San Jose City College  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
Approved Minutes  
May 3, 2022

Senators Present: President Judith Bell, Vice President Elena Dutra, Executive Jose Cabrera, Executive Senator Jennifer Nestojko, John Banks, Shelley Blackman, Mark Branom, Carlos Chavez, Mary Crocker Cook, Julio Flores, Jackie Gamboa, Jesus Covarrubias proxy for Juan Gamboa, Michelle Gregor, Dedrick Griffin, David Hammerbeck, Rachel Hagan, Jagrup Kahlon, Alex Lopez, Anita Reyes, Kidane Sengal, Yevgeniya Sokolenko, Isai Ulate  
Absent senators: Kathy Haven, Heather Jellison, Doug Robb (excused)  
Parliamentarian: Lorenzo Cuesta  
IPCC: Thuy Cao and Andres Rodriguez  
Classified Senate: Andrea Lopez

I. The meeting called to order at 2:12pm via Zoom.

II. Approval of Agenda – Approved as amended w/o objection

III. Approval of Minutes – Approved w/o objection

Announcement – Senate President, Judith Bell, reminded senators to make motions/amendments one at a time. Do not ignore time limits. Presentations are six minutes long. Remember to raise your hand and be recognized before speaking. Judith will let senators speak before the public. Speak for or against motions.

IV. Public Comments
A. Vice President Elizabeth Pratt congratulated the newly tenured track instructors, Dr. Waylon Baker, Thuy Cao, Yesenia Escobar Mendoza, Patricia Do Carmo, and Anita Reyes. She gave a shout out to the 2022 distinguished faculty voted on by all SJCC community, Dr. Jose Cabrera, Valentin Garcia, Sid Singh, and our associate faculty, Huimin McKinlay. Our Lady Jags ranked fourth statewide, begin playoffs this Friday at 2pm. Their coach Debbie Rooney has over 850 wins in 30 years.

V. Committee Appointments – All approved w/o objections

MSC and Classified committees needs 1 volunteer each
A. Business Services Supervisor (Position #S2222) – none
B. Basic Needs Coordinator (Position #S2227) – Julio Flores (Counseling)

Standing Committee needs 2 volunteers
C. Commencement Valedictorian – Fabio Gonzalez (Counseling)

VI. Action Items
A. Nominations for Senate Executive Committee – Judith Bell
   President: Judith Bell
   Vice President: Elena Dutra
   Treasurer: none
   Lenora reminded the Senate to select a Treasurer who will provide their personal information to maintain the United Business Bank account for the faculty dues.
   At Large Senators (2): Jose Cabrera, Jennifer Nestojko
   District Academic Senate At Large: Alex Lopez
B. Poll on Senate Goals #2 and #3 – Judith Bell will distribute a poll to discuss goals two and three at the next meeting.
   #2: The Senate will maintain a respectful and collegial atmosphere.
   #3: The Senate will allow all points of view to be heard in a timely manner.

VII. Information items (6-minutes limit)
A. Senate Elections Update – Teller, Jennifer Nestojko, reported 59 total responses were received from the 158 full-time and Area 12 faculty polled. The votes for the Full-time At Large senator were: 20 for Edna Dolatre, 38 for Elena Dutra and 34 for Fabio Gonzalez. Elena Dutra and Fabio Gonzalez will serve as the Full-time At Large senators. The votes received for Area 12 – Social Science were 4 for Steven Del Chiaro and 5 for Juan Gamboa. Juan Gamboa will serve as the Area 12 senator.
These join the other even area senators and Adjunct At Large senator, Jacqueline Gamboa, for 2022-2024. There is a remaining vacancy for an Adjunct At Large senator.

Area 2/Art & Humanities - Judith Bell, Area 4/Business - Kidane Sengal, Area 6/Counseling & Health Services - Yesenia Escobar Mendoza, Area 8/Language Arts - Rufus Blair, and Area 10/Mathematics - John Banks, Area 12/Social Science - Juan Gamboa

B. RAM (Resource Allocation Model) Update – VP Chris Hawken explained the initial method took percentages from the total RAM amount. At the last meeting they discussed instead doing an order of operations. He described the steps beginning with subtracting the centralized expenses (3-year average) from the total amount to determine the net revenue from which the college base allocations of 10% for EVC and 10% SJCC/Milpitas were subtracted. Next subtracting the District Office/Services 20% (cap) allocation from that remaining balance. Lastly, subtracting the program/performance, and the FTES (Full-Time Equivalent Students) resident calculation allocations from that new balance. Any amount over the cap for the college or district would be used for maintenance and technology needs. The group discussed the need for the District Budget committee to engage more and do more monitoring. Today’s total revenue allocations are $55,088,844 or 38.5% for EVC, $48,018,618 or 34% for SJCC, and $39,825,312 or 27% for the District. Two weeks ago the District’s allocation had been about 31%.

Judith added they have agreed on an equity based funding model. VP Hawken added there is a hold harmless agreement for three years.

Discussion: Senators discussed the need for a cap for districtwide services, and input to continue negotiating the RAM. Some were concerned with the FTES model because the majority of the SJCC career students are not FTES but come to learn a specific skill and move on. Some were concerned with not having seen the performance metrics for the two colleges. Senators asked if metrics were considered for low-income students, English language learners, and foster youth. Some questioned how categorical money would be spread around. President Tomaneng added there are funds allocated for catégoricals through student equity and achievement, the Promise programs, and others.

Director of Fiscal Services, Vikki Menzies, provided the Finance Committee’s update of a tentative budget process. They are recommending for the 2022-23 budget total of $2,720,000 with $2,372,100 for the general fund, $232,700 from the lottery, $5000 in HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund), and $110,200 in institutional support. Vikki will return with a presentation for action at the next meeting.

C. Fall Schedule Update – Dr. Pratt said the Board of Trustees were concerned with the fall schedule. Some trustees wanted more face-to-face classes. The deans are working with faculty coordinators and counselors to focus on student needs/desires for the schedule. The modality of the fall schedule is 39% face-to-face (traditional), 19% hybrid, and 24% asynchronous. Student needs for the schedule are being met.

Dr. Tomaneng said the schedule work has taken into consideration the pivoting for faculty and students that happened this spring. She is looking forward to working the enrollment management committee. We were working on a guaranteed schedule before the pandemic. She has provided the trustees the modality report and asked them to contact her and Dr. Pratt directly with questions.

Dr. Pratt reviewed the modality report. She noted that 80% of students were move likely to complete Accounting online than face-to-face.

Discussion: Some senators were concerned with Trustee Fuentes and Livengood if they continue to ignore truth. Senators asked if micromanaging schedules is new with boards across the state. Other senators did not see this as micromanaging when the Board was elected by the community to ask these questions and to have an oversight role.

The Veteran’s Counselor noted the veteran students must have at least one in-person class because the Veteran’s Administration is very strict. He asked the administration and the deans not to cut classes and make last minute changes.

Senators added we should embrace all of the new skills learned during the pandemic especially the powerful and more flexible hybrid class model.

Senators added strategies and alternatives are needed to support students when classes are cancelled or the modality is changed.
D. ISER (Institutional Self-Evaluation Report) Draft and Timeline – Jennifer Nestojko shared the completion timeline. We are on track with providing the first read draft to the CAC (College Advisory Council), Academic Senate, ASG (Associated Student Government), and the Classified Senate. She reviewed the components including drafting the introduction, student achievement data and institutional analysis. The ACCJC standards are: (1) mission, academic quality and institutional effectiveness and integrity, (2) student learning programs and support services, (3) resources, (4) leadership and governance. They will continue to write and edit the ISER over the summer and will present at the August PDD (Professional Development Day). She reviewed the ISER Teams. The ISER will be available on the SJCC website’s Accreditation page and presented at the Governance Retreat on June 30. She encouraged everyone to read and provide feedback especially on content and evidence. Dr. Pratt said there is a raffle for those who provide feedback.

VIII. Information Items/Possible Action (6-minute limit)

A. DMA (Digital Media Arts) Program Launch AA degree in Graphic Design – Jonali Bhattacharyya/Postponed to next meeting

1. Digital Media Arts is launching a new program in Fall 2022, AA degree in Graphic Design. I'd like to share information on the upcoming degree and would also like to seek the senate's support in making this new program a success.

B. Faculty and Classroom Safety – Jonali Bhattacharyya/Postponed to next meeting

C. Senate Self-Evaluation Form Completion – Judith Bell will send the self-evaluation form based on last year’s form to senators for their input.

D. Presentation of Process for Working with Disruptive Students – Blake Balajadia said there are students with challenges in the classroom. Disruptions may run from student cell phones in classrooms to fist fights.

1. What is the definition of “disruptive”? The definition of disruptions are behaviors or actions in the classroom that reasonably prohibit someone from teaching and learning.

2. To whom may we reach out? You may reach out to your dean, our case manager, and Blake when there are violations of the Student Conduct Code. Imminent or present dangers and criminal activities should be reported to campus police. Those who report incidents have a right to see the report findings.

Judith reported Jonali had a student who would not wear their mask properly. She called campus police and was not satisfied with their response when the student was not removed from the classroom. Judith asked Chief Morales to give a Campus Police presentation at the next PDD.

E. Equity Based Funding – Judith Bell said the district is committed to equity and social justice but has no equity based formula. She will email an article of formula examples. Since we are a basic aid college, we do not have to follow the student centered funding formula (SCFF). We can review other measures to come up with equitable formulas for both SJCC and EVC.

Discussion: Senators noted some of the Board of Trustees do not accept that our students are working 40/60/80 hours weekly and that is why they cannot come to campus.

F. Academic Freedom Statement – Judith Bell shared a proposed freedom statement.

We, the Academic Senate of San José City College, affirm our commitment to the principles and practices of academic freedom. Academic freedom is essential to academic excellence because:

- It allows for “invention, scholarship, and creative enterprises that support and enrich humanity. The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free exposition” (Franke, n/d).

- It allows for students to be introduced to a diverse range of ideas that often contrast and even compete with each other within an academic framework. It invites them to participate in a rigorous analysis and comparison of these ideas as a means of developing their own interpretations and independent critical judgment.

- It encourages a robust exchange of ideas within an academic setting by ensuring that individual professors have the freedom to design their courses around specific theories even when they contrast with other, more traditionally established ones.

- It has played an essential role in the establishment of critical theories, ensuring that colleges and universities no longer rely on “the single story”. The proliferation of programs such as Ethnic
Studies, Gender Studies and LGBTQ Studies indicates a more robust “marketplace of ideas” where students learn to analyze subjects from a diverse variety of lenses.

The following are protected under academic freedom:

- Freedom in research and publications.
- Freedom in presentations and discussion of subject matter in their classrooms, including textbook selection.
- Freedom from institutional censorship when expressing opinions outside of the institution through extramural speech.

Discussion: Senators suggested adding language that limits speech that endangers or creates a threatening environment and hate speech. Revising vague board policies to be more specific. Some senators asked how this would be used. Judith answered that this provides a stance for the Academic Senate and it is more robust than the Board policies.

Lorenzo suggested adopting this statement as is today and amending later if necessary.

This Academic Freedom Statement adopted without objection.

IX. Committee Reports

A. President Report: Judith reported speaking to the Board about the need for mixed modalities including in-person, hybrid, fully online, and Hyflex. Students will go elsewhere if needs are not met here. Our students do not want a 90% return. Board members need a study session to highlight the faculty’s training. The Chancellor felt we would violate Title V if the published schedule were to change now.

B. Jesus gave a public comment at the Board meeting announcing the state chancellor’s office approval of the Music Technology Recording Arts Program that this Senate approved in 2019. The next steps will include how to launch this on campus.

C. Michelle invited everyone to a reception for the student art show in the gallery on next Tuesday, 11am-1pm. She encouraged all to celebrate our student artists.

D. IPCC: Andres reported that tomorrow is the last committee meeting for the semester. He thanked the faculty for their hard work this year.

E. Program Review: Judith reported that they are working on the end of the year self-assessment and loose ends. They are preparing for the eLumen transition.

F. SLO: Judith reported that they are finalizing the institutional learning outcomes and taking them to the Classified Professionals, the CAC (College Advisory Council), and all of the constituency groups by the end of the semester.

G. Technology Committee: Mark reported that they are going through the Technology Master Plan and reviewing the budget detail. The new SJCC website should go live in approximately a month. Modern Campus is processing it.

H. OER (Open Educational Resources): Mark reported sending the OER Newsletter last week to all faculty. He reminded everyone of the upcoming seminars.

I. ASG (Associated Student Government): Robert Andrade reported collaborating with Dean Harris and the Athletics Department to open the gym on the second floor for student use during five days and three nights weekly. They will swear in the new ASG next Wednesday.

X. The chair adjourned the meeting at 4:17pm.