



**Yosemite
Faculty
Association**

**YFA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
APPROVED MINUTES**

**Wednesday,
January 29, 2014**
Faculty Lounge, East Campus

Respectfully submitted by
Iris Carroll, YFA Secretary
to the YFA Representative Council

Meeting is called to order at 3:00 p.m. Quorum [x]

PRESENT EXECUTIVE BOARD
President: Debi Bolter; V President/MJC: Sarah Curl; V President/CC:
Gene Womble; Secretary: Iris Carroll; Treasurer: Linda Kropp; MJC
College Council: Ross McKenzie; Rep at Large/MJC: Larry Scheg; Rep at
Large/MJC: Jim Stevens

PRESENT REP COUNCIL
Steve Amador; Jill Ramsey; Haleh Niazmand; Pam Guerra-Schmidt;
Becky Ganes; Brian Green; Shelley Circle; Elzbieta Jarrett; Tom Nomof;
Hanna Louie

PRESENT OTHER POSITIONS
Brian Sinclair: Faculty Representative to Board

MINUTES

December 4, 2013 Minutes: Approved:

M/S/A Shelley Circle moved, and Brian Greene seconded, that the December 4, 2013
minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS

- Faculty Representative to the Board: Brian Sinclair gave an overview of this position. He described this position as being a liaison between the faculty and Board of Trustees that requires a diplomatic person. Gene asked for a pulse reading on the Board and Brian responded that he thought they seemed aware and interested in events at the Colleges. Brian said that he needs to be aware of how his constituents feel about issues and to be able to relay those concerns/ideas to the Board. Haleh asked at what point faculty take issues to the Board. Brian responded that you would only take very serious or big issues to the Board and only after you had explored the proper processes fully.
- MJC College Council: Ross McKenzie reported the Council's discussion of FTES and our growth targets. Currently MJC is down about 3% for our growth goal. He reported on a new outreach effort called, New Student Days to be held on March 8 and April 12. Faculty and student clubs were encouraged to be involved with this effort. Ross next reported on the ranked list of unfunded Measure E projects. All the West Campus traffic/road projects will be grouped together and worked on first because that need was deemed essential. All the other projects will be put forward as other projects close out and funding is made available. Finally, he reported that the parking fee increases are still going forward. The District is still looking into an appropriate rate for part-time instructors and Susan Kincaid clarified that bog waivers do not cover student parking.
- Columbia College Council: Gene Womble reported that they met last Friday. They are looking forward to the start of their new President. They had a discussion about their FTES target. Enrollment for this year looks good and they are planning on a strong Maymester. Finally, he reported that their Measure E projects are in full swing.
- Student Services Council: Brian Greene reported that they also talked about FTES targets and discussed possible outreach and inreach options. Finally, he informed the group of an Initiative Retreat that will be held at the end of February.
- Resource Allocation Council: Debi Bolter reported on the budget presentation outlining Larry Carrier's findings and recommendations made to align the 2013/14 budget.
- Instruction Council: Debi Bolter reported that we have a possibility of one growth position. Divisions will present their growth position requests at a meeting on February 7th.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Informational

- Benefits Committee Update: Debi Bolter reported that this committee will meet in a few weeks for health provider presentations. If we stay with our current plan we will not have figures until May and so won't be able to ratify our benefits package until the summer.
- PAC Update: Gene Womble reported that the Exec Board voted to end PAC. The attorney recommended that YFA send out email to the membership and have a meeting to determine what to do with leftover dues money. Tom Nomof expressed his disappointment and reminded us that the PAC has done positive things like fund a faculty-friendly Board member in the past. Debi explained that there are just too many legal issues to make continuance feasible at this point. Sarah reminded the group that to have PAC, you need a PAC chair and treasurer and you have to be able to have a quorum at meetings.
- Faculty Lounge Open House: Debi reported that due to problems with entrance locks we're postponing the open house.

2. Discussion

- Communications: Debi introduced the idea of implementing "Check-in" and "Check-out" similar to the process used in negotiations. This process helps communications because it asks "Is there anything we need to bring to this body," at the beginning of the meeting and asks "What key information do we need to take away from this meeting" at the end of the meeting. General agreement was reached regarding instituting this process and we decided to use a white board for it. Brian Sinclair talked about the new Senate Handbook and suggested that YFA create something similar so that all representatives and their constituencies understand their roles in keeping lines of communication open.
- Re-openers for Negotiations: Gene requested that all representatives forward suggestions for re-openers from their constituencies to the Exec Board by February 20th. These suggestions should include a statement of the issue and a possible solution.
- EER Meeting Update: Gene reported that the Employer Employee Relations Committee has reconvened. This forum is a great place to "just bring up questions" regarding issues on which the need to negotiate is unclear.
- Future Negotiation Communication: Gene introduced this topic and discussion ensued. The point of the discussion was to create a way to keep membership informed of negotiations within the confines of confidentiality. It was recommended that the

tentative agreement be given to faculty for review before ratification. This idea was struck down because at the point a tentative agreement has been reached, negotiations have ended. Debi brought up the fact that Table Talks are distributed and the issues are discussed at rep. council with the intention that representatives disseminate information to their constituencies and bring back input. It was recommended that we have a forum to go over the tentative agreement. However, as further pointed out discussion at that point may not be fruitful; it was instead recommended that YFA hold a forum at the beginning of negotiations to discuss issues that are being negotiated and to get feedback at that point. There was consensus on the need to have forums and that having forums is mentioned as a means of communication in our bylaws. It was recommended that a forum or forums be built into the negotiations schedule.

It was decided that YFA would hold a forum at the beginning of negotiations and that we would try to get more precise information included in Table Talks.

- Student Success and Support Program: The focus of this discussion was to explain the importance of faculty involvement in this process. The brunt of the work cannot fall on one group of faculty but needs to be shared across campus.

A PowerPoint presentation on the SSSP was sent out to Rep. Council for review. Debi stressed that all faculty will be called on to be involved. Faculty may be asked to work with students to create the abbreviated ed. plan. Discussion ensued on how this would increase faculty workload. An inquiry was made as to when the plan outlining faculty's role would be forthcoming. It was stressed that counseling faculty do not expect classroom faculty to complete the extended ed. plan. Basically, counseling envisions other faculty advising students in their disciplines for the first semester. It was pointed out that advising is already built into nursing faculty schedules and in the Ag Sci division. A general consensus was reached that faculty be trained in order to help effectively. It was reported that the counseling faculty has created training packets for faculty by area.

The College's draft plan for implementation will be ready in March for a fall 2014 implementation.

CHECK-OUT

- Re-openers due February 20th.
- SSSP – Faculty need to be aware of their role and that counselors have training packets.
- PAC – Is dissolving. It may be reinstated at a later date.

ADJOURNED 4:35 pm