

District Academic Senate Exec Meeting Minutes

Friday September 8, 2017
Educational Services Center, Board Hearing Room
Minutes

Attendance

	Present
Officers	Angela Echeverri (President), Naja El-Khoury (1 st VP), Elizabeth Atondo (2 nd VP: Curriculum), Lourdes Brent (Secretary), Dan Wanner (Treasurer)
City	Dan Wanner
East	Jeff Hernandez
Harbor	
Mission	Deborah Paulsen
Pierce	
Southwest	Robert Stewart
Trade	Martin Diaz
Valley	
West	Holly Bailey-Hofmann
Guests	

Call to Order: DAS President Angela Echeverri called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Action Items: *Approval of Agenda:* Hernandez/Atondo M/S/P

Approval of minutes:

August 11, 2017 Hernandez/Atondo M/S/P with revisions

June 16, 2017 Hernandez/Atondo M/S/P

Public Speakers: None

President's report

Board of Trustees Meetings, September 6, 2017 and October 4, 2017

Echeverri reported that a resolution to sanction Trustee Scott Svonkin, brought forward by Trustee Andra Hoffman did not pass. The vote was: 3 yes; 3 no; 1 abstention.

The Board instead approved a resolution to issue a public warning to Trustee Svonkin and to have him publicly apologize for incidents of inappropriate behavior toward Trustee Hoffman. The Board cautioned that, should there be continued instances of inappropriate behavior, progressive steps such as sanctions would be explored.

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The Board voted to approve revisions to Board Rules on associate degree and certificate of achievement requirements (Board Rule VI Article II). The Board also approved the District’s 10-year contract with Pacifica Dining Services. Appeals made by previous local food providers at colleges, in particular, Falafelicious at Pierce and Trimana Catering, were not upheld. Pacifica is already providing food services at the colleges. Some students have complained about the food prices from this vendor. Lunch trucks at some colleges are still operating.

The Board also approved the final budget as well as all of the colleges’ accreditation follow-up reports.

Management and labor unions have not completed contract negotiations and the collective bargaining agreements expired at the end of June. The Board also approved an extension of the 2014-2017 collective bargaining agreements to January, 2018 or until final agreement is reached.

Under public comments, many representatives from the unions, particularly the AFT – the Faculty Guild and the Classified – expressed their concerns over the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) benefit, which has not been reinstated by the Board. If renewed for 2018, the HRA will probably be lower than in years previous.

Fall 2017 Senate Summit

Echeverri announced that she sent an email reminder for the upcoming 2017 Summit, which is scheduled for Friday, September 22, 2017 at City College. Participants are encouraged to RSVP using the Eventbrite link. The theme of this year’s summit is Guided Pathways to Student Success and Equity. Vice Chancellor Laura Hope from the state chancellor’s office will be the keynote speaker. The agenda will feature varied breakout sessions in the morning and afternoon, including presentations on the implementation of guided pathways at Mount San Antonio College and Trade and East. A representative from the Cal State system will be available to speak on Chancellor White’s Executive Order and the changes in remedial education and math and English placement. Senate presidents are encouraged to include a math and English faculty members in their delegations. There will also be breakout sessions on a Math readiness program at UCLA, equity for transgender students, accurate student placement, and curriculum changes statewide.

Transitions : Echeverri continues to work with the district on computer access for some officers.

Enrollment : The enrollment numbers are still down compared to previous years. Overall district enrollment is at 92% of last year’s numbers. Data is difficult to interpret as day-to-day comparisons are not available. The Board and other have expressed great concern about these declines. Hernandez is concerned that part of the enrollment problem lies with PeopleSoft, the new student information system, as a number of students had been and continue to be unable to enroll in classes, e.g., permission numbers are not working. El-Khoury wondered about the district response, noting that there was no ad hoc committee to review enrollment trends, both in- and outside the district, and identify contributing factors.

77 Hernandez reported that the District Budget Committee (DBC) will visit Southwest and Harbor the
78 third or fourth week in October to review progress on their financial recovery plans. Stewart
79 addressed the need for faculty participation in the college’s recovery plans and noted that a
80 resolution on that topic will be coming from Southwest.

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82 DAS Representatives

83 Echeverri reminded the senate presidents to forward the names of their college’s DAS
84 representatives. She will also forward a list of district committees which need DAS
85 representation.

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87 **1st Vice President’s Report**

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89 Equivalency

90 El-Khoury reported that the first meeting of the year for the Equivalency Committee will be this coming
91 Monday. He wishes to implement a change in the process for this committee so that the members
92 have documents for faculty seeking equivalency two weeks prior to meeting dates. Documents will be
93 sent password protected. He and the committee will also review the process and develop a flowchart.
94 He also recommends that the policy and procedures be documented and publicized.

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96 TPPC: There has been no meeting yet this academic year.

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98 Computer Science:

99 The District Curriculum Committee (DCC) supported a matrix designed to align Computer Information
100 Systems courses. Programming classes, in which the minimum qualifications for instructors is a
101 Master’s degree, will be under Computer Science. Atondo elaborated that one cannot have courses in
102 the same discipline which have different minimum qualifications. In its decision, DCC followed E-65.
103 At today’s DCC meeting, it is anticipated that Pierce will send a faculty member as a public speaker on
104 this issue. Although E-65 describes an appeals process, Atondo noted that Pierce did not file an appeal.
105 El-Khoury reported that Pierce’s concern is that they have faculty who are currently teaching Computer
106 Science. However, he stated that Title 5 permits that such current instructors be “grandfathered” in.
107 However, new instructors must meet the current Computer Science minimum qualifications.

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109 **2nd Vice President’s Report**

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111 E-65:

112 Atondo reported that existing E-65 language is being reviewed and tightened. Previously, course
113 appeals would go to the District Curriculum Committee (DCC) and then to the full District Academic
114 Senate (DAS). The revision is that course appeals would go to DCC which would be the final arbiter.
115 Pierce recommends that the former process, i.e., DCC to DAS continue.

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117 CurricuNET

118 CurricuNET – logins arrived this week to begin testing. The earliest launch possible would be in the
119 Spring 2018 semester. However, it will most likely be in Fall of 2018. DCC wants to be proactive and
120 identify and fix problems before the system becomes “live.”

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SIS

Atondo further reported that once it is working correctly, PeopleSoft is poised to put the district in a good place for guided pathways and meta-majors. It is important that major courses, including prerequisite, be specifically mapped. This is a function of the PeopleSoft degree audit feature. Atondo will contact Vice Chancellor Cornner regarding an estimate for the timeframe that PeopleSoft will be fully functional.

Digital Badges

This matter will be discussed at a meeting on Monday (the 11th) as there needs to be clarity on faculty involvement at local and district level.

The Ralph M. Brown Act

Atondo continued her report by adding that, per the LACCD Office of General Counsel, the Brown Act does not attach to District discipline committees.

Treasurer’s Report

DAS dues

Wanner referenced an attachment and reminded Senate Presidents that they are to send \$400 from each college to the DAS. He is currently in the process of paying dues to the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC). Sustainability funds are to be available in an account which cannot be swept.

Fall Plenary

Plenary attendees are requested to please forward their signed conference request forms as soon as possible. DAS has allotted each college \$1,200 (with \$1,500 for the Spring Plenary in northern California).

Senate accounts

Wanner is also looking into options of keeping local senate accounts downtown. It has been reported by some local senates that unused funds were swept at their colleges. The budget of the DAS Professional Development College (PDC) may be moved into the DAS account.

Standing Committee reports

Professional Development College

Brent reported that one course (Education 240) was approved by the Board over the summer and other courses will be going through Valley’s Curriculum Committee this fall semester. Additional course offerings are anticipated in spring 2018. Seminars will be offered this fall and winter, including one faculty and senate leadership.

165 **Reports from Colleges**

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167 West
168 Bailey-Hoffman reported a current realigning of academic divisions.

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170 Mission
171 Paulsen reported continued campus discussion on guided pathways. Enrollment is robust, possibly due
172 to overenrolled Distance Education (DE) courses. The college's new Arts, Media and Performance
173 building has opened.

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175 Southwest
176 Stewart reported that continued education of the faculty related to the 10 + 1 is necessary. In
177 addition, Stewart added that Southwest's accreditation follow-up report must be sent to the local
178 senate for consultation before signature. There was guided pathways information at the college's FLEX
179 Day activities. Proposition CC funds will be used for a student union building. Southwest will be
180 celebrating 50 years at a gala at the Biltmore; more information will follow. Atondo reminded
181 everyone to include counseling faculty in guided pathways conversations.

182
183 East
184 Hernandez reported that things are going well at East. Guided pathways conversations began last
185 academic year and continued with follow up meetings in May and June. There are over 40 persons on
186 task force; to be added are student representation and classified reps from student services. Both the
187 past and current senate presidents have been/are very clear on having senate approval on every step.
188 Hernandez recommends that the message regarding the necessity for senate involvement be given at
189 the upcoming Senate Summit.

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191 Trade
192 Diaz reported no updates from the last meeting.

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195 **Discussion**
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197 There was a roundtable discussion of various topics.

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199 Echeverri reminded all present of the DAS meeting next week at West. As it is the first meeting of the
200 2017-2018 academic year, no major action items are anticipated. Senate presidents are requested to
201 send their updated roster of college representatives to the DAS to Echeverri.

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203 Items anticipated to be discussed at the September DAS meeting include AB 705, a bill establishing a 1-
204 year completion timeline for transfer-level math and English. If it passes, the State Chancellor's Office
205 and the Board of Governors will come up with measures to ensure the bill's enactment. It is
206 acknowledged that some students will not be able to get through. Hernandez recommended using
207 Adult Education funds for basic skills development.

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209 Also requested on the agenda for the September 14th DAS meeting is the issue of classroom safety,
210 especially possible shooters in the classroom.

211
212 Hernandez referenced a possible draft motion at East related to a policy for naming district buildings.
213 He noted that the Board Rule states that the district can take a recommendation from the chancellor
214 or college president, but makes no reference to the input to the chancellor or college president before
215 the building name recommendation is sent to the Board for review. This will be a discussion topic at
216 the upcoming DAS meeting.

217
218 Also to be added to the agenda will be the revisions to the District's mission statement.

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220 Per an email request from Don Gauthier, there will be a discussion with a possible future resolution
221 regarding academic rank for retired faculty and policies related to reciprocity. Brent will forward to
222 Echeverri a copy of the DAS academic rank policy from 1986. (Academic rank has since been de-
223 centralized.)

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225 Senate Summit – Volunteers are still needed and are requested to arrive early.

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227 Echeverri will send out an email requesting agenda items for the DAS meeting.

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229 DAS goals

230 Echeverri discussed anticipated DAS goals for this academic year and beyond, including: 1) The
231 expansion of DAS communication, e.g., a newsletter or other version of *Academically Speaking*; 2)
232 Supporting faculty leadership; and 3) Professional development. She cited the recent retirement of
233 150 faculty and the hiring of 500 probationary faculty in the last 3-4 years as an important factor in
234 making these goals a priority. The consensus was that these were appropriate goals for the upcoming
235 year.

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237 *Motion to approve the three goals stated above Hernandez/Stewart M/S/U*

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239 *Motion to adjourn Atondo/Stewart M/S/U*

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241 The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

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244 Respectfully submitted by Lourdes M. Brent, DAS Secretary