

## **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

March 12, 2014

*(Approved by the Executive Council on March 26, 2014)*

Executive Councilors present (noted by \*):

*Julie Thompson, <i>presiding</i>	*Dianne Davis	*Sean Martin	*Nikona Mulkovich
*Filomena Avila	*Terry Ehret	*Jacqueline McGhee	*Matt Murray
*Paulette Bell	*Karen Frindell Teuscher	*Bud Metzger	*MJ Papa
Shawn Brumbaugh	Deirdre Frontczak	*Terry Mulcaire	*Margaret Pennington
*Paula Burks	*Andre LaRue	*Dwayne Mulder	

Officers/Negotiators/Appointed Positions present: Warren Ruud

Staff members present: Candy Shell, Carol Valencia

Councilor-Elect Present: Denise Beeson

Faculty members present: Michelle Hughes Markovics, Erin Sullivan

Guest speaker present: David Balla-Hawkins, *CCCI Advocate*

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in Mahoney Library, First Floor Reading Room, #PC721, on the Petaluma 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 3:53 p.m.

### **OPEN SESSION**

Open Session reconvened at 3:53 p.m.

### **MEMBER CONCERNS WITHIN AFA'S PURVIEW**

1. Erin Sullivan brought up several concerns:
  - a. With the recent Executive Council elections completed, she would like the Council to consider having a designated Petaluma representative on the Council. She feels Petaluma faculty members who run for the Council are at a disadvantage, and, as a result, their voice is often not heard.
  - b. As the Negotiating Team continues its work, she supports the restoration of Rank 10 for faculty.
  - c. The 2014-15 academic calendar includes a workday (the District-Designated Activities Day) before the Professional Development Activity day at the beginning of fall semester. Her concern is that it is an added workday for faculty members. Several Councilors clarified that this is not an "added" workday, but one that has been restored after being furloughed for two years, 2011-12 and 2012-13. Also, even though the workday is not new, the proposed "taking of attendance" by the District is new.

- d. Even though the Compressed Calendar will no longer be pursued, she would like AFA to continue discussion on what she renamed the "Student Success Calendar."
  - e. Regarding the recent email [from Kris Abrahamson] about the requirement that faculty members complete the midterm progress report in their cubbies, this is a duplication of effort for those instructors who have electronic grading systems since students are already kept abreast of their grades throughout the semester. This is a significant workload issue for those instructors who have large lecture classes.
2. Paulette Bell brought up a concern from an adjunct faculty member about her teaching assignment of a Monday class. With increased Monday holidays, this faculty member is earning less money to teach the same class as those adjunct faculty members who teach on days other than Monday. The faculty member would like to get some compensation for that inequity.

### **MINUTES**

There being no corrections or additions, by unanimous voice vote, the Council approved a motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2014 Executive Council meeting as submitted (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

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

### **PRESENTATION**

#### **Legislative Report** (*David Balla-Hawkins, California Community Colleges Independents Advocate*)

Julie briefly introduced David Balla-Hawkins and explained that he works in Sacramento advocating on behalf of the CCCI-member schools, of which SRJC is one. David thanked the Council for their invitation and support of him and his position. He explained that the State legislature has just completed the introduction of bills for the year, with over 3,300 bills introduced. The State legislature has also begun its yearly budget hearings.

A summary of the proposed Budget and CCCI's priorities follows:

- o There is money for community colleges in the State budget, but the priorities for that money are questionable.
- o The proposed COLA this year is low (under 1 percent). CCCI would like to add much of the apportionment money to boost the COLA amount. This is a priority for CCCI.
- o Regarding deferral payments, there are one-time funds of \$350 million and ongoing funds of \$235 million in the proposed budget. CCCI would like to redirect a meaningful chunk of the ongoing money for restoration of part-time faculty categorical funds. This is a priority for CCCI.
- o The Governor likes to give districts flexibility in spending their student support categorical funding. CCCI would like to see a requirement that those funds be used for their designated purposes.
- o Regarding Student Success funds, CCCI's position is that we need to make sure that community colleges have adequate staffing, counseling, etc. before being required to implement the Student Success requirements. CCCI believes the \$100 million of Student Success money is better spent on categorical programs. This is a priority for CCCI.
- o CCCI would like to see deferrals paid off in two years rather than immediately.
- o Regarding Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), they are still out there. David has been told that the bill on MOOCs (SB 520 by Dean Flores) is "dead," but he will keep his eye on it. Some of its former proponents are declining in support.
- o The current stage for the budget is "Informational Hearings." After the May 15 Revise, discussions will get more serious.

#### **Budget Questions & Answers:**

**Q:** Is the categorical money you're talking about the former matriculation money?

**A:** Yes. Through the budget process, the Legislature has cut significant funding while at the same time trying to increase "student success."

**Q:** Have you heard any discussion about Redevelopment Agencies coming back?

**A:** There might be some "tweaking," but I don't think the Agencies will come back in the same form.

**Q:** What about the Oil Extraction Tax?

**A:** There are a couple of problems with the Oil Tax Bill. The Democrats no longer have a majority in the Senate (due to several recent indictments). It's possible the Republicans might push it through. The Governor is opposed to it because he believes any new taxes need to be approved by the voters.

**Q:** What have you heard about CalSTRS?

**A:** CalSTRS is under intense scrutiny because of the unfunded liability problems. CalPERS (California Public Employee Retirement System) was changed recently to increase employer contributions and to a lesser extent employee contributions, but CalSTRS is behind CalPERS in solving its problems. The Governor wanted a solution over two years, but has now agreed to a solution over three years. It is a priority for everyone to get it fixed. The November proposition regarding public pension reform will not be on the ballot because it didn't get enough signatures. (CCCI fought this proposition as part of a statewide labor coalition; as a result, its wealthy sponsors backed out.) (See link to "[California Unions Brace for Showdown Over Pension Reform](#)")

David distributed a handout on an Overview of CCCI-Sponsored Legislation:

1. CCCI has introduced **Assembly Bill 2559** in response to an increasing number of reports of faculty members being denied their due-process rights while on forced leave because Districts contend that, since these faculty members are being paid while on forced leave, no "disciplinary action" has been taken. The Bill requires Districts to give due-process rights to faculty members on any type of forced leave, requiring them to inform the faculty member and their union of the charges against them; inform them of their right to respond to the charges; and requiring them to be given access to arbitration. (See link to [Follow AB 2559](#).)
2. CCCI has introduced **Senate Bill 1068** as a follow-up to the CCCI-sponsored state audit of the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The Audit is ongoing and is expected to be finished in June. The California Federation of Teachers has also introduced a bill regarding ACCJC, and CCCI would like to work together with them. SB 1068 includes the following:
  - a. A requirement for accrediting agencies to receive regulatory approval before implementing new policies or procedures that would result in increased state costs. (This specifically targets new requirements like ACCJC's Student Outcome Measures.)
  - b. The option for community colleges to choose other accrediting agencies, with the approval of the U.S. Department of Education.
  - c. The investigation and assessment of establishing a state accrediting commission for community colleges, which would be self-funded through the fees paid by districts and colleges.
  - d. The prohibition against charging fees to a college beyond the actual costs of accreditation.
  - e. The requirement that evaluation and recommendation reports during the accreditation process be subject to the state Public Records Act and available for public viewing. (See link to [Follow SB 1068](#).)

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Julie explained that an issue has arisen regarding the Officer elections to be held today. One Councilor has a five o'clock class in Santa Rosa and needs to leave by four o'clock; however, the elections are scheduled to be at the end of the meeting. Also, another Councilor is running late, but is trying to make it to the meeting before the voting takes place. Julie explained that she would like to allow as many Councilors as possible to participate in the elections. According to the AFA Bylaws, "*a policy may be proposed and approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire Council at any Council meeting.*" (See link to [AFA Bylaws](#).)
  - There was a discussion regarding past voting procedures and proxy voting. A motion was made and seconded to allow the Councilor member leaving early to vote by proxy. There was a discussion regarding problems with this because the slate of candidates is not static

and will change up to the minute before the voting takes place. The motion was amended and seconded to allow the Councilor to appoint a proxy to vote for her. After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to allow the Councilor to vote via email from the Santa Rosa campus. A voice vote was held, and the motion was approved (15 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions).

**2. Resolution in Support of Redistricting for Board of Trustees Seat**

Julie explained that this is a follow-up to the discussion from the last Executive Council meeting (February 26). A group revised the draft Resolution, and it was in the meeting packet. There being no discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote to move approval of the "Resolution in Support of Reforming the Sonoma County Junior College District Trustee Areas" to an Action Item (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

**3. Appointment for Vacant Contract Council Seat 2014-15**

Julie explained that Dianne Davis has resigned her Council seat. The vacancy was advertised to all contract faculty members, and one candidate has expressed interest—Michelle Hughes Markovics. Her candidate statement was in the meeting packet. There being no discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote to move this item to an Action Item (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

**ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Resolution in Support of Redistricting for Board of Trustees Seat**

After being moved from a Discussion Item, a motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote to adopt the revised draft AFA Resolution in Support of Reforming the Sonoma County Junior College District Trustee Areas (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions). (See link to [Resolution](#).)

**2. Appointment for Vacant Contract Council Seat 2014-15**

After being moved from a Discussion Item, a motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote to appoint Michelle Hughes Markovics to the vacant Contract Council Seat for 2014-15 (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

**3. Election of Officers for 2014-15**

Julie explained the election procedure for Officers, Negotiating Team Members, and Other Positions. Nominations are open for a position until the vote is called. If a position is uncontested, the Council conducts an oral vote. If the position is contested, an election is conducted using paper ballots. Also, the newly elected Councilors present at the meeting do not vote until their term begins in August. For each uncontested position below, there was a call for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, Julie called for the vote on each uncontested position. All were approved unanimously (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions):

- o President – Julie Thompson
- o Chief Negotiator – Warren Ruud
- o Conciliation/Grievance Officer – Karen Frindell Teuscher
- o Vice President for Santa Rosa – Sean Martin
- o Secretary/Treasurer – Paula Burks

For the Vice President for Petaluma position, Michelle Hughes Markovics was nominated. With two candidates for the position, blue paper ballots were issued, collected and counted by Candy Shell and Paula Burks. Michelle Hughes Markovics was elected.

**4. Election of Negotiating Team Members for 2014-15**

A call for further nominations for the Data Analyst position was made. There being no additional nominations, Warren Ruud was approved by unanimous voice vote for the position (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

Julie explained that there are five adjunct faculty nominees for the four at-large Negotiations Team positions, of which two must be filled by adjunct faculty. There was a call for additional

nominees. There being none, Councilors were directed to vote for up to two designated-adjunct seats. Yellow ballots were issued, collected, and counted by Candy Shell and Paula Burks. Ted Crowell and Deirdre Frontczak were elected.

Julie explained that there are now five remaining candidates (two regular and three adjunct) for the last two at-large Negotiating Team positions. There was a call for additional nominees. There being none, Councilors were directed to vote for up to two candidates. Purple ballots were issued, collected, and counted by Candy Shell and Paula Burks. Dianne Davis and Terry Mulcaire were elected.

**5. Election of Other Positions for 2014-15**

For each uncontested position below, there was a call for additional nominations. There being no additional nominations, Julie called for the vote for each position. All were approved unanimously (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

- Publications Coordinator – Matt Murray
- DTREC Co-chair – Sean Martin
- Bay Faculty Association Representative – Warren Ruud
- Adjunct Cabinet Representative – Paulette Bell

**6. Appointment of Budget Advisory Team Leader for 2014-15**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the appointment of Will Baty as Budget Advisory Team Leader for 2014-15 (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

**OTHER REPORTS**

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

Assemblymember Marc Levine will be visiting campus tomorrow (March 13). It's critical for faculty members to tell their stories to legislators about what's going on in higher education. Please invite other faculty members to attend the presentation. David Balla-Hawkins suggested asking Levine the question, "What are you working on that we can help you with?"

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carol Valencia.