



Yosemite Faculty Association

YFA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES

Wednesday,
January 21, 2015
Faculty Lounge, East Campus

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

Meeting is called order at 3:05 p.m.

Quorum []

YFA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

(*indicates positions up for re-election in spring 2015)

	Division/Area Representative	Name	Present
1	Agriculture & Environmental Sciences	Dale Pollard	
2	Allied Health*	Jill Ramsey	X
3	Arts, Humanities & Communications	Haleh Niazmand	X
4	Family & Consumer Science*	Pam Guerra-Schmidt	X
5	Behavioral & Social Sciences*	Becky Ganes (Alternate)	X
6	Business	Vacant	
7	Library*	Brian Greene	X
8	Physical, Recreation & Health Education*	Demitrius Snaer	
9	Literature & Language Arts (A)*	Denise Smith	X
10	Literature & Language Arts (B)	Dimitri Keriotis	
11	Science, Math & Engineering / MATH*	Elzbieta Jarrett	X
12	Science & Engineering	Tom Nomof	X
13	Special Programs (EOPS/DSPS)*	Donna Louie	X
14	Student Services / Counseling	Hanna Louie	
15	Technical Education*	Adrian DeAngelis	
16	Columbia College Rep A at-Large	Vacant	
17	Columbia College Rep B at-Large*	Vacant	

YFA EXECUTIVE BOARD

	OFFICERS	NAME	Present
18	President*	Debi Bolter	X
19	MJC Vice President / Grievance Officer	Sarah Curl	X
20	CC Vice President / Grievance Officer*	Gene Womble	X
21	Secretary	Iris Carroll	X
22	Treasurer*	Linda Kropp	X
23	Budget Analyst	Vacant	
24	MJC College Council	Ross McKenzie	X
25	MJC Member-at-Large / MJC*	Larry Scheg	X
26	MJC Member-at-Large / MJC	Jim Stevens	
27	Columbia College Member At-Large*	Vacant	

NON-VOTING YFA POSITIONS

	TITLE	NAME	Present
28	Faculty Liaison to the BOT	Vacant	
29	Adjuncts at Large	Columbia Adjunct: Vacant* MJC Adjunct: Monique Vallance	

MINUTES

Approval of the December 3, 2014 minutes as amended.

M/S/A – Brian Greene moved with Linda Kropp seconding. The minutes passed on a voice vote with 3 abstentions.

REPORTS

MJC College Council

Ross McKenzie reported that MJC College Council hasn't met. Ross did send us policies and procedures regarding background checks and records retention that are up for discussion. He reported that he has been receiving some feedback. Debi explained the process and role of Policies and Procedures committee. Representatives described the hardship the background check policy causes for student workers and Child development families. A recommendation was made that the MJC Foundation create a grant for hardship pay. Also, concern was raised regarding the issue of timeliness of paperwork that must be signed off by the vice-chancellor for the District to process approval for employment. It was recommended that YFA request some accountability regarding a timeline from HR to process required paperwork.

Columbia College Council

Gene Womble reported that 70 sections have been cancelled for low enrollment at Columbia. They are experiencing really sluggish enrollment. A discussion regarding minimum class size ensued. To break even we have to have 18 students in a class. Due to class cancellations, some

full-time faculty are becoming under loaded. MJC is feeling the same sort of pressures. Options for gaining load were discussed and are stated in the contract. Administration held a community forum at Columbia College to discuss these issues and to brainstorm ideas to rethink scheduling in innovative ways for the fall.

District Council

Debi Bolter reported that the December meeting was an extended council during which they rewrote the District vision statement and Joan gave a presentation on change. The draft vision statement will be sent to the colleges for feedback.

CHECK-IN:

- YFA Positions – Both the faculty liaison and budget analyst positions are still open. There is no one from Columbia interested in the liaison position. Debi reported that we were able to use funds from the vacant budget analyst position to hire a consultant to review the District budget.
- Institute Day YFA Sessions - Both sessions, Contract 101 and Negotiations 101, were well attended.
- Part-Time Article - Negotiations will resume work on this article during the spring.
- Negotiations - Debi reported that we have a spring schedule and that we have two training sessions scheduled: one for traditional-based and the other for interest-based bargaining.

OLD BUSINESS

January Newsletter

The January newsletter was distributed. Debi emphasized that it is a conduit for information for YFA unit members and for YCCD Board members. Gene introduced the newsletter at the last Board meeting.

Soft Enrollments

Enrollment is down across the state. In fact, some schools are reporting drops of 8-10%. At MJC we have a real concern about large classes, like psychology, that have filled in past and have been negatively impacted by enrollment decisions such as offering too many sessions and advertising late-start classes early. Sarah wrote an article about this issue in the January newsletter. Faculty are becoming very frustrated with the fact that input they are giving decision makers is not being acted upon. Debi reminded council members that YFA has a representative on the Enrollment Management Committee. Debi will let her know that we need to have these issues discussed. Unfortunately, that committee has not been meeting regularly at MJC.

Course cancellations

See the discussion of this issue above.

Negotiations

- Stipends - Stipends for Jim Stevens, Tom Nomof, and Gene Womble were approved by voice vote. Jim is being paid for his negotiations with a stipend; Tom did a lot of extra work on the Banking article and in writing the Table Talks, and because Gene's release time was figured wrong they need to make adjustments. Iris moved and Ross seconded. Approved on voice vote.
- Hiring of professional expertise - A forensic accountant is reviewing the District's finances over the last ten years. Last semester we had a facilitator who will no longer be participating in negotiations. She recommended someone else as a facilitator. The YFA Exec Board will be talking to a professional negotiator at our next meeting to explore what he could offer us. District has added Teresa Scott and are retaining Victoria. The negotiations team feels that the two teams are not evenly matched in terms of expertise and experience in negotiations.
- Schedule for spring 2015 - Debi reviewed the schedule for spring.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tentative Governor's Budget - Tentative budget looks very good; however, the May revise really dictates budget.
- YFA Exec Board meeting in March - The Exec Board will meet at Columbia College in March to establish a better connection with our Columbia colleagues.
- Management and Classified Teaching - Management and classified employees can no longer teach as adjuncts. This District-wide policy happened just this semester. Apparently the rationale for the change is that it is cost prohibitive. If a classified staff works over 40 hours per week they earn overtime. District is saying that Management can teach but for free because they are on unlimited hours anyway. Questions from specific units arose. This policy has been tried before; it lasted for a few yrs and went away.
- Union/Weingarten Cards - YFA thinking about making little union cards to inform unit members of their Weingarten rights.
- New PERB Ruling on Investigations - Currently, if a unit member is under investigation the District would send a letter saying you cannot talk about the alleged incident at all. That has been ruled illegal. You have the right to talk, to discuss your situation with anyone, and defend yourself. Debi described PERB for the Council and the case that led to the new ruling.
- Benefits Committee Reconvened - Calculation of benefit costs will probably be communicated to the District in May. A group of representatives from all constituency groups meets with EPIC to evaluate and find bids for us. Laurie Sylvester from Columbia College and Stephen Stroud from MJC are part of this group. They have already begun meeting and will meet the third Thursday of every month. Our carrier is now SISC. The District will have presentations from CVT and ASKIP. Once the bids come in and presentations are made the Benefits Committee begins the hard task of analyzing the data and making a recommendation regarding District health benefits.

- Calculation of Sick Time Issues – The next EER will be February 5th. One of the issues to be discussed is the calculation of sick time for faculty members. At issue is the District practice charging a full day even though a faculty member didn't take a full day. For example, say a faculty member is sick on a Tuesday and that faculty only has one class and one office hour that day. The District has been charging a full day of sick leave in that instance. We are working with the District to figure out a more equitable way to calculate such sick time. The intent is to reach a solution for this problem before it becomes a grievance.
- Grievances--MJC/Columbia - MJC no formal grievances. Columbia anticipates that they might have some grievances regarding class cancellations.

CHECK OUT

- Enrollment -
 - Minimum class guidelines are posted on VPI and VP at sites at both colleges.
 - Class cancellations
- Management & Classified no teaching
- YFA/ Weingarten cards
- Newsletter

ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM on a motion by Ross McKenzie that was seconded by Brian Greene.