

# Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

---

## Meeting Minutes

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021  
**Location:** Zoom Session  
**Chairs:** Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)  
**Attendees:** Donna Davis-King, Matt Musselman, Press Nicolov, Redelia Shaw, James Thing, Alicia Villalpando, Caden Gicking (Student Rep),  
**Excused/Absent:** Mike Tuitasi, Nathan Martins

### I. Call to Order: 12:10 PM

### II. Public Comments: None

### III. Updates and Old Business:

- a. AR 5422 Campus Events by St Org's and Clubs
  - i. Bea presented this AR to the Executive Committee
- b. AR 5424 Formation of Student Clubs
  - i. Bea presented this AR to the Executive committee
  - ii. Bea shared there are currently 55 clubs, 73 advisors, 53 of the primary advisors are faculty, 2 are managers, 16 faculty members serve as co-advisors, and 2 classified staff are also co-advisors.
- c. AR 4300 Field Trips and Extracurricular Activities
  - i. Bea presented this despite not having Mike's feedback in the interest of time, so that the AR could be moved forward and informed Exec of this.
- d. AR 4225 Credit Course Repetition
  - i. Bea shared this AR will move forward for second read.
- e. AR 4350 Graduation Requirements
  - i. Bea presented this despite not having committees vote on it since our discussion was supporting one or no courses in the major and after presentation to Department Chairs. She presented it to Exec in the interest of time, so that the AR could be moved forward if voted on and informed Exec of this.
  - ii. Esau wanted to add his protest that Bea should have presented to the Student Affairs Committee. After Student Affairs Committee votes it goes to the Academic Senate Executive. Bea thought that given she's done this before with regulation on Credit for Prior Learning and the support for less than the 50% rule, she knew it had to make agenda or it would not have sufficient time for approval. The Exec met yesterday and it does not need to move forward if the committee does not vote on it.

#### IV. New Business:

- a. AR 4350 Graduation Requirements
  - i. Bea went to the Department Chair meeting on Friday, and presented what SAC's thoughts were.
  - ii. The consensus was that Department Chairs were ok with approving less than 50% of classes from the major. They were going to bring this to their individual departments for feedback. However, some were wondering if there is a minimum required for accreditation or national licensing purposes. Esau answered he did not know the answer, he pointed out that we are not waiving any course requirements, it is a matter of whether the students are taking them at Santa Monica College or another institution.
  - iii. There were no changes other than the less than 50% minimum, to be changed at the discretion of Department Chairs.
  - iv. Bea presented this to the Executive Committee because of this. Esau wanted to register his objection that Bea took this to Exec without having discussions and a vote within the SAC. Esau also noted he understood that Bea wanted to try and implement the AR as soon as possible. However, procedures still need to be followed and the equity issue within this AR still remains as some Department Chairs may be willing to adhere to certain major course requirements compared to others. Esau prefers if this AR is to be moved forward that the SAC review the entire AR.
  - v. James asked what it meant to register an objection. Esau clarified that it solely meant his objection would be recorded in the minutes.
  - vi. Alicia stated that historically Department Chairs have been able to approve course substitutions. When Jeff Shimizu was the Vice President of Academic Affairs, and departments wanted to waive the 50% and permit students to use additional courses he approved of this. Thus, in the past there is precedent that the Vice President of Academic Affairs approves such requests. Therefore, she thinks students should always be allowed to have less than the 50% of major requirements. Esau noted that usually that has been done because of counseling misadvisement of the student, and in select few cases. Alicia further commented given Bea's equity focus she wanted to state her support of moving this forward despite breaking procedure.
  - vii. Bea was under the impression this was a similar situation to another AR, Credit with Prior Learning, she took that AR to Executive due to a time constraint. Esau stated he was merely just objecting to not being consulted. Donna asked what the Executive Committee is. Bea answered it is a committee made up of all the chairs of all Academic Senate Committees. The Executive has to have the first review; if they pass it, then it gets moved forward to the Academic Senate. If the Executive Committee does not agree, it goes back to SAC. Because the Executive Committee met yesterday,

Bea wanted them to review it to see if there were any suggestions for today's SAC meeting and to meet timeline. Esau further clarified he did not object to Bea going to the Department Chairs, the issue is the committee passes AR's before they go to the Exec. He also hears Bea did not make timeline for Exec agenda and left it up to A.S. President to include or not, but there needs to be notice made such as with Credit for Prior Learning there was at least notice given to him. Additionally, Esau will still support this AR – he just wants to make sure we follow procedures.

- viii. Matt asked how this would practically be implemented. Esau answered we have processes in place for certificates and degrees –they are not automatically awarded. However, if we award without petition, we will adhere to the 50%. The students can prior to filing for degree/certificate have gone to department, and then the department has to approve the fewer than 50% policy. This then would be used in the manual evaluation process that takes place when evaluating coursework before granting degrees.
- ix. Bea apologized for bringing it to the Executive Committee. James and Donna both expressed how they appreciate both Bea's and Esau's points. Esau also clarified he understood Bea did not do this with malice, and he will in the end support this. However, he just wanted to state his objection for the record.
- x. The AR was reviewed and some language edits were made with input from Esau, Donna, and Alicia.

***Motion to approve AR 4350, Alicia moved, Donna seconded, (8) Yes, (1) abstention at 12:50 PM.***

- b. AR 4100 Graduation Requirements for Degrees & Cert's
  - i. Language edits were made line-by-line with input from James, Esau, Donna, Alicia, Press and Bea.
  - ii. Esau was wondering when discussing students obtaining an Associate of Arts or Science may satisfy general education requirement with CSU/IGETC and must also complete the local graduation requirements. Donna agreed.
  - iii. Further language edits were made up until 6. Completion of elective units...
  - iv. Donna noted that the next sentence is to introduce us to an elaboration of references to the above.
  - v. Esau told Bea he heard back from Mike regarding feedback of AR 4300, and Mike will e-mail this to Bea tomorrow. Esau read the proposed changes and stated depending on feedback, if minor then it could be moved forward. However, there was discussion and committee needed more time and it was after 2 o'clock and SAC cannot vote via email since that is a violation of the Brown Act. Bea will add to the agenda for next meeting.

## **V. Announcements: None**

## **VI. Adjournment: 2:05 PM**

**For all documents, visit:** <http://www.smc.edu/ACG/AcademicSenate/Committees/Pages/Student-Affairs.aspx>

**Next scheduled meeting:** May 26, 2021

Respectfully Submitted by Malin Bohman

