

SASLC Minutes

3:00pm – 5:00pm February 28, 2022

Zoom Room

RCC Mission Statement: *Riverside City College serves a diverse community of learners by offering certificates, degrees, and transfer programs that help students achieve their educational and career goals. The college strives to improve the social and economic mobility of its students and communities by being ready to meet students where they are, valuing and supporting each student in the successful attainment of their goals and promoting an inclusive, equity-focused environment.*

ATTENDANCE: Carolyn Rosales, Thomas Cruz-Soto, Allan Weyant-Forbes, Albert Jaramillo, Liz Lecona, Lily Martinez, Amanda Vazquez, Benjamin Vargas, Eduardo Perez, Bryan Keene, Michael Love, Rochelle Smith, Tommie Denson, Elizabeth Hilton, Inez Moore, and Mary Renteria

GUESTS: Christi Scott, Delia Tijerina, Payton Williams, and Dr. Adrienne Grayson

ABSENT: Melissa Olivieri, Nini Dyogi, Stacie Eldridge, Justin White

1. Call to order (3:01) – Carolyn Rosales
 - a. Welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Approval of Agenda - (3:00) – Carolyn Rosales.
 - a. Dr. Eddie Perez motioned to approve
 - b. Michael Love seconded the motion to approve
 - b. Abstentions: No Votes: No
 - c. Approved by consensus
3. Approval of Minutes (November 29, 2021) (3:00) – Carolyn Rosales
 - a. Ben Vargas motioned to approve
 - b. Amanda Vazquez seconded the motion to approve
 - c. Abstentions: No Votes: No
 - d. Approved by consensus
4. Land Acknowledgement – Bryan Keene reported to SASLC that the verbiage regarding the Indian pronunciation on the tribal names are correct reflecting on the November 2021 Minutes. Bryan had some conversations with RCCD Rebeccah Goldware over the winter term about moving forward for communication regarding the land acknowledgement in the community partnerships and engagement meetings. Plans are having future connections/conversations meetings with local tribal elder about what it means to make a land acknowledgement whose presence stretches back in time and remains vibrant today.

We need to think about what does this mean when we acknowledge land and the presence in relation to the equity work that many, if not all of us are committed to doing. Another discussion to bring up is ‘what are we doing for our indigenous community of students?’ In reference building upon the land which the buildings in Riverside and the Inland Empire has really expanded because of black, brown, and Asian cultures throughout time. How does the land

acknowledgement honor our indigenous community, commitments of people of color across the community? Bryan is not a native but has done the research to make this awareness for all the community. He has a number of indigenous colleagues that have been encouraging non-natives to do this heavy lifting to learn the history and to encourage others to do this work on learning and sharing this information. Chair C. Rosales is looking forward from a statement to come from the district acknowledging Bryans reports.

5. Moment of Silence to Honor Dr. Oliver Thompson SAS Member – Chair C. Rosales had asked members to take a few minutes of silence to reflect on Dr. Oliver Thompson’s passing. He will truly be missed. Dr. O. Thompson was a person who gave, contributed and shared his wisdom, input, and awareness for all students, staff and faculty. Dr. Perez stated “Oliver was a great friend and mentor who is going to be sorely missed.”

6. New Business / Action Items

a. NACCC Findings: Matterng and Affirmation - Chair C. Rosales reported that this was a discussion during FLEX and two areas of information is located in the Equity section, and the Equity Spotlight areas on the website. The first one is the key findings which is the one basically giving an overview of the findings when the consultants came and reported out. Surveys were conducted and then the report was written with overall findings for RCC.

The FLEX session was focused on this area of matterng and affirmation. One important section to review is the statistics that of 73% white students were indicated, they mostly matter or strongly matter in classes with white professors. 62% of students of color indicated they mostly matter or strongly matter in the classes with white professors.

Overall matterng and making students feel that they belong, and that they are wanted, and heard is a very important point to make. A lot of the students wanted their professors, faculty, administrators, and classified professionals whenever they interact on campus to be human with them. Students want to feel that they matter. The document shows the overall summary, the second part was the students report.

A few areas for SAS to focus on would be our attention about the sub-committees on the recommended action items. Assess campus identities, bill of standards on teaching, engaging, raising consciousness, and classroom practices. Everyone is encouraged to read the documents Chair C. Rosales sent and continue to let your students know ‘that they matter’. All SAS members are encouraged to review this link to get a better idea on the FLEX presentation: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1VeaT1ycbGKngGy1MLr6vqUZz-xzHilgqV7H7mbXNmSQ/edit#slide=id.g11203a83dfa_0_114

Next month’s meeting can discuss and continue as an agenda item the conversations from the reporting findings shared at FLEX.

b. CAGP Webinar Recaps – Student Financial Stability and A Strategy for Retention and Completion - Chair C. Rosales reported that the webinar introduced a few things and also posted some questions to think about as we move forward regarding students. The definition of financial stability which was broadened beyond what we consider the ability to pay for tuition and books, but also to be able to cover basic needs. Students to be able to make informed choices about their education and career. To improve their economic and social mobility, not just financial stability but awareness education. Continue successfully right and being financially stable throughout.

A few colleges came to speak: Alamo College, San Antonio, Texas spoke about student ‘Clothes Closet’ a resource center network as a Central Hub. Discussion on the basic needs items the students don’t have to worry so much about the financial aspect. Mt. Sac spent a lot of time talking about their food pantry and experiences which they hire students to work at the pantries. They call their food pantry “The Store” because of the stigma the connotations that are attached to names. Signs of various languages not just English is welcoming to the students to let them know they are welcomed.

A resource of information can be found by viewing Resource Connect at: www.auntbertha.com Key in the zip code a lot of various sources for students to access. Another topic for thought was “How to normalize these opportunities for the students who don’t ask for help.”

Additional thought what to focus on for the best practices can we undo in order to facilitate the process for students to access aid? What can be the questions and discussions we can continue to have, things that we want to disseminate to the various sub-committees to focus their attention on? This can be a continued conversation to revisit. Amanda Vazquez suggested cards to be printed such as a wallet/business size with information on locations, phone numbers, or emails for students to access. i.e. Career Closet. Dean Cruz-Soto suggested updating more information the “Chatbot” site.

Amanda Vazquez thought that the elements and the questions within the forms be further reviewed so that it is much easier way of gathering what the students’ needs are. ASRCC A. Jaramillo suggested to change the name of the pantry food bags, which currently is read “Hungry Tigers”. Chair C. Rosales will do some research and report back to SAS on these suggestions.

Professor E. Perez suggested that when the new Dean of Equity comes to RCC this might be a start for that person to sort out the checks and balances of all forms, information etc. for student needs. Dean Cruz-Soto thought that inviting the new Dean to a SAS meeting will also be a need for that person to get them in the right direction on priorities etc.

- c. RCC Equality in Women’s Sports - Chair C. Rosales reported that ABC news was at the college recently and reported that the RCC Women’s Basketball team was not given access to the Gym which is completely different from which the Men’s team receive. SAS members were asked to keep note if anyone hears or knows anything that SAS can help support the Women’s sports for accessing equality access to the Gym at all competitions as the men receive.

Director Payton Williams – guest, reported he has had conducted meetings with the Women’s Basketball team and listening to all their concerns. RCC will always strive to provide the best experience possible for all student athletics regardless of gender. The next steps are working within the processes at the college and within the District to make sure that we are meeting the needs of our student athletes but also meeting the standards of our college and the District when it comes to Equality and Equity and balance for all students.

- d. Revisiting SAS Subcommittees – Professor E. Perez reported that being a member in SAS is also an expectation to serve in a sub-committee. Chair C. Rosales stated in SAS we are the larger body that reports to EPOC and by being in a sub-committee we can address specific

areas to focus and report back. Once a goal is clarified we can move along and enter the information on Microsoft Teams for reports and assignments.

Chair C. Rosales shared that in the “To Do Tasks” will take you directly to the sub-committees. If anyone needs access, email Chair C. Rosales. The Strategic Plan is a document that everyone can review and move forward on the goals labeled i.e. 1.1, 1.2 etc. When you review the goals, they are directly related the Institutional Priority Goals and Objectives of the campus (RCC).

7. Subcommittee Reports – Chair C. Rosales reported that the sub-committees can report out on a general overview or several items with these 3 suggestions in reporting such as: past, now, and follow up with questions/answers.

a. Integrated Student Support – (Dr. Inez Moore) – reported that the committee is reviewing a few of new assignments that they will be focusing on. The committee has had discussion on the areas to build or align with Integrated Student Support on campus. The committee is trying to gather the necessary elements on the ‘charge’ and make sure they are effective. Dr. E. Perez suggested for any updated polices or changes if the committee wanted to address one way of policy change is to bring to SAS and then SAS can make up the decision to address to EPOC for approvals/changes. The sub-committees were formed per Accreditation and then the particular goals came in place from the Strategic Plans within Guided Pathways.

Discussion on the Strategic Planning Leadership Councils in reference to the Constitution and Bylaws dated 2018 on the sub-committees. Chair C. Rosales will address to EPOC on the clarification or charges regarding the sub-committees and status of completion/assignments and purpose to continue with sub-committees group meetings.

Dr. Grayson is more than willing to be more connected within the dual enrollment students on the sub-committee connection.

b. Student Life - (Dr. Thomas Cruz-Soto) – Dr. T. Cruz-Soto reported that on the Teams site attachments are emailed to the Student Life members in reference to Student Services on the charges for every semester or the year. This year the committee has been tasked with identifying their recruitment numbers specifically for African American and Latino males.

The sub-committee has been doing a great job even during the pandemic on representation for these students. African male students have fallen short to a degree on recruitment, the group is trying to work on the percentages to get higher and the numbers up. There was data that 21% of male Californians are head of households as single parents in the State of California. On campus there is 74% Latino/Latina/Latinx, the focus is recruit more African males.

The committee is also reviewing the transgender student community, currently there is no data to report. The purpose and scope are to do something for everyone on recruitment with information flyers/programs. 5 attachments have been uploaded on the Team site regarding the meetings and accomplishments.

Dr. E. Perez explained to SAS that when the Team Site was first implemented and sub-committees it had the goals for the different groups, and different projects by adding SAS members into these different areas for organization and improvements/changes for the students. The projects can be organized for any type of changes or accomplishments. Amanda

Vazquez is willing to be a sub-committee member on any sub-committees especially the interest of community engagement areas.

- d. Student Equity (Ben Vargas) – Ben Vargas reported he would like to have more connections as well within the diversity and dual enrollment committees. An updated flow chart would be helpful for all members and including the goals/assignments completed and then ‘to do’. Dr. E. Perez agreed on having an updated flow chart with the responsibility of SAS and clarity.

All recommendations can still be presented to EPOC and PLT. Co-Chair A. Weyant-Forbes agreed that Dr. A. Grayson information opens up the dual enrollment for all different types of working groups on the campus and for the needed support.

8. Open Forum –

Dr. Inez Moore reported that in connection with ASRCC A. Jaramillo a “Block Party” /Rush Day event is tomorrow March 1, 2022. Representatives from the Student Life, Student Services and from the Academic Support along with the Engagements Center and Student clubs will be present. In support of the students everyone is asked to wear some type of RCC colors or shirts and just say “hi” to the students. The in-person event will be very rewarding for them to see all staff, faculty, classified. ASRCC A. Jaramillo mentioned food vendors will be attending and an evening Club Rush event planned for Wednesday.

Co-Chair A. Weyant-Forbes will post a flyer into the Chat Box on the LGBTQIA2+ student hours for spring. Location is at MLK 304 is opened everyday of the week with varying hours. Expanded hours TBD, everyone is welcomed. Computers, snacks, On and Off Campus Resource information is available for the students. This is hosted by faculty and staff, please share this with your students.

Ben Vargas reported that in connection with partnerships with the associations of RCC, the former Latino Leadership Network Club and along with the Office of the President, Delores Huerta will be speaking on March 30th to observe Cesar Chavez Day. Ms. Huerta will be at RCC for a virtual and webinar event. More information will be announced soon.

ASRCC A. Jaramillo reported that an email from the college was sent to students for more information about LGBTQIA2+ students on our campus. Responses will help us advocate for additional resources and community needs at the college.

Co-Chair A. Weyant-Forbes reminded SAS at 5:00pm today in honor of Black History Month will be a guest speaker, Justin Hudson, and encouraged everyone that would like to join to attend via zoom.

9. Other Announcements –

- a. Next meeting: Monday, March 28, 2022

10. Adjourn 4:45 pm

In order to streamline and reduce copies being made, all reference documents will be made available electronically prior to this meeting.

Minutes submitted by Mary Renteria