

Santa Monica College Ad Hoc Modalities Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 2:30-3:45pm

Location: Zoom

Chair

*Joelle Adams

Members

Jillian Alexander (part-time representative standing in for Catherine Matheson), *Jason Beardsley, *Sheila Cordova, *Dana Del George, Josh Elizondo (or other student representative), *Chris Grant, *Maral Hyelar, Luke Johnston, Jamar London, Catherine Matheson (or other part-time faculty representative), *Kas Metzler, *Elisa Meyer, *Peter Morse, *Howard Stahl, *Yukiko Tsuboi, Sal Veas, *Tammara Whitaker (Christine Miller standing in for), Denise White-Odimo (for Josh)

Interested Parties

*Christyanne Melendez

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Meeting called to order at 2:32pm. Meeting recorded with agreement of attendees. Agenda for meeting approved with 100% “ayes”.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Announcements

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from 11/23 approved with unanimous vote of voting members in attendance.

V. Chairs' Business

None

VI. Action/Discussion Items

a. Student survey results (Understanding modalities)

- Questions raised by committee as to who was the survey population, how recruited, was this representative of the student demographic? Elisa offered to follow up with Hannah in IR for further clarification.
- Consensus of committee is that the student survey results can be considered but it may not be best to use it as foundational in decision making related to modalities.
- Additional conversation pursued related to IR and data collection at SMC.

b. Proposal for modalities communication- Howard Stahl





- Howard opened with statement that it is evident there is confusion about what the modalities “mean” for both students as well as instructors. Also, that as Chair, his goal is to provide students with as much information about course details when they are making their course selection. Both points supporting a call for change in how the modalities are structured.
- Also pointed out by Howard is the current issue of how courses with lecture and lab components are listed twice in the course schedule, with the same section number.
- Howard reiterated the idea that modalities to be grouped as, on-line, on-ground and hybrid.
- Howard proposed a “tagging” system where the features of the class would be communicated. The analogy used was “on” and “off” switches which would be connected to icons letting the student know enhanced information for the course offering.
- Committee members brought up additional points of how this type of tagging system might look. Jason screen shared a related system used at USC. Concerns were raised about how a system like this would be “rolled-out” as semester scheduling happens far in advance. Potential of staging the roll-out and introduction of a new “language”. Key for students is ability to filter searches for class criteria. Jason shared this will be expanded for upcoming semesters.

c. What's Next?

- Joelle prompted committee to consider where we are headed and in what time frame.
- What do we currently *agree* on as a committee?
 1. Remove “arranged” to address 2 section listing of same class.
 2. There is difficulty with the current language around modalities for faculty and students.
 3. Streamline and simply process.
 4. On-line, On-ground and Hybrid. (It will be important to clarify what hybrid is).
 5. Design with generic language to facilitate change over time. (For example, learning management system instead of Canvas)
 6. Having student feedback is KEY to the success of these changes, early and often.
- Joelle proposed that Jason modify his initial presentation to reflect new ideas that have been suggested. Over the winter break Joelle and Jason will work on an initial draft resolution.

- Sheila suggested that within “on-line” it would be important to represent asynchronous and synchronous courses. Sheila shared an idea for modality representation as an infographic that includes 4 areas: on-demand (meet at specific time using video conferencing), on-line (log on for course content on our own time but with specific due dates), on-ground (meet on campus in a classroom) and hybrid (a mix of any of the above).

Modalities – How are we learning at SMC?

	Online	On Demand – we log on for course content on our time but with specific due dates.
	Online	Scheduled – we meet at a specific time online using video conferencing.
	On Ground	On Ground – we meet on campus in a classroom. You know – how we used to meet before Covid.
	Hybrid	A mix of any of the above.

Note: Hybrid might not be used in the schedule, instead both modalities used are listed. Example: On Ground/Scheduled or OnDemand/Scheduled

VII. Adjournment

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 2:30-3:30pm