

Imperial Valley College Academic Senate
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 29 April 2020
2:40pm – Zoom

A. Call to Order by the Vice President: 2:40 pm

Roll call via chat list

Present: Mary Lofgren (President), Austen Thelen (Vice President), Ric Epps (President-Elect), Craig Blek, Gilbert Campos, Temo Carboni, Steven Cauchon, Jesus Esqueda, Kristen Gomez, Melani Guinn, Joe Henderson, Eric Lehtonen, Daniel Ortiz, James Patterson, Jose Plascencia, Veronica Soto Figueroa, Jia Sun, Xochitl Tirado, Elizabeth Trevino, Margarita Vizcarra, Michael Heumann (Past President), Christina Tafoya (VP Academic Services), Moises Hernandez (ASG President)

Excused: Jeff Burt

Absent: Helena Quintana, Jose Roman, Ed Scheuerell

Visitors: Jose Carrillo, Melody Chronister, Henry Covarrubius, Hope Davis, Clint Dougherty, Martha Garcia, Daniel Gilison, Lennor Johnson, Dixie Krimm, Betsy Lane, Robert Price, Angie Ruiz, Mardjan Shokoufi, Efrain Silva, Victor Torres, Alexis Villa, Roberta Webster, Oliver Zambrano

B. Visitor's Comments

Austen Thelen reported that BSS recommends that faculty send information to their students clarifying the "Excused Withdrawal" (EW) option available this semester and reminding them of graduation application deadline. Kristen Gomez supported the initiative, and Mary Lofgren suggested that a template message could be developed to ensure consistent information is sent to students.

Jose Carrillo and Oliver Zambrano presented data available on the college's dashboard comparing student enrollments during the campus closure compared with related student enrollment in the recent past. The data indicated that IVC had approximately 1,000 more student withdrawals at this point in the semester compared with similar points in spring of 2019 and 2018.

C. President's Report

Mary Lofgren announced that the Senators would be voting later in the agenda for one of two candidates for Curriculum Committee Chair. James Patterson would email each senator present for the meeting with a quick ballot. Senators were asked to check their email, cast their vote, and return their ballot to both Mary Lofgren and James Patterson.

D. Treasurer's Report

No report.

E. ASG President's Report

No report.

F. Presentations

1. Dr. Tafoya provided an update to the Senate regarding the District's current planning for fall semester 2020. The decision had been made previously to offer only distance education for the summer session. Dr. Tafoya indicated that the District is considering offering mostly distance education for the fall semester. Available data indicates that a second spike in COVID-19 is

expected in mid-November. If IVC were to return to normal for the fall semester, it is possible that the campus would need to be closed again in November. The District's thought is to continue offering distance education for most classes. Exceptions are being considered for Nursing, Allied Health, and Public Safety programs where students need to attend clinicals and other in-person activities. Dr. Tafoya's office is working with deans and department chairs to determine which classes would need to be offered on campus in person. No final decision for the fall semester has been made at this time. Questions were raised about students in outlying areas who do not have reliable Internet access. Dr. Tafoya noted that the District is considering allowing access to the campus parking lots so students can park on campus and access the campus wifi.

G. Consent Agenda (*MS: Lehtonen/Henderson/approved*)

1. Approval of Academic Senate minutes for 1 April 2020
2. Approval of Curriculum Committee recommendations to the President for April 2 and 22, 2020
3. Approval of Curriculum Committee recommendations to the Board for April 8, 2020

H. Action Items

1. First Read: Distance Education Committee in-house certification to teach online (*MS: Trevino/Guinn*). DE Coordinator Xochitl Tirado presented additional information to the Senate regarding the status of in-house certification for IVC instructors. The certification is housed/offered through Canvas. The 8-week program would begin with four weeks of coursework followed by four weeks in which the instructor would develop at least 50% of an online course. The developed course would then be reviewed and potentially approved by the DE Committee.
2. Appointment of Curriculum Committee Chair effective Fall 2020. Mary Lofgren took a moment to encourage all senators to vote. General comments on unrelated matters were made while 17 senators submitted their email ballots to Mary Lofgren and James Patterson. Patterson then announced the appointment of Steven Cauchon to the Curriculum Committee Chair with the vote totals. Mary Lofgren and James Patterson abstained from voting.

I. Discussion Items

1. Institution Set Standards – Jose Carrillo reviewed the requirement of Institution Set Standards for the ACCJC Annual Report and Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER). The draft numbers (percentages or total count numbers) were developed by CART in March as 'starting points' for Academic Senate deliberations.

J. Reports

1. Curriculum – Dixie Krimm reported that the Curriculum Committee recently approved a new Chicano Studies degree.
2. Pathways to Student Success – no report
3. Budget & Fiscal Planning – Michael Heumann reported that at this point no one has a clear picture of the State's budget for next year. The May Revise has been postponed to August.

4. Equivalency – Mary Lofgren reminded the Senate that hiring is currently frozen during the pandemic. Melani Guinn noted that some hiring committees are continuing, but only a small number.
5. Outcomes & Assessment – Dixie Krimm reported from the Outcomes Committee’s April 1st meeting. The committee completed a review of course syllabi for correct SLO information.
6. Distance Education – Xochitl Tirado reiterated Dr. Tafoya’s presentation regarding mostly education for the fall semester. DE and FTLC are providing a lot of professional development related to online teaching.
7. Faculty Teaching & Learning – Steven Cauchon announced a mid-week webinar on plagiarism.
8. Open Educational Resources – No report
9. Senate Elections – James Patterson reported that balloting for At-Large Senate seats remained open for the remainder of the day. The Senate Elections committee would meet to review the results and have a report ready for the next Senate meeting.

K. For the Good of the Order

James Patterson thanked the senators for their participation in the email balloting in today’s meeting.

Dr. Martha Garcia expressed her deep appreciation to faculty for their work to support student learning during the campus closure. She reported that Governor Newsom would allow K-12 schools to re-open in 3-4 weeks, and she had received some pressure to re-open IVC. She reiterated Dr. Tafoya’s presentation that a second COVID-19 peak is anticipated in mid-November. She announced that there will be a community forum on Monday.

Several senators voiced their thanks for Dr. Garcia’s clear leadership during the pandemic.

J. Adjournment

Mary Lofgren adjourned the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and SB 751, minutes of the IVC Academic Senate record the votes of all committee members as follows: (1) Members recorded as absent are presumed not to have voted; (2) the names of members voting in the minority or abstaining are recorded; (3) all other members are presumed to have voted in the majority.
