

Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, September 11, 2024 – 12pm
Location:	SSC 222
Chairs:	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
Attendees:	Bea Magallon, Esau Tovar, 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:	

I. Call to Order: 12:07 PM

II. Public Comments:

Bea welcomed the Student Affairs Committee to the new semester. The Committee shared highlights from their summer vacations. Committee members then introduced themselves.

III. Approval of Minutes:

- a. *Motion to approve minutes of 3/27/2024 with edit from Thomas in spelling of Justin Liu's name and edit from Alicia in section IV a-(ii) 1st paragraph from curriculum committee to department chairs, 4/03/2024, 4/17/2024, 5/01/2024, 5/15/2024 minutes no changes: Donna Davis-King moved, Thomas Bui seconded, (8) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain. Unanimous at 12:49 PM.*

IV. Updates and New Business:

a. Updates on the Scope and Function of the Student Affairs Committee

- i. Bea shared the historical scope and function of the Student Affairs Committee document with the Committee members to review and revise as needed. The Committee members reworked some of the language focusing primarily on the sentence order and removing unnecessary verbiage. Bea also took the opportunity to explain the history, background and processes of the Student Affairs Committee and workflow of the regulations to the new student representatives on the Committee, Zitlaly Vega and Matti Castiglioni. Esau then gave the new student representatives additional background information on the implementation process of the finished academic regulations.

b. Role of Student Representatives

- ii. Thomas gave a brief overview of student representatives eligibility requirements to sit on SMC Committees which includes leadership applications and meeting minimum units and GPA requirements. Esau further echoed that he would prefer that student representatives go through the formal route of being officially appointed via the Associated Students which are guided by Academic Senate bylaws. The Committee then discussed whether student representatives would be counted as part of quorum and if they could vote. Bea gave a brief history of the Committee's past decisions regarding these matters. Thomas recommended that if the Committee votes to give students voting power, that the number be limited to two votes to ensure balance with the rest of the Committee members and that they not be counted as part of quorum. Alicia then drew the attention of the Committee to the Equity-Minded Guiding Questions for Policy Development and Review and gave further input on the matter of student representatives having more of a voice on the committee. Although this may provide logistical issues in trying to get these students to Committee meetings regularly, both Thomas and Alicia think this would positively impact the Committee and academic regulations. Quorum will be constituted by a majority of faculty and administrators on the committee. Interested student groups will continue to be outreached by the committee chair and when appropriate invited to attend meeting.

Motion to approve that two student representatives to be able to vote on the Student Affairs Committee and that their attendance not be part of forming quorum. It was further stipulated that the two student votes on the Committee would be from student elected officers, if present as first priority, and if they leave early another student(s) present may then utilize their vote(s). Thomas Bui moved, Alicia Villalpando seconded, (8) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain. Unanimous at 1:16pm.

Esau then brought up the historical issue of student elected student representatives ceasing to attend Committee meetings which is always a detriment to the Committee. Esau recommends if this happens, other students should fill those positions once it is determined that the first set of students will no longer be attending. Alicia suggested that it would be prudent to have a different, rotating set of students from different organizations available to sit at Committee meetings as interested parties so that they can have their voices heard during academic regulation discussions. Esau stated that students (outside of student representatives) attending meetings can cause a general slowdown in the proceedings if they are not fully versed in the details of the academic regulation at hand and may not have informed feedback to deliver due to a lack of engagement. Esau further suggested that if an AR specifically involves a very specific issue, then a set of students who can directly speak to the issue can then be of significant help to the Committee. Thomas agreed that student representatives are the best way of collecting this information in lieu of having an assortment of students attending these meetings. Sharyn likewise suggested that the work that the Committee performs is perhaps not the most engaging for students, but that she is in favor of getting more feedback from the student population in other ways. Donna also reinforced the idea of the student reps taking charge of the feedback gathering process from other students to then present to the Student Affairs Committee.

c. Goals and Objectives 2024-25

- iii. Administrative Regulation sections 4000/5000 series were distributed and Bea explained that the marked titles highlighted in green were regulations where title 5 and Ed Code changes have taken effect.

- iv. Bea then shared with the Committee the Goals and Objectives document and discussed some of the background information on various ARs, their 5 year rough timeline for revision, including which ARs will be quicker and which will take longer to revise. Bea asked the Committee to review the AR titles to determine the priority of which ARs will be tackled first. Sharyn suggested completing two easy ones, while working on one “hard one” that may take a lot of time per session so that the Committee can see themselves making progress. Bea liked the idea.

v.

V. Announcements:

Bea announced that legal counsel Bob Myers will join the Committee for the following session to review and discuss AR 5500 - Rules for Student Conduct (Standards of Student Conduct) on September 25th, 2024.

VI. Adjournment: 2:00 PM

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

Next scheduled meeting: September 25, 2024

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards