccines, including myocarditis and pericarditis in children. The concern is SRJC's vaccine mandate puts the SRJC population at risk, directly affecting the working conditions at the college.
2. Hyflex PDA presentation. A member reported that a PDA session discussing hyflex was cancelled due to concerns from management. The member stated this was a peer reviewed workshop, approved by the PDC. They assert that faculty would benefit from hearing a pedagogical discussion about educators' experiences with hyflex, and the information in the presentation would better inform any potential negotiations about hyflex.
3. Hyflex PDA presentation. This member was scheduled as a presenter of the workshop titled "Simultaneously Teaching In-person and Online aka Hyflex." The member read the cancellation email received from management. All presenters were faculty and not influenced by administration. The presentation was about methods of improved student retention and content delivery, and did not favor one modality over another.

MINUTES

There being no corrections or additions, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 26, 2022 Executive Council and General Membership meetings as submitted (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

(Approved minutes are posted at <http://www.afa-srjc.org/minutes.shtml>.)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Three-semester Contract Councilor Vacancy, Spring 22 – Spring 23

On January 21, AFA sent out a call for candidates for a three-semester Contract Councilor vacancy beginning in Spring 22.

- Sean announced the three persons that responded to the call for candidates.
 - Vince Bertsch, Engineering
 - John Stover, Sociology
 - Ivan Tircuit, Philosophy
- Sean described two options for filling the vacant seat per the Bylaws (Article II, Section 6.B.2); by appointment or by special election. Both options require a two-thirds vote of the entire Council.
- He called for discussion, and the three candidates were recused from the conference during the discussion.
- A Councilor moved to appoint a candidate, the appointee being the top-most vote recipient from a vote of the Council.
- A Councilor seconded the motion.
- Sean asked for further comments. There being none, this item was moved to an action item.

2. AFA Representatives to District-wide Committees: Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee; EEOAC

Sean announced that there is one seat open on each committee for an AFA representative. He called for nominations, which will remain open until the next council meeting on Feb. 26. The following nominations were made:

- Leticia Contreras, EEOAC – declined, pending review of other committee duties

3. Request for Semester Leave of Absence from Executive Council

Sean explained that there is a Councilor who has unavoidable scheduling conflicts with the time of the Executive Council meetings. There are currently options for Councilor leave due to sabbatical, but not for other situations. To accommodate this and future circumstances, a change to the Bylaws was suggested. The proposed amendment to the Bylaws (Article II.6.C) would allow a Councilor to take a one-semester leave without giving up their seat on the Council. Per AFA's Constitution (Article IV, section 3), the Council by two-thirds vote may approve any Bylaw or change thereto.

- Proposed language:
Article II.6.C. If a **Councilor** is on approved leave from the College ~~unable to attend EC meetings (e.g., on approved leave from the College, or due to an unavoidable conflict)~~ of up to one semester, an eligible **Member** may be appointed to the seat for the duration of the ~~leave~~ **absence** by two-thirds vote of the entire **Council**.
- A motion was made and seconded to adopt the amended language of Bylaws Article II.6.C.
- Sean called for further comments. There being none, this item was moved to an action item.

4. AFA, Shared Governance, and Faculty Purview

Due to time constraints, Sean moved this item to a future meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Election of AFA Nominations of AFA Negotiators, 2021-22 (Data Analyst, TREG Negotiator, At-Large Negotiators)

Sean explained that nominations for AFA negotiator positions opened at the January 26 meeting. These positions will have a one-year term starting in Fall 2022 semester. Sean called for additional nominees. Votes to appoint as a slate were sent to Steven Kessler and Kat Valenzuela.

- The following appointments were made as a slate (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions):
 - Data Analyst: Carlos Valencia
 - TREG Negotiator: Anne Donegan
 - At-Large Negotiators: Sarah Whyllly, Jessy Paisley
- Sean thanked all of the nominees for their willingness to serve AFA, and congratulated the incoming Negotiators.

2. Three-semester Contract Councilor Vacancy, Spring 22 – Spring 23

- This Item was moved from a Discussion Item.
- Sean opened the floor to discussion.
 - Four Councilors and a Negotiator voiced support for appointing a candidate to the Council.
- Sean asked for further comments. There being none, a vote of the Council was conducted by Jessy Paisley and Steven Kessler via private chat.
- The Council voted to appoint a Candidate to the Council. (14 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions).

3. Appointment to the Three-semester Contract Councilor Vacancy, Spring 22 – Spring 23

- This Item was moved from a Discussion Item.
- Votes were submitted to Steven Kessler and Jessy Paisley.
- Ivan Tircuit was appointed to the Council vacancy by majority vote of the Council. (11 in favor).
- Sean welcomed Ivan and thanked the candidates for their willingness to support AFA, encouraging them to apply for future opportunities.

4. Adoption of new language for Bylaws regarding Councilor leaves of absence

- This Item was moved from a Discussion Item.
- There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to adopt the new language for Bylaws Article II.6.C. (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

OTHER REPORTS

1. President's Report. Sean reported briefly on the following items:

- Sean attended the Board of Trustees (BOT) on Feb. 8, and spoke to the following:
 - Vaccine Mandate continuing with AFA support
 - AFA's appreciation for the District's flexibility and willingness to hear faculty concerns surrounding the Return to Campus safety protocols
 - An appeal for extra resources that will be necessary if the BOT wishes to expand the online offerings to cover the additional workload this transition would require.
- At the Consultation Council, Sean reported on the FACCC policy conference. FACCC is raising alarms about the reform agenda and how it's distorting the community college system and affecting faculty rights, purview and governance.
- There will be a future report on Shared Governance work resultant from the PRT visit, and the work occurring at College Council.
- A listening session is scheduled for February 15th at 2pm via Zoom conferencing to prepare for upcoming COVID Side Letter negotiations.

2. Treasurer's Report. Due to time constraints, Councilors were referred to the meeting packet to review the reports for November – December 2021, and to share questions or comments.

Sean concluded the meeting by thanking those who attended, and encouraged all to attend the Listening Session on February 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stephanie Simons.