

Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, October 9 th 2024 – 12pm
Location:	SSC 222
Chairs:	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
Attendees:	Bea Magallon, Thomas Bui, Nancy Cardenas, Donna Davis-King, Press Nicolov, Sharyn Obsatz, James Thing, Alicia Villalpando, Matti Castiglioni (Student Rep), Zitlaly Vega (Student Rep)
Guests:	
Excused/Absent:	Esau Tovar

I. Call to Order: 12:04 PM

II. Public Comments:

III. Approval of Minutes:

- a. *Motion to approve 9.25.24 Minutes: James Thing moved, Thomas Bui seconded, (9) Yes, (0) No, (1) Abstain at 12:09 pm.*

IV. Information Items:

a. Updated Goals and Objectives 2024-25

- i. Bea showed the final draft of Goals and Objectives and reiterated the understanding that the Committee would ideally work on two “easy” academic regulations (labeled E) and one “hard” academic regulation per previous SAC meeting. Bea also briefly laid out the committees prioritized listed ARs, which would take more time to complete and that the committee would work at its own pace.

b. Updated SAC Scope & Functions

- i. Final draft of SAC Scope & Functions provided

V. Old Business/New Business:

a. Update on AR 5500 Standards of Student Conduct

- i. Bea briefly reviewed some of the changes that legal counsel Bob made to AR 5500, as well as reviewing some of the changes made by the Committee after Bob had left the meeting. The Committee also discussed the addition of “hazing” to the AR. Thomas briefly made mention of how hazing is a far more prevalent issue in higher education, primarily at the University level. As a precaution, the topic of hazing was introduced to AR 5500 so that it can be readily addressed should the matter ever become an issue at SMC. The Committee

questioned the need for the word “serious” in the AR given that any bodily harm would be negative. The Committee also suggested the addition of the word “mental health injury” and the inclusion of the phrase, “per AB 2193”. Thomas then stated that AB 2193, the hazing law, does not come into effect until 2026. Thomas then read relevant passages in AB 2193 as it relates to the “serious” verbiage used in the AR 5500. The Committee decided to wait until the following session to get further input from Bob on whether mental injury could be included.

b. AR 4111.1, AR 5203 and AR 5520

i. AR 4070 - Auditing of Classes

“The Auditing of courses is not permitted at Santa Monica College” is the entirety of AR 4070. Alicia stated that there are some exceptions in the music department with regards to students auditing. Thomas stated that they are simply breaking the rules of the AR which is not an exception. Alicia then made a case for people who wish to be students for life, those who do not take classes for a grade, but wish to still learn. Other Committee members discussed that this could lead to space being taken up by non-paying students and taking opportunity away from paying students. The Committee then shared personal anecdotes of auditing classes. Thomas stated that the auditing process will not be allowed by the district for a number of reasons. Notably, he stated, SMC encourages crashing classes which would make creating an auditing process almost impossible. Student rep. Matty suggested that allowing auditing might make it harder for him to get the units he needs to complete his course work for meeting timely goal. Conversely, student rep. Zitlaly stated that she would like the ability to audit classes to see if another major may be worth investigating without the significant financial impact of enrolling in a course that may or may not be right for her. Bea stated that she sees a need for students to audit, but that the college is not ready to make this change. Bea also informed the committee that some colleges do allow for auditing. Faculty would have to agree to this possibility and a process would take time and resources away from regular class enrollments. Thomas also suggested that any potential auditing process would require additional staff to help develop and maintain and that the associated administrative costs would likely be prohibitive. Thomas and Bea reiterated that the college will very likely not allow auditing in the near future. Faculty and departments would need to drive the potential auditing process if it were ever to materialize in the future. Faculty members discussed the various possible benefits of auditing and understood that for now, it is not a possibility. Suggested that it be a topic in an A.S. Executive meeting to see if there was any interest.

Motion to approve AR 4070 Auditing of Classes: Donna moved, Nancy seconded, (9) Yes, (1) No, (0) Abstain at 1:05 pm.

ii. **AR 5203 Lactation Accommodation**

Bea read the entirety of the AR to the Committee for review and further comment. The Committee then decided to slightly edit number 2 and settled on the following: "Bringing onto a college or university campus a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk". The Committee continued to discuss, deliberate and made minor edit to AR 5203.

Motion to approve AR 5203 Lactation Accommodation: Donna Davis-King moved, Sharyn Absatz seconded, (10) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain at 1:22 pm.

iii. **AR 5520 - Student Discipline Procedures**

Bea briefly explained the history of AR 5520 to the Committee as well as some of the changes made to the previous iteration of the AR. Bea also shared some information regarding the League's template and talked about trying to integrate some of the template into AR 5520. Bea continued to give an overview of the AR, noting the various sections that required the most attention. The Committee then decided that an introductory paragraph was necessary to include in the AR; Bea suggested using the League's intro in the AR. The Committee also worked to update the language to be more inclusive and remove any potentially triggering words. Bea continued to take the Committee through the AR giving a brief overview, noting various areas that require attention and making minor highlighted changes as needed.

VI. Announcements:

VII. Adjournment: 2:01PM

For all documents, visit: <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/AcademicSenate/Committees/Pages/Student-Affairs.aspx>

Next scheduled meeting: 10/23/2024

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards