



# Yosemite Faculty Association

## YFA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

Wednesday,  
March 15, 2017  
Faculty Lounge, East Campus  
  
respectfully submitted by  
Iris Carroll, YFA Secretary  
to the YFA Representative Council

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

Quorum

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Jim Sahlman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice President/MJC	Sarah Curl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice President/CC	Tim Elizondo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Analyst	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Iris Carroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rep at Large/MJC	Allan McKissick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rep at Large/MJC	Jim Stevens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Member-at Large/CC	Maryl Landess	<input type="checkbox"/>
MJC College Council	Ross McKenzie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Larry Scheg	<input type="checkbox"/>

### REP COUNCIL

Dale Pollard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jill Ramsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Haleh Niazmand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family & C Sci (Vacant)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Choi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shelley Akiona	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brian Greene	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Demitrius Snaer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Akard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Laura Manzo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mike Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tom Nomof	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Donna Louie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hanna Louie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tech Ed: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
CC Rep A At-Large: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
CC Rep B At-Large: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
MJC Adjunct: Bill Holly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Columbia Adjunct: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faculty Liaison: Michelle Christopherson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### OTHER POSITIONS:

## **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Approve the minutes of the February 15, 2017 YFA Rep Council Meeting- Ross McKenzie so moved and Hanna Louie seconded. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Approve Jim Sahlman as YFA Representative on the MJC Vice President of Instruction Search Committee - Ross McKenzie so moved and Iris Carroll seconded. This item was approved by voice vote.

Approve "How to Make MJC Graduation a Successful Experience Every Year: A Guide for Faculty" – Michelle spoke about this guide she wrote as a way to institutionalize the success of her endeavor to increase faculty participation in graduation. We have more gowns available this year; in fact we have almost sixty. The key to the whole endeavor is faculty encouraging other faculty to attend. This guide has been accepted by Senate already. It was agreed that this guide should be posted on the YFA Web site. Ross McKenzie so moved and Donna Louie seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote.

## **Announcements and Reports**

### **Faculty Liaison Report**

Michelle Christopherson could not give us an update on the Chancellor search due to confidentiality. No one has stepped forward to fill Michelle's position, which she leaves on May 3. She again encouraged those interested to come forward.

### **YFA Elections**

A call for nominations will be sent out shortly for the positions of: President, VP of Columbia, Treasurer, At-Large Representatives for Columbia and MJC, and Faculty Liaison to the Board. As stipulated by the Bylaws, several scheduled Representative Council positions are also coming open and Geri is contacting those individuals so that their Divisions can elect replacements. The deadline for nominations is March 31. There was discussion about who coordinates elections at Columbia and it was decided that Angela is coordinating everything for both colleges electronically now. It was also decided that it is a good practice to have someone at Columbia to serve as the point person for questions.

### **YFA Bylaws Revision**

Mike Adams reported that he is having problems getting the group together. The group consists of Mike Adams, Laura Manzo, and Allan McKissick. Mike has been making edits and Allan brought suggested changes to the Exec. Board. Exec needs to weigh in on a few issues that he wasn't able to handle. Iris will check old minutes to search for past changes to bylaws that may not have been incorporated into the current document and will report her findings to Exec.

## **Current/Ongoing Business**

### **Negotiations**

Jim Sahlman reported that negotiations are not moving forward at a desirable pace. Class size issues are being worked out and discussion is ongoing. The main points being discussed are: 1. The class size recommendation is only a recommendation that was brought to both negotiating teams, and 2. The District wants to make class sizes of 40 the standard. What that means is that

even though 40 is standard, everyone would recognize that some classes will be smaller due to a whole range of issues. Sections that are currently at 35 will be pushed to 40. Classes with enrollment below 35 it will stay the same until they come up for periodic review, at which time they will be reviewed by the class-size committee. Concern was raised for small departments and disciplines that need lower class sizes. This situation could lead to a workload issue in that faculty may be forced to take on another class. We were encouraged to be vigilant of the minimum enrollment guidelines.

Jim continued by talking about District's stated interest in this issue. District began by stating that equity is their interest; it isn't fair to faculty if one group is teaching X and the other is teaching Y. YFA argues that Columbia simply can't make 40 students per class, so obtaining equity in that sense isn't realistic. Therefore, YFA argued that this is a "feel-good" policy for Columbia and an actual policy for MJC. District then said that their interest is the issue of sustainability. YFA, then, wants the District to show how much money a class size of 40 will generate. Apparently, it will only generate about \$220,000 which isn't a very big part of the budget.

In addition, it was pointed out that online classes seem to be ignored in this discussion. YFA has brought up the fact that online classes gets treated unfairly.

Given that the range of District interests so far are impacting faculty workload and including assessment as part of evaluations, YFA's interest is making sure faculty are compensated fairly. Jim reports that YFA is asking good questions and that Sarah has done a good analysis of total compensation with our cohorts. YFA faculty are well below medium, while administrators at the District and College levels are above. For compensation YFA has not forgotten to work towards the retroactive \$10 benefits repayment. Bill Holly wants to see a copy of the Part-Time article. The negotiating team will have a planning meeting to prioritize goals before the next negotiations session, which is scheduled for Friday, March 17.

It was reported that one division is using evaluation forms that are not a part of the contract. The dean said that she checked with Gina in Human Resources and she gave her the thumbs up to use these forms. There was also discussion of trustees being advised not to make contact with faculty and not to be on campus due to possible conflicts of interest. Jim encouraged faculty to attend the Trustees retreat that will take place on March 29 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Oakdale. It is important that we do speak up and let District know that we're interested and paying attention. It is necessary for the Board to meet faculty and know the quality and breadth of the work we do.

### Accreditation

MJC faculty have provided good feedback. Faculty voices are being heard. It appears, however, that the Administration is slipping in content. We need to make sure that after April we monitor drafts to make sure the documents accurately reflect our practices and are fully supported by evidence.

## **Announcements and Reports**

### **Policies & Procedures**

Tim Elizondo and Allan McKissick reported on Policy 6305 which stipulates the District reserve. YFA argued for 10% not “at least” 10%. All faculty organizations agreed to that. It will be forwarded to District Council with a note that says all faculty organizations agreed to 10% and not “at least” 10%.

Enrollment Management Committee—no report

Faculty Culture and Camaraderie Committee—no report

Treasurer’s Report—no report

### **YFA Exec Board**

There was discussion about the benefits of and process for moving YFA email off of District servers. Jim is still interested in also moving the YFA Web site from District servers and requiring logins for more security. Haleh offered to develop a site on Google Sites.

### **Other Reports/Concerns/Comments (if any):**

None

### **Report Out:**

- Faculty Liaison to the Board
- YFA Elections
- Board retreat on March 29. Faculty encouraged to attend.
- In discussion of class size maximums we need to be vigilant that the minimum enrollment guidelines are being followed.
- Faculty needs to stay engaged in reviewing Accreditation Standards documents.

**Adjourned:** 5:40 pm

**Next scheduled YFA Rep Council Meeting:** April 12, 2017 @ 3:00pm, YFA Faculty Lounge