

Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, March 12, 2025 – 12pm
Location:	SSC 222
Chairs:	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
Attendees:	Bea Magallon, Esau Tovar, Thomas Bui, Nancy Cardenas, Donna Davis-King, Sharyn Obsatz, Alicia Villalpando, Matti Castiglioni (Student Rep), Zitlaly Vega (Student Rep)
Guests:	
Excused/Absent:	Press Nicolov, James Thing,

I. Call to Order: 12:05 PM

II. Public Comments:

The committee briefly discussed the SMC budget issues as well as the Department Education being dismantled. The Committee expressed a general feeling of uncertainty and concern under the Trump administration.

III. New Business:

a. AR 4250 – Academic Notice

- i. Bea discussed how AR 4250 Academic Probation has been changed to Academic “Notice” to avoid negative connotations associated with the word, “Probation”. The Committee then went through the AR and made the language more generic and compassionate in keeping with the title change. Additionally, the Committee made a few minor edits to improve clarity and readability. Although the Committee discussed various items regarding the regulation, these minor edits were the only material changes made to the AR. After discussion on the many transcript notations and what other colleges and universities do, the committee discussed either one notation or no notations. Bea suggested having only one notation on the transcript regardless of type and that dismissal would supersede notice. Esau agreed to come back to this at the next meeting with a more informed viewpoint on the matter. The Committee voted on the reworked AR 4250. The Committee then decided to revisit the regulation of Academic Notice and Academic Pause/Dismissal for the inclusion of these changes.

Motion to approve Academic Notice: Donna Davis-King moved, Thomas Bui seconded, (9) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain at [1:08 PM].

ii. **AR 4255 – Dismissal and Reinstatement**

The Committee revisited the terminology in AR 4255 and decided to revert the term “Pause” back to “Dismissal,” as originally used in AR 4255, to align with language used by other higher education institutions. Bea mentioned that the Chancellor’s Office would probably be changing Title 5 and we would have to adopt the new language anyway. The Committee agreed to conduct a full review of this regulation to identify any additional needed changes. The title was changed to Temporary Dismissal since there was discussion around how these circumstances were not permanent and that the college should give students the opportunity to return to SMC. Matti and Zitlaly felt that this would provide students with hope and that it was more positive. The discussion then shifted to Academic and Progress notations. Esau clarified that the two are distinct and recorded separately, emphasizing their purpose to internal and external audiences, including students and SMC personnel. Alicia raised concerns that these notations can carry a sense of shame and discourage students, she also felt temporary might send a different message. While the Committee agreed to revisit this issue of transcript notations in the future, they chose to maintain the current language regarding notations and changed dismissal to temporary dismissal since most in agreement. Bea concluded by expressing pride in the Committee’s dedication to supporting students through these updated regulations.

Motion to approve Temporary Dismissal and Reinstatement: Alicia Villapando moved, Esau Tovar seconded, (9) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain at [1:52 PM].

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

Bea informed the Committee that she and Esau were not able to meet to work on AR 5520 over the winter break. Bea then suggested that a better approach might be to have supplemental meetings with a few committee members to work on the AR as the time it would normally take to complete the AR would far exceed the time the Committee has in the current semester alone. Esau brought an outline for the Academic Regulation as it currently is and said this may help move us along. Bea suggested the smaller group meet and make proposed revisions, and then bring back to the committee to final edits. Thomas suggested it would be best that an ad hoc committee be formed to work on AR 5520 outside of the normal Committee meeting hours given its length and complexity.

Motion to approve to create an Ad Hoc Committee to work on AR 5520 – Student Discipline Procedures: Thomas Bui moved, Donna Davis-King seconded, (9) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain at [1:57 PM].

- iv. Bea then asked for volunteers for the Ad Hoc Committee. Donna, Alicia, and Thomas volunteered their time, alongside Esau and Bea, to work on the AR until it's ready to present to SAC. Bea will coordinate meetings and hopefully 3-4 members can attend each meeting.

IV. Announcements:

V. Adjournment: 2:00 PM

For all documents, visit:

<http://www.smc.edu/ACG/AcademicSenate/Committees/Pages/Student-Affairs.aspx>

Next scheduled meeting: March 26, 2025

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards