

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 30, 2013

(Approved by the Executive Council on February 13, 2013)

Executive Councilors present (noted by *):

*Julie Thompson, <i>presiding</i>	*Ted Crowell	*Andre LaRue	*Margaret Pennington
Paulette Bell	*Dianne Davis	*Sean Martin	Audrey Spall
Lara Branen-Ahumada	*Terry Ehret	*Bud Metzger	*Mike Starkey
*Shawn Brumbaugh	*Deirdre Frontczak	*Terry Mulcaire	*Phyllis Usina
*Paula Burks	*Brenda Flyswithhawks	*Nikona Mulkovich	

Officers/Negotiators present: Will Baty, Lynn Harenberg-Miller, Jacqueline McGhee, Warren Ruud, Jack Wegman

Guests present: Associated Students Executive Vice President Robert Edmonds, Associated Students Student Trustee Michelle Dowling

Staff members present: Candy Shell

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. in Doyle Library, Room #4245, on the Santa Rosa campus.

MEMBER CONCERNS

1. Member concerns. Brenda expressed her appreciation that any member concerns should be issues within AFA's purview. She added that she would like to see member concerns limited to five minutes or less per person and for the Council to be consciously aware of time limits. She suggested that we all endeavor to monitor the time spent on this segment of Council meetings.
2. Member concerns from Petaluma Campus. Nikona related three areas of concern that the Petaluma Campus asked her to convey to the AFA Council members and negotiators:
 - To be focused on contract faculty issues and adjunct faculty issues in a balanced way. Move forward on Contract issues for faculty pay.
 - For the Negotiation Team and others to support and promote sabbaticals. Sabbaticals are important to focus on in upcoming negotiations.
 - To keep in mind, when negotiating pay, that some of the faculty we hire have professional experience that should apply to salary schedule placement, but that experience doesn't fit the salary schedule class placement, which is based on academic units. Perhaps we need to think about the columns for class advancement in a different way. These faculty are experts in their field, but they're not able to move over in the columns to make the pay more attractive.

Ted responded to Nikona that having an equivalent of a Ph.D. qualifies for column movement. For example, having the title "Doctor" qualifies faculty for column movement (Chiropractor, for example).
3. AFA Executive Council Spring 2013 Retreat Agenda. Terry E. asked if the retreat agenda had been decided. Julie replied that the agenda is a topic for discussion later in the meeting and

added that although the setting of the agenda is the purview of the Cabinet, suggestions on agenda items are welcome.

MINUTES

There being no corrections or additions, by unanimous voice vote, the Council approved a motion made by Paula Burks and seconded by Terry Mulcaire to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2012 General Membership meeting as submitted (13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

There being no corrections or additions, by unanimous voice vote, the Council approved a motion made by Paula Burks and seconded by Nikona Mulkovich to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2013 Executive Council meeting as submitted (13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions). (Approved minutes are posted at <http://www.santarosa.edu/afa/minutes.shtml> .)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Associated Students' Request for Support of FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference Activities on March 3-4, 2013. (*A.S. Leadership*).

Julie explained that Robert Edmonds and Michelle Dowling, Associated Students (A.S.) President and Student Trustee, respectively, will make a presentation to the Council requesting financial support to attend the "March in March" event to be held in Sacramento on March 4th. Any AFA funds would come from the AFA PAC account. Last year, AFA's contribution helped the students with bus transportation to the "March in March." However, AFA is no longer making allocations to the existing PAC account, and any other advocacy costs in the future will have to come from the PAC account. For example, PAC funds were spent on Prop 30 phone banking and in support of our CCCI Advocate. Currently, AFA does not allocate to the PAC account, so the current account balance won't increase. We have a fixed amount in the account; we need to be attentive to how these funds are spent. Paula added that the Council voted to temporarily stop allocations because of our general budget concerns. Currently, we have about \$22K in the PAC, but AFA could resume PAC allocations at any time with consent of the Council.

Robert Edmonds and Michelle Dowling arrived and began the presentation with introductions. Robert conveyed that the goal this year for A.S. is to be the voice for the students of SRJC. There is a vision to transform the College to maintain sustainable advocacy. There are challenges facing the students such as the Student Success Act (SSA), its affect on priority enrollment, and the California Competes initiative. The status of the California Master Plan is unknown and students would like to advocate for bringing it "back to life." Many students are unaware of how these issues, along with the budget and Prop 30, affect them. Part of the "March in March" event is to have post-march check-ins to keep advocacy going and gather feedback. The permits for "March on March" have been approved, and A.S. is expecting about 104 students, plus some faculty, to attend. Two buses have been reserved, and A.S. is asking for AFA's assistance in paying for them. Michelle Dowling added that "March in March" is the same weekend as FACCC's Advocacy Conference, and perhaps A.S. could partner with AFA. Jessica Jones, SRJC A.S. President, is scheduled to speak on a panel at the FACCC conference. Michelle asked how many AFA faculty members were considering attending the conference. Julie stated that FACCC has been sending out announcements to faculty regularly. AFA will also send an announcement on our own letterhead. Julie asked for a show of hands of those who might be attending these events on March 3-4. A few hands were raised. Michelle acknowledged that AFA is in a different financial situation now; however, she added, any amount would help. AFA was very generous last year and helped send 100 students to the Capitol to meet with legislators. SEIU has offered to give A.S. \$300 this year. Julie asked if there was a specific dollar amount that A.S. was requesting from AFA. Robert said that they were hoping for \$750--half the amount that AFA gave to A.S. last year. He continued that A.S. is getting good participation from students this year. Students have been showing up to A.S. events, and the buses should be packed for "March in March." Michelle detailed that students will be trained and properly informed of issues beforehand. A.S. has changed the format from last year to help sustain the level of student involvement. Robert interjected that A.S. is contributing funds and plans to make up any financial shortfall to

cover the expense of the event but added that money is tight for them as well. In closing, Robert replied that A.S. is still working on the program and requested faculty input on what to include. For example, California Competes is a concern of the Academic Senate. Julie closed the presentation by thanking Robert and Michelle for speaking to the Council.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Associated Students' Request for Support of FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference Activities in March 3-4, 2013. Julie opened the floor to discussion, and the following comments were made:
 - AFA's PAC budget is limited. The students come to AFA anytime they need funding.
 - Their plans are a little vague.
 - Student leadership does good work, they are informed at the state level, and they get things done.
 - Also, need some detail on the funds requested for Discussion Item #2 on the agenda.
 - AFA has the money, and we have an advocacy arm. There is appreciation for the difficulty of developing advocates, and this is an important investment in students with awareness of advocacy.
 - It is important to partner with the students as much as possible. The public views us all in the same category, and AFA is a place for A.S. to come for funding.
 - A.S. does have a habit of spending down their budget and then asking for financial help.
 - This is a critical time for students and faculty to show up in Sacramento. Newly elected Assemblymember Chris Holden [D-Pasadena], a speaker at FACCC, said this is a good conference to attend. With the new legislature, there is fresh energy, and it is good time to get their ear.
 - We advocate for students to get involved. Students carry more influence than faculty. We should come up with the same amount, or close to the same amount, that we gave last year.
 - Last year there was urgency to spare massive cuts. This year there is opportunity with the new Democratic majority. It is time to turn the tide, and it is worth some investment. We could look at half the amount we gave them last year.

Julie stated that we need to research the exact dollar figures we provided to A.S. last year and bring that information back to the Council. We still have time and can get back to the students in two weeks. She outlined the options:

- We can give them the amount they ask us for.
- We can wait until we have more information before we make a decision.
- We can give them half of last year's amount based on our research.

Discussion comments continued:

- I don't see the rush.
- The students need to know where we are coming from, and then they can move forward. I don't know when they have their next meeting. We know the amount is around \$600. We should be able to decide today.
- The students did know this was a discussion today, not an action item, and they came knowing that. I want the information first.
- I support the following. It allows the students to do their planning. There is a short time frame, and \$650 sounds reasonable. I don't see anything else we are planning to spend it on.
- They said they would be pleased with half of \$1500. I took that as a request.
- What does it cost for a bus?
- My recollection was that we OK'd \$1500 for a full bus, but they only needed \$650 for a smaller bus last year.
- I would like to support them and give some money, but not the same amount as last time. They are aware the amount will be less than last time.

Julie added that she has communicated AFA's budget constraints to Jessica.

Paula mentioned that last year AFA paid for one bus and then later we paid for their food.

- I am reluctant to say "here is some money" without more details from them. I don't want to set precedent.
- I want to support them, but just not now. I would vote no.

- It sounds like the students already made their plans and whatever we give them would be appreciated.
- They should come to us with details showing that there has been some thought. Then we are partners with them.
- We might pay for one bus up to a certain amount.
- Their delay does not increase our urgency.

A motion made by Bud Metzger and seconded by Margaret Pennington to move discussion items #1 and #2 to action was approved by the Council with a show of hands (11 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention).

2. FACCC's Request for AFA PAC Contribution to Annual FACCC PAC Award (Honoree: Assembly Higher Education Committee Chair Das Williams [D-Santa Barbara]).

- The award went to Paul Fong last year.
- Fong's bill last time was about rehire rights for adjuncts. It will be coming back again.
- The *FACCCTs* article included a brief discussion about the two-tiered system. Williams is against it unless it helps fund working students, which denies access to deny access. Not a simple thing. This directly relates to what students are concerned about and are talking to us about. We need to make that evident to Williams if we give him money.

With no second from the Council, a motion made by Bud Metzger to contribute \$100 to Honoree Das Williams is lost for lack of support.

Discussion:

- I don't see the urgency here. Complexity of a 2-tiered system is a complicated issue. Let's vote next EC meeting.
- We take the contribution to the FACCC conference. We should decide soon.
- We support him, but how much? We have some concerns. I want to sleep on it.
- We are not in a huge hurry, but this should be done at the next meeting. Councilors are going to visit the FACCC office soon and we can ask them about Mr. Williams.
- This is a cash award in the legislature for an advocate of the CCC. Right?
- It is more like a campaign contribution.
- I would like more discussion and more information about Das Williams' positions and his advocacy. I don't know very much. Seems like a lot of money if we are buying influence and want to do so with care.
- Don't depend solely on the Council for all information. I encourage you to go online and to research.
- My intention on the motion was just to get discussion going. I am happy to wait.
- Would FACCC ask for money if he (Williams) were not on our side?
- A \$500 contribution will not buy any influence in Sacramento. It is unrealistic.
- AFA's contribution is bundled with other CCCI district contributions.
- It provides FACCC with access to this person. The amount (\$500) is sort of the entry-level contribution.
- FACCC will give how much in total?
- I don't know the total. Schools that can give, do. There is a breakfast at the FACCC advocacy event, and the contribution is presented then.
- Some schools have been asked for more.
- FACCC reminds you what you gave last year, suggesting that a repeat would be good, and thanks you for your support.
- Last year there were about six or seven colleges that contributed. They were all honored. There is a publicity component to this. No question that Fong was duly and correctly honored. He did good work on our behalf.
- Historically, it is worth knowing that some things FACCC has done have not always sat well.
- Other than what FACCC has provided us, I don't have any more information on this. According to CCCI Advocate David Balla-Hawkins, legislators do pay attention to who shows up. All of this matters and they do pay attention to the constituents who support them.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Associated Students' Request for Support of FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference Activities in March 3-4, 2013. (See Discussion Item #1.) By show of hands, the Council did not pass a motion made by Bud Metzger and seconded by Margaret Pennington to give A.S. a contribution of \$650 in support of FACCC Advocacy & Policy Conference activities in March (6 in favor, 6 opposed, 1 abstention).

As a concluding comment, Dianne offered to contact A.S. for an itemized budget with a specific breakdown of expenses in order to bring their request back to the Council.

2. FACCC's Request for AFA PAC Contribution to Annual FACCC PAC Award (Honoree: Assembly Higher Education Committee Chair Das Williams [D-Santa Barbara]). (See Discussion Item #2.) By show of hands, the Council did not pass a motion made by Sean Martin and seconded by Nikona Mulkovich to contribute \$500 to Honoree Das Williams (2 in favor, 10 opposed, 2 abstentions).

During their visit with FACCC representatives next week, Julie and other AFA Officers will pursue answers to Councilors' list of questions and concerns. They will report back at the next Council meeting and reconsider this request for support.

MAIN REPORTS

1. President's Report. Julie reported briefly on the following items:
 - Robert Shireman with California Competes. In a recent editorial, Mr. Shireman blamed "shared governance" for CCSF's problems. He claims that shared governance is illegal and gives academic senates too much power, which allows them to overthrow decisions of Boards of Trustees. FACCC and others have taken positions against California Competes. Shireman is a colleague of Dr. Chong's. Dr. Chong, Academic Senate President Robin Fautley, and Julie are working to bring Mr. Shireman to the college for discussion about his positions. Julie will keep the Council updated on this topic.
 - PDA. Julie suggested a PDA workshop that will be offered on Professional Development Activities Day on February 14. PDA is focusing on the Vision step of the Strategic Planning process. In addition to envisioning the academics and programs during this stage of the process, Julie felt that it is also important to envision the future of the College in terms of collegiality, professional relationships, and communication. Her work as AFA Conciliation Grievance Officer highlighted the importance of collegiality in envisioning our future. Dean of Petaluma Student Services Lauralyn Larsen mentioned that when she was at Napa Valley College, a type of "ombudsmen committee" handled interpersonal conflicts that were not contractual in nature. In the past, Jacqueline has offered to mediate when some of these non-contractual issues have arisen at SRJC, but that is not her job as Conciliation and Grievance Officer. At Napa, they started this process under the Academic Senate. Before an interpersonal conflict goes to investigation or hearing status, faculty who are in conflict would have a resource to go to.
 - FACCC and CalSTRS. Julie invited FACCC to come to SRJC with CalSTRS on Tuesday, February 19, from 3-4:30 p.m. and is working with FACCC to confirm the date.
 - Time management for Council meetings. The Cabinet has been discussing how to better manage the time of Council meetings. Next Council meeting, we will reverse the agenda and begin with closed session. The open session will start at 4:00pm.
2. Conciliation/Grievance Report. This report and discussion were conducted in closed session.
3. Negotiations Report. This report and discussion were conducted in closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lynn Harenberg-Miller
Notes taken by Candy Shell