

# Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

## Meeting Minutes

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	Wednesday, September 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ 12pm
<b>Location:</b>	SSC 222
<b>Chairs:</b>	Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)
<b>Attendees:</b>	Thomas Bui, Nancy Cardenas, Donna Davis-King, Bea Magallon, Press Nicolov, Sharyn Obsatz, James Thing, Esau Tovar, Matti Castiglioni (Student Rep), Zitlaly Vega (Student Rep)
<b>Guests:</b>	Ana Montes De Vegas, Bob Myers (College Counsel)
<b>Excused/Absent:</b>	Alicia Villalpando

**I. Call to Order: 12:05 PM**

**II. Public Comments:**

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. *Motion to approve 9/11/2024 Minutes: Thomas Bui moved, Donna Davis-King seconded, (10) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain. Unanimous at 12:12 PM*

**IV. Updates and New Business:**

**a. Updates on AR 5500 Standards of Student Conduct**

- i. Bea welcomed the Committee back to session and introduced legal counsel Bob Myers and Ana Montes De Vegas to the committee meeting. Bea then shared AR 5500 Standards of Student Conduct with the Committee and explained the layout of the AR which contained Bob's notes. Bob stated that the League's template is not wholly suitable for use in connection with student discipline. Bob then explained some of the reasoning behind the order list of the AR as it is referred in other regulations and further noted that there would only be a few changes made to the existing AR. Bob then noted that the first substantive change pertained to subsection T, "Engaging in intimidating conduct or bullying against another person through words of actions, including direct physical contact; verbal assaults, such as teasing or name calling; stalking; social isolation or manipulation; and cyberbullying." Per Bob, student misconduct, including threats or harassment, has only become more pronounced and frequent when compared to years past. Pertaining to subsection U., with regards to hate crime, the league's language was used, stating: "Engaging in harassing conduct against another person based on disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation/identity, or any other status protected by law." Bob stated that the League's template language better addressed the matter of hate incidents.

Bob and Thomas then explained the time/space/manner of “hate speech” used on campus and the instances that are tolerated, which is the difference between targeted harassment (which is not allowed) and a one-off hateful comment (which is not condoned but tolerated due to free speech zones, such as the campus quad). Thomas suggests that it is best not to engage with negative or hateful people and that if they do not have an audience, they will not come or their activity will be greatly diminished. Bob then explained how an instructor can remove a student temporarily by means of Judicial Affairs. If the student refuses to leave the classroom, calling the SMC police is the next step. Bea also informed the committee that a faculty member can only remove a student for a maximum of up to two class sessions per incident.

Bob then addressed the matter of students selling class seats. The new language can be found in subsection W. “Unauthorized preparation, giving, selling, transfer, distribution, or publication, for any commercial purpose, for any contemporaneous recording of an academic presentation in a classroom or equivalent site of instruction, including but not limited to handwritten or typewritten class notes, except as permitted by any College policy or administrative procedure.” This subsection essentially states that if a student does any of the preceding, they have violated the student conduct code. There are caveats for allowing students to record class lectures (DSPS reasons for example, but generally this is not allowed unless agreed upon by the instructor. Bob also explained the nature of photography being taken in public and how consent is not needed. Esau then brought up the matter of upset students pulling out their phones and recording faculty in office settings. Bob explained that people do not have the right to not be recorded in certain circumstances, like in judicial proceedings or via police cameras. Bob stated that for example, if someone walks into an office and wants to record, and you do not consent, you have the right to stop talking and may ask them to leave. An SMC staff member could then give a student who refuses to leave an official school directive and if they fail to do so, it could then be a student conduct violation.

With all this said, Bob stated that these are the main changes he made in the updated AR 5500. Bob recommends keeping the organization and provisions that are not included in the League’s template.

Esau then asked if Bob could speak to the matter of revising the Student Bill of Rights. Bob stated that the AR containing the Bill of Rights should not be an Academic Regulation and continued to say that he is not sure how it became an Academic Regulation to start with. Per Bob, the Board of Trustees and Associated Students by student vote agreed to the regulation and only they are allowed to make these changes. Esau suggested that the senior staff may choose to move the AR to a section of the Board policies in time. Bea suggested the AR be taken away and no longer remain under the Student Affairs Committee purview. Esau then proposed that mention of this AR be removed in the new iteration of the AR 4411 Code of Academic Conduct. Bob likewise recommended removing any references to the Student Bill of Rights from AR 5500 Standards of Student Conduct.

Bea then asked the committee to briefly review subsection S as questions had come up in the past with specific reference to the matter of knives on campus. After further discussion on various AR topics, Bob thanked the Committee and left.

Bea and the Committee then decided to review the entire regulation. It was then decided to remove the preamble to AR 5500 Standards of Student Conduct. The Committee proceeded to give an overview of the AR to determine that no errors were present. The Committee discussed the need to include “guests or visitors” in the AR in relation to protected people (i.e. students and college personnel, persons or visitors). After deliberation, the Committee decided to send revisions (“A” & “B”) and one other on college bills and debts (“O”) to Counsel Bob Myers for final review and approval, if appropriate.

**b. Scope and Function**

- i. Bea then requested that the Committee review and finalize the Scope and Function document for the Student Affairs Committee. Esau stated that Scope and Function comes from the senate bylaws. Bea wasn’t sure it was in the bylaws but since the final revisions were not voted on, wanted to show the Committee the minor revisions made to the document on first meeting. The Committee additionally, made a few minor revisions.

***Motion to approve Student Affairs Committee Scope and Function: Donna Davis-King moved, Nancy Cardenas seconded, (10) Yes, (0) No, (0) Abstain. Unanimous at 1:43 PM.***

**c. Student Affairs Committee - Goals and Objectives**

- i. Bea then asked the Committee to determine the priority list of ARs to be worked on for the remainder of the year. The Committee decided that it would attempt to do the two “easy” ARs and work on one “hard” AR per session. Esau stated that he hopes that the easy ones will not be changed too much.

**V. Announcements:**

**VI. Adjournment:** 2:01 PM

**For all documents, visit:**

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

**Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Respectfully Submitted by Jackson Edwards