

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2015

(Approved by Executive Council on April 22, 2015)

Executive Councilors present (noted by \*):

*Julie Thompson, <i>presiding</i>	*Paula Burks	*Sean Martin	*Matt Murray
Filomena Avila	Terry Ehret	Molly Matheson	*MJ Papa
*Paulette Bell	*Karen Frindell Teuscher	Jacqueline McGhee	*Margaret Pennington
*Denise Beeson	*Deirdre Frontczak	Bud Metzger	*Michelle Van Aalst
*Shawn Brumbaugh	*Michelle Hughes Markovics	*Terry Mulcaire	

Officers/Negotiators/Appointed Positions present: Ted Crowell, Mark Ferguson, Warren Ruud

Staff members present: Candy Shell, Carol Valencia

Faculty members present: Mai Nazif

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. in Mahoney Library, Room #721, 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 3:56 p.m.

### OPEN SESSION

Open Session reconvened at 4:02 p.m.

### MEMBER CONCERNS WITHIN AFA'S PURVIEW

1. **Faculty Awards**. Warren Ruud reported that the Academic Senate awards are out and Julie was selected for the Unsung Hero award—congratulations from all of us. Paula Burks also offered congratulations to Michelle Hughes Markovics, who will be receiving the Staff Development award for the help she has provided to new contract and adjunct faculty members.
2. **Adjunct Medical Benefits Program (AMBP)**. Margaret Pennington asked a follow-up question from her Member Concern at the March 25 Executive Council meeting. She explained that Article 10.04.B.6.c states that AFA College Service & Technology Training (ACSTT) funds may be credited into the AMBP, but does not specify an amount. Further, Article 16.09.D.2 gives the amount of the ACSTT contribution as \$137,000, while Warren reported the amount contributed as \$160,000 at the last meeting. Margaret asked which figure is correct and where that amount is specified in the Contract. Warren responded that the figure is found in the District budget but is not spelled out in the Contract. This is a common practice, and there are other provisions (such as the particulars on our medical benefits) that are also not found in the Contract. The District has agreed to allocate these funds to the AMBP, and any change to that agreement would have to be negotiated.
3. **AMBP Email**. Warren Ruud expressed a concern about a recent email sent out to all adjunct faculty members stating that the AMBP is in jeopardy. As a result of this erroneous email, AFA has received inquiries from adjunct faculty members who are concerned about losing their

medical benefits. He suggested the Adjunct Issues Committee (AIC) draft and send out an email in order to alleviate people's fears, explaining that there is no foundation for the claim that the fund is in jeopardy.

### 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 March 25, 2015 Executive Council meeting as submitted (13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

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

### PRESENTATION

**Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) Legislative Report,**  
*Andrea York, FACCC Director of Government Relations, and Evan Hawkins, Director of Political & Member Outreach*

- Andrea and Evan thanked the Council for the opportunity to present at today's meeting. Andrea acknowledged that the Council heard a legislative report from David Balla-Hawkins (California Community Colleges Independents advocate) at their last meeting and will try not to repeat items already presented.
- CalSTRS:
  - Given AB 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006) and the Governor's climate change goals, there has been considerable discussion about the divestment of thermal coal from CalSTRS investments. Every year there is a divestment bill, but, if divestment is required, the State would have to indemnify the fund, and they do not want to do this. There is also a viewpoint that no social change comes from divestment, and it is more effective to influence change via proxy votes as a shareholder. Currently there is an effort to assess carbon-based emissions as a risk and look at the costs of divesting CalSTRS from thermal coal investments. New Governmental Accounting Standards Board requirements make large pension systems look at short-term investment implications, and renewable energy investments are long term. There are currently two bills on this ([SB 185](#) and [AB 32](#)); FACCC will provide more information on these bills in the future. (See information on [AB 32](#), [Governor Brown's climate change goals](#) and an [article on CalSTRS coal divestment](#).)
  - Question: Isn't CalSTRS already being indemnified by the State through the long-term agreement for increased CalSTRS contributions?
    - Answer: The State is giving money to districts to help with the increased contribution requirements but is trying not to make it obvious or direct.
- State Budget:
  - Now that there is money available, we are looking at how to rebuild the community college system after the recessionary cuts. The Community College League of California ("League") is asking legislators to give districts the money and let them decide how best to spend it at the local level.
  - Today there is a hearing in the Assembly Budget Committee, and they will be discussing the full-time/part-time faculty ratio funding and part-time categorical funding restoration.
  - Question: What would fall under the increased part-time faculty funding currently being proposed?
    - Answer: It would include funding for part-time faculty office hours, adjunct medical benefits, salary parity, and any other locally bargained items.
- Current Legislation:
  - **SB 373** is sponsored by FACCC, the California Federation of Teachers, and the California Teachers Association. It would require districts to report the number of faculty members in various categories (part-time, and full-time with overload assignments) for a given period of time. Once reported, the numbers allowed for part-time faculty members and full-time faculty members with overload would be "frozen" at that level so that any new hiring would only be allowed for full-time faculty positions until the college's full-time/part-time ratio reaches 75/25 percent. Another part of the bill would prohibit probationary faculty members from having overload assignments. Senator Liu (Chair of Senate Education Committee) opposed the bill, and it was barely able to pass out of Committee. Next it will go to the Fiscal Committee (see [AB 373 information](#)).

- **AB 626** is sponsored by FACCC. It will address out-of-date statutes and provide that, in any year without direct funding from the State for full-time faculty hiring, a portion of the Student Success and Support Program match funding must go toward improving a college's full-time/part-time faculty ratio. FACCC is not sure where the bill will go this year, but this is the year to make changes because there is finally surplus money in the budget. However, the League opposed AB 626, saying it will hurt "student success." (See [information on AB 626](#).)
- **AB 1010** is trying to set the stage for part-time faculty rights. This is the third time a bill like this has been introduced. The current bill is written as "intent" language—FACCC would prefer it to be the stronger "resolution" language to have more force and effect (see [AB 1010](#)).
- A series of bills regarding campus safety is being proposed:
  - One that would require local safety plans to include "active shooter plans" ([AB 767](#)).
  - One that would align the UC and community college disciplinary actions, requiring the suspension or expulsion of anyone accused of sexual assault off campus ([SB 186](#)).
- **Accreditation:**
  - **AB 404** is a new bill requiring communication with federal agencies regarding the performance of ACCJC. In this bill, the Chancellor's Office would communicate for all college "stakeholders" in response to a given set of criteria for the evaluation of ACCJC. The result of those evaluations would then be sent to the federal government. Statewide we spend \$3 million per year on accreditation—it's important to provide a way for performance review (see information on [AB 404](#)).
  - There is a bill addressing the fees paid to ACCJC and another regarding the transparency of accreditation actions ([AB 1942](#)).
  - Question: Isn't accreditation supposed to ensure educational quality?
    - Answer: The legal requirement for accreditation is so that students can receive federal financial aid; however, it should also be a process that helps colleges improve.
  - Question: Is it legal for ACCJC to impose requirements that interfere with collective bargaining agreements?
    - Answer: They are not supposed to get involved in that level of minutiae. It's a problem when you have a private entity like ACCJC with federal oversight.
  - Question: Then how do we hold them accountable?
    - Answer: Legally, it's difficult. The Chancellor's office is looking at finding another accrediting body. The League decided to go neutral on AB 404 because they're afraid of ACCJC.
- Evan Hawkins commented that, since AFA has scheduled upcoming visits to the campus by Mike McGuire and Marc Levine, it's the perfect opportunity to talk to them about the bills and budget priorities Andrea discussed. He also added that it's a good strategy to get students on board with faculty efforts.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 1. **CCCI Spring '15 Conference Attendees**

Julie explained that eight people forwarded their names by the April 8 deadline for interest in attending the CCCI spring conference. Because several people cannot attend for the full conference, we will reallocate the budgeted funds so that five people will go for the full conference, and three people will be one-day attendees.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. **Approve AFA Compensation for Adjunct Appointment to 2015-16 District Online Committee**

- Julie explained that we need Council approval to allow compensation for an adjunct faculty member to serve on this committee next year. There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to approve compensation for Paulette Bell's appointment to the District Online Committee for 2015-16 (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

2. **Additional AFA Appointees to Fringe Benefits Committee for 2015-16**
  - Julie explained that we need two more appointees for open seats on this committee. Karen Frindell-Teuscher and Julie were put forward as nominees. There being no further nominations, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to appoint Karen and Julie to the final two seats on the Fringe Benefits Committee for 2015-16 (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
3. **Appointment of Budget Analyst (Negotiations Support) for Fall 2015 & Spring 2016**
  - Julie explained that the Negotiating Team has proposed that Will Baty be appointed as Budget Analyst for Spring 2016 and Julie be appointed for Fall 2015 when Will is on Sabbatical Leave. There being no discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to appoint Julie Thompson as the Budget Analyst for Fall 2015 and Will Baty as the Budget Analyst for Spring 2016 (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
4. **Reassigned Time for Budget Analyst (Negotiations Support) for Fall 2015 & Spring 2016**
  - Julie explained that the proposed reassigned time for the appointments above would be 5 percent for Fall 2015 and 15 percent for Spring 2016. There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to allocate reassigned time for the Budget Analyst as follows: Fall 2015—5 percent; Spring 2016—15 percent (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
5. **Election of Data Analyst (Negotiator) for 2015-16**
  - Mark Ferguson has been nominated to serve as Data Analyst for the Negotiating Team with 10 percent reassigned time as compensation. There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to appoint Mark Ferguson as Data Analyst for 2015-16 (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
6. **Election of Note Taker (Negotiator) for 2015-16**
  - Julie was nominated to serve as Note Taker for the Negotiating Team with 5 percent reassigned time as compensation. There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote to appoint Julie Thompson as Note Taker for 2015-16 (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

#### OTHER REPORTS

1. **President's Report.** Julie reported briefly on the following item:
  - She and Sean Martin recently attended their monthly meeting with Dr. Chong and discussed the following:
    - Redistricting and the timeline for doing so.
    - A letter written by the English, Philosophy, and Math departments taking umbrage at Dr. Chong's statement in a recent email that "[t]he accreditation process is the singularly most important process undertaken by a college."
    - Bond Implementation, reminding him that faculty would like transparency in actions and meetings, and updates to the bond website.
    - Enrollment Management and problems with future plans being "top-down" and without faculty participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carol Valencia.