

# Santa Monica College Student Affairs Committee

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## Meeting Minutes

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021  
**Location:** Zoom Session  
**Chairs:** Beatriz Magallon (Chair), Esau Tovar (Vice Chair)  
**Attendees:** Donna Davis-King, Matt Musselman, Pressian Nicolov, James Thing, Mike Tuitasi, Alicia Villalpando, Caden Gicking (Student Rep), Nathan Martins (Student Rep)  
**Guests:** Estela Ruezga  
**Excused/Absent:** Redelia Shaw

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

### II. Public Comments: Happy Cinco de Mayo

### III. Approval of Minutes: April 21, 2021

*Motion to approve Minutes, Donna moved, Esau seconded, (9) Yes, at 12:16 PM.*

### IV. Updates and Old Business:

#### a. AR 5422 Campus Events by St Org's and Clubs

- i. Bea updated the SAC and informed them she had met with Isaac, Benny, and Mike to go over some revisions from the Academic Senate. They discussed AR 5424, and AR 4300 in addition to AR 5422. Mike wanted SAC to hold off on AR 4300. However, Bea wanted AR 5422, and 5424 to be reviewed today as the PPC committee is moving forward with their regulation on faculty responsibilities for student advising.
- ii. Bea went over the revisions and language edits were made with input from Esau, and Press.

*Motion to approve AR 5422, Esau moved, Donna seconded, (9) Yes, at 12:16 PM.*

#### b. AR 5424 Formation of Student Clubs – Student Club Advising Survey

- i. No major changes, Esau caught a minor language error that was edited.
- ii. Esau inquired about the Student Club Advising Survey results. Bea presented the results, 44% of Faculty, and 14% of Managers answered the survey. When asked if interested in being an advisor 24% said yes, 40% said no, and 25% said maybe. The reluctance to serving as primary advisor was cited to time constraints, and last minute requests. Bea asked Caden for his perspective on finding an advisor. Caden confirmed that it was challenging to find an advisor.

- iii. James asked what the motivation for faculty or administrators would be to serve as an advisor. He also clarified that part-timers cannot serve as primary advisors, and he wondered if part-timers would feel pressured to get involved despite the gap in compensation in order to boost their resume. For post tenure professors would it count in any way from the college's perspective? Mike answered that there is a certain amount of time that full-timers can devote to serve on committees, and clubs. With part-timers it is up to the individual to do advising and they are not compensated. Similarly for managers, they are not compensated.
- iv. Esau asked Bea regarding the PPC's committee taking on the charge of whatever an advisor's duty is. Further if the discussions in SAC and the results of the survey are guiding those discussions and personnel policies. Bea responded that Mitch and Isaac have been helping the PPC on the regulation, however it is very broad and not specific and refers to the three AR's: AR 5424, 5422, and AR 4300.
- v. James pointed out how being involved as a faculty member had impacted his choices in writing his dissertation etc. There are many benefits for students in being involved in campus clubs. Esau asked how do we know that the role of club advisor is valued compared to serving on committees. There may be a disconnect at SMC in recognizing the value of serving as a club advisor. Esau would like to see a call in for support of the club advisor role by the Academic Senate, and what it means as a responsibility.

***Motion to approve AR 5424, James moved, Press seconded, (10) Yes, at 12:22 PM.***

- c. AR 4300\*(\*new #, old #4440) Field Trips & Extracurricular Activities
  - i. Bea went over how the SAC had previously discussed in length regarding what language to include for sleeping arrangements. Mike has taken this AR to senior staff, Lisa Winter and Daniel Phillips so they could weigh in regarding language about safety implications.
  - ii. Mike was going to follow up to see if SAC could receive the feedback before our next meeting. Esau and Bea would like this regulation to be finalized as it's been sitting for a very long time.
- d. AR 4225 Credit Course Repetition
  - i. Bea shared this AR has been approved for first read by the Academic Senate

## **V. New Business:**

- a. AR 4100\* (\*New #, old#4350) Graduation Requirements for Degrees & Cert's
  - i. Bea had included all legal language. Due to the major revisions Esau requested this AR be reviewed line-by-line.
  - ii. Esau pointed out how the meaning of graduation has changed at SMC. Students can complete certificate of Achievement, Associate's, Bachelor's etc., Therefore, he wanted to change the term "Graduation" to degrees and certificate requirements to reflect this change.
  - iii. Further language edits were made with input from Esau. Bea asked if Alicia had feedback. Alicia responded she primarily wanted more simplified language.

- iv. Estela pointed out that Global Citizenship is not required for AD-T's. Language edits were made to reflect this.
- v. Esau suggested students should submit a petition for special consideration to Admissions regarding requesting an exception to the 12-unit residency requirements, rather than petitions going to the President's office. Bea updated the language to reflect this change.
- vi. Esau cautioned to not use course numbers as they may change. He suggested using language regarding requirements from Title 5. Bea asked if upper division courses in English could be used to satisfy competency requirement such as English 1. Esau asked if Estela, Alicia, or Bea could talk about upper division limitations. Esau pointed out some colleges do not have any written communication as part of their graduation requirement, thus having a bachelor's degree does not necessarily mean you have met that requirement. Estela stated she would check if the student has previous coursework that is considered equivalent to English 1, if so, she uses it. However, Bea believed that students with bachelor's degrees automatically satisfy the written English 1 requirement. Despite, perhaps not English 1 exactly but she thinks the student has the competency so why would we require them to take English 1. Esau copied and pasted what the Curriculum handbook in the State had listed. "All students awarded a degree must demonstrate competence in writing by obtaining satisfactory grade in an English course at the level Freshman Composition or by demonstrating competency that is comparable to satisfactory completion of the specified English course, determined locally. Satisfactory completion of an English course at the level of Freshman composition or higher satisfies both this competency requirement and the English Composition GE coursework requirement." Esau however felt it may not be necessary to include all of this detail in the AR. Bea disagreed and thought clarification was indeed important to include in the AR. There is Title 5 language as well.
- vii. Esau asked what the CSU English equivalency exam entails. Bea responded she received this information from another community college. Bea asked if we have a test to determine English equivalency, and why is this listed in Title 5. Esau answered we currently do not have this type of test. Bea asked if this test is like the ELM or the EPT. Esau answered if that indeed is the test in question, this is in no way equivalent of English 1. Esau stated at several CSU's they have upper division writing exams as a requirement for graduation. This is technically above freshman composition.
- viii. Esau suggested further language edits that were implemented.
- ix. Esau referred to language from the Curriculum handbook for the Math requirements. Language edits were made.

- x. Bea asked the SAC what their thoughts were on the 50% major requirement, as she is going to attend a meeting with the Department Chairs. Esau stated he does not have a preference but he wants uniformity. His concern of leaving it up to Department Chairs could mean some Department chairs would exclude students from 50%, whereas other Department Chairs would not. Then this would be an equity issue. However, if no courses are required it would mean students could obtain a degree/certificate without completing any courses in the major at all. The 12-unit residency requirement for the degree would not go away.
- xi. Donna clarified, if there is an extra requirement for the major. SAC had a long discussion a few meetings ago regarding this. Bea wanted to confirm SAC members are ok with no courses for certificate, or just one course in the major. James wanted to re-affirm many other colleges are leaning towards no courses. Bea answered that was correct. Donna suggested since students need to take 12 units to satisfy the residency requirement anyway, we could state that one of those 12 units be a major course. Esau answered we cannot force that, as the 12 units is just for the Associates degree, so if a student wants a certificate of completion, achievement etc., they only have to take those courses specific to certificates, no other courses. Bea also brought up the point Matt had made about how in Math, a student could take the lowest math class just to satisfy the major requirement for math. Thus, defeating the purpose. James mentioned what if a student took the intro to sociology at another college, and the only available course in the major was not easily available in terms of scheduling etc., Esau pointed out that the minimum units in some certificates are 12 units. That would mean one course is 25%, however in some certificates, percentages could be lower than that. So, a percentage standpoint would not be advisable as in some instances this would mean more courses for certain areas. Bea will report back on what the Department Chairs discussion yields.

**VI. Announcements: None**

**VII. Adjournment: 2:00 PM**

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

**Next scheduled meeting:** May 12, 2021

Respectfully Submitted by Malin Bohman