

Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, May 1 st , 2024 – 12pm
Location:	SSC 222
Chairs:	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
Attendees:	Beatriz Magallon, Esau Tovar, Thomas Bui, Nancy Cardenas, Donna Davis-King, Press Nicolov, Sharyn Obsatz, Alicia Villalpando, Esmeralda Hernandez (Student Rep), Justin Liu (Student Rep)
Guests:	
Excused/Absent:	James Thing

I. Call to Order: 12:10 PM

II. Public Comments: N/A

III. Updates and Old Business:

a. Updates on 5040.1 Compliance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy ACT (FERPA)

- i. Bea began the session with updates on 1st read of AR 5040.1 Compliance with FERPA. After a brief preliminary discussion on the updates requested by Exec., Esau asked why scholarships were recommended to be excluded from the Directory Information. The Committee conjectured that excluding scholarships may be due to the nature of public facing information (i.e. potentially disclosing a student’s financial status due to the nature of some scholarships being uniquely or solely financially based.) After additional discussion on the matter, the Committee made minor, relevant changes to the AR as needed.

IV. New Business:

a. AR 5500.1 Standards of Academic Conduct

- ii. Bea then began to read pertinent sections of AR 5500.1 to the Committee in their entirety. The Committee deliberated and changed some of the language in the academic regulation to improve clarity and remove ambiguity. The Committee spent considerable time on the topic of academic integrity and how to best explain Santa Monica College’s Code of Academic Conduct to students. The Committee also discussed the implications of Artificial Intelligence as a growing problem, its dramatic impact on academic integrity and what it means for instructors moving forward.

- iii. The Committee moved onto the “Academic Dishonesty Conduct Defined” section. Bea read through this section to the Committee. The Committee once again revisited the topic of Artificial Intelligence citing it as a reason for considerable concern due to it being used by students to an overwhelming degree. Donna and Sharyn both discussed their process for explaining honorable student conduct to students. Sharyn stated that she gives a short quiz on honorable student conduct that gives students a potential five points in her class as a method of hopefully reinforcing the concept. Esau spoke about his experience with his academic work being plagiarized by professors at other learning institutions. The Committee further discussed the need to update the AR with more modern language surrounding current technology and methods being utilized by students in 2024. Bea informed the committee that there is an A.S. committee working on issues of “Artificial Intelligence” that would help in the language for regulations. The Committee then spent considerable time wordsmithing changes made to the AR. Bea informed the Committee that they would resume work on the AR at a later date as time was up for the day.

V. Announcements:

Bea announced that the last Student Affairs Committee meeting for the semester will be on May 15th. Pizza and salad will be provided to members of the Committee.

VI. Adjournment: 2:01 PM

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

Next scheduled meeting: May 15th

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards