

Riverside City College Academic Senate
October 7, 2024 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM • Hall of Fame

3:02 I. Call to Order at 3:02 pm, quorum met

Roll Call

Academic Senate Officers (Term ending 2026)

President: Jo Scott-Coe
Vice President: Ajené Wilcoxson
Secretary-Treasurer: Micherri Wiggs

Department Senators (Term ending 2025)

Applied Technology: Patrick Scullin
Behavioral Science: Eddie Perez (not present)
Business, Law & CIS: Skip Berry
Communication Studies: Lucretia Rose
English: Christine Sandoval
History/Philosophy/Humanities/Ethnic Studies: Daniel Borses
Library & Learning Resources: Sally Ellis
Life Sciences: Lisa Thompson-Eagle
Mathematics: Evan Enright
Music: Steve Mahpar (not present)
World Languages: Araceli Calderón

Department Senators (Term ending 2026)

Art: Will Kim
Chemistry: Leo Truttmann (not present)
Cosmetology: Rebecca Kessler
Counseling: Sal Soto
Dance and Theatre: Jason Buuck
Economics/Geography/Political Science: Kendralyn Webber (not present)
Kinesiology: Jim Elton (not present)
Nursing Education: Lee Nelson (arrived 3:38pm)
Physical Science: James Cheney
School of Education & Teacher Preparation: Emily Philippsen (not present)

Associate Faculty Senator

Lindsay Weiler

Ex-Officio Senators

TLLC: LaShonda Carter (not present)
ASC: Jacquie Lesch
EPOC: Wendy McKeen
GEMQLC: Wendy McKeen
RDASLC: Patrick Scullin
SAS LC: Vacant
Curriculum: Kelly Douglass (not present)
Parliamentarian: Sal Soto

RCCD Faculty Association

Emily Philippsen (not present)
Araceli Calderon

Administrative Representatives

College President: Claire Oliveros
VP Academic Affairs: Lynn Wright
VP Business Services: Kristine DiMemmo (not present)
VP Planning and Development: Kristi Woods (not present)
VP Student Services: Vacant

ASRCC Representative

Vacant

Recorder of Minutes

Sydney Minter

Guest

- Janet Lehr, Professor, Business, Law & CIS + Distance Education/POCR Review
- Heather Smith, Distinguished Professor, Life Sciences + Distance Education
- Dennis Rogers, Professor, Kinesiology
- Melissa Harmon, Professor Chemistry + Faculty Development Committee
- Virginia White, Professor Life Sciences + Program Review Committee
- Shari Yates, Dean, Career, Technical Education
- Courtney Carter, Professor, Counseling + Guided Pathways

3:02 II. Approval of the Agenda – Approved by consent

3:02 III. Approval of the Minutes – Tabled until October 21

3:07 IV. Public Comments – No public comments

3:12 V. Liaison Reports**A. RCCD Faculty Association**

- Issue with some part time faculty dropped from healthcare because they were supposed to submit a form in which they were given a notification. Faculty association was able to negotiate a positive resolution to this for those faculty.
- Another recent issue has been with new full time tenure track faculty hires who chose to get paid on a 12-month cycle but were paced on a 10-month cycle. An investigation is being done, and more details will follow on this matter.
- Faculty are encouraged to read the faculty association minutes.

B. College President

- Successful homecoming week & weekend with athletics
- Productive meeting ASRCC about some of their activities for Fall

- Hoping to announce later this week about the incoming interim Vice President of Student Services – this will bring some much-needed relief to our college administration and student services.
- RCC team that was sent to Ghana for the 2024 All African Diaspora Education Summit (ADES) is in route back to California. We will next think about how to leverage and support their work. Updates to follow.
- The team that went to the ESCALA conference had a positive experience.
- President interfaced with the Growing Inland Achievement (GIA) group.
- College Corps recently won an award for their work.
- We need as many enlisted volunteers and supporters to continue to bring awareness about the importance of voting. Thank you to those who have been hosting speakers, events, and participating in the upcoming town hall meeting. Be on the look out for voter ballot parties.

C. ASRCC

- Vacant

VI. Committee or Council Updates

- A. EPOC faculty co-chair Wendy McKeen will provide a brief update about strategic planning
- EPOC had its first meeting on Monday, September 30
 - Please be mindful of calendar invites. Please respond to them.
 - EPOC discussed the possibility of a tri-chair model, adding a classified professional to sit with faculty and administrative co-chairs. Adding this position for equal representation from all employee constituents on campus.
 - Update on accreditation: Leadership councils are all participating in providing evidence for the ISER (Institutional Self Evaluation Report) based on the accreditation standard that aligns with the leadership council.
 - General discussion on making EPOC more efficient
 - Implementing report outs at the end of the meeting to avoid having to ask for extension of time. Report outs can be emailed to members if time does not permit.
 - Brainstorming and working on specific tasks for each leadership council. This will include looking at charges and rewriting charges.
 - We are in the dreaming phase of updating the strategic plan. The idea is to use equity protocols and break into smaller groups to figure out what assets we have and how they can be utilized in overcoming barriers. We need to gather as much information as possible as we begin to write the next 5-year plan.
 - Next EPOC meeting is Monday, 10/14/24. EPOC meetings are open and anyone is welcome. Feel free to reach out.
- B. RDAS faculty co-chair Patrick Scullin will share information about proposed RCC list-servs

- District marketing communications committees is working to revise and update the listservs. The old system required manual additions/subtractions to the lists but the new system will allow for automatic inclusion based on hiring.
- Main question: Do we want the faculty list moderated or unmoderated? Other constituent groups can make the decision to have their list moderated or not as well. The default seems to be unmoderated.
- Discussion Points:
 - Clarification on what moderation is?
 - Part-time list servs – What is the affect going to be on whom is doing the moderating??
 - Anything on the old list serves would go away because the information is outdated.
 - Clarifications: Would like to see some discussion on the pros and cons of moderated versus unmoderated. The biggest question is who is moderating the list and how are they doing it.
 - Would RCC be paying someone to moderate the list serv?
 - There is a package of 5 criteria that is part of the draft documents. Is that the standard for moderation that would be applied or is there additional criteria? The list is kind of the rule of unmoderated behavior. The only thing that would need to be enforced is whether or not one is subscribed to the list
 - Who is allowed to send out email(s) from the list serve? The only individuals stated are district personnel and it does not reference anyone else. Answer: This is possibly district language that was left in RCC College document.
 - There will be a separate list server for the entire campus.
 - Seems like we need to understand the difference between a listserv and a distribution list.
- Details to follow from RDAS – To be continued, likely in November.

C. RCC Distance Ed (DE) Chair Heather Smith will provide a brief committee update (information)

- Janet Lehr introduced to discuss POCR – Peer Online Course Review, a workgroup of DE.
 - RCC is now a POCR “teaching college” with the state CVC OEI. To become one, 4 faculty volunteered to complete the reviewer course.
 - 4 faculty completed the program reviewer course; 3 out of the 4 faculty completed have also completed the @ONE design course.
 - Looked at 4 capstone courses October 2023 through May of 2024 to have our own POCR and be a teaching college. Capstone process is slightly different than the actual process because of the nature of the process. The 4 courses were those of the reviewers in this case. This was a strong suggestion of the state CDC OEI representative because reviewers have the most experience. Reviewers were not allowed to review their own course. Courses reviewed and badged

with the state CVC OEI are: Russian 11, CIS94, COM12, PSY 1. Courses will be listed on the CVC exchange.

- RCC POOCR team is now waiting to see if this process will be institutionalized so that reviewers can continue to be compensated. This initial project included compensation for the reviewers.
- There is currently a published process so that faculty can determine if they are ready to be reviewed by a POOCR team.
- Question: Can DE develop a definition for “HyFlex” and bring it back to the senate for discussion?
- Reminder that the DE Camp is currently halted due to a cease and desist letter from the faculty association. However, there is a help sheet designed by the district DE committee. For faculty that still need assistance with Canvas courses, please reach out to district representatives from your division and utilize contact information and district resources. Please share the help sheet with your departments.
- Request for DE and all committees: Please add dates to forms that are being shared so that they are easier to use as evidence in the accreditation process.
- DE would like to better understand if they will remain an advisory body to senate or if they will be come a standing committee.

VII. Ongoing Business

- A. President Scott-Coe or designee will lead a discussion to record notes and feedback on the draft guide on AI (Artificial Intelligence)
 - Senate will be talking about AI draft guide on October 21st as well.
 - Any additional information can be beneficial to our discussion when we take things back to the District Academic Senate in November. So far, some discussion points gathered from departments include:
 - The guide reads more like a report than a guide.
 - What has been provided is already a historical document given the quickly changing nature of AI.
 - Is it possible there are state level grants to do things like this?
 - The language about “catching students” borders on entrapment.
 - Recommendation to not call out by brand name (e.g., Chat GBT) but instead to refer to “generative AI.”
 - The [U.N. Report on A.I.](#) discusses the enormous environmental impacts of A.I. usage (we do have a sustainability goal/mission). It also discusses not just racial bias, but a widening of the digital divide given how few countries contribute to A.I.
 - The UN report also discusses the environmental impact AI has on our energy sources
 - Could we have an online resource center that is regularly updated? Grants are available for pilot projects
 - The term for AI should be more generic/broad to include tools in multiple categories (e.g. “generative AI” rather than “Chat GPT”).

- Recommended source: [Algorithms of Oppression](#) (available at RCC Library) which provides a closer look at algorithmic bias by a Dr. Sophia Noble, a professor at UCLA; she has been a leader in raising the flag about reinforcement of racial biases
 - We must approach AI with the proper caveats in place and be very aware especially if we are teaching it as a tool in the classroom.
 - We also need to pay attention to and understand the growing digital divide that AI creates from an international perspective

B. The RCCAS leadership team facilitate a discussion of the RCCAS Bylaws for annual review and update (second read)

- It is a best practice to review bylaws every year for committees, making sure that they reflect what the committees are actually doing.
- Last year, RCCAS focused on cleaning up the bylaws to reflect current status and included public comments.
- In light of going into strategic planning, we want to be precise as possible for things that will cue up the Brown Act.
- As part of this year's process, conducting a committee audit could be useful and would help with the strategic planning process. An audit of committees/councils could get us to start thinking about everything each is doing and how we can move forward.
- We will need to be more precise with language and practices, especially when a committee/council/workgroup qualifies as Brown Act. (Are you a council? Are you a subcommittee? Standing committee? Etc.)
- Discussion points shared:
 - EPOC only meets once a month; there is some hope of changing that.
 - We can consider new ways of thinking on how to get tasks completed besides having a meeting.
 - EPOC would like to change meetings so that more work can be done.
 - What happened to Student Equity Committee (SEC)? As the new Dean of Equity, Dr. Newson, is coming on board, there will be more to come on this.
 - Part time- senator cycle and elections need to be clarified in the bylaws review.

VIII. New Business

A. Secretary-Treasurer Wiggs will facilitate a discussion about the timeline and process for selecting Distinguished Faculty Lecturer

- Call for nominations was sent out from the Academic Senate email.
- The selected Distinguished Faculty Lecturer (DFL) delivers a 30–40-minute talk at each of the 3 colleges in a specific area of study. They receive a 0.2 to offset the labor in preparation. They also have traditionally addressed the graduating class at their home college.
- Self-nominations are okay. We've already received 2 nominations.

- Past practice seemed to include the submission of a written proposal for the nomination process to later be reviewed by the Senate.
 - Cut-off for nominations on October 14, 2024.
 - The 20 voting (approx.) RCCAS members get to decide who is going to represent us for this 3-year cycle.
 - The event last year was not well attended, even though it was an enlightening presentation. One challenge was that the date of the event was finalized and shared late– our goal is to remedy that this spring with earlier advertisement.
 - Our timeline is a little behind. We should have completed the nomination and selection process last Spring; RCCAS needs to keep that in mind for our next cycle.
 - **M/S/C (Soto/ Borses)** DFL candidates will be invited to speak to RCCAS on October 21 to enhance the written description they already provided and answer questions. Total time allotted for this activity at the meeting will be 20 minutes. Each candidate will be encouraged to speak for 2 – 5 minutes, dependent on how many people are nominated. Passed with one abstention from senator Weiler.
- B. Ratification of new and ongoing appointments: President Scott-Coe or designee will present candidates (action)
- a. CCN Phase II Convenings: Faculty Nominees: We are in phase 2 and the state is holding convening in October, November, and December. Let's push people to submit their nominations so Academic Senate (AS) can send them to the state. Currently, 5 disciplines have provided names for ratification. **M/S/C (Sandoval/Weiler)** to ratify the following for submission to the appropriate state CCN groups. Passed unanimously.
 - Amber Lappin – Child Development
 - Laura Greathouse – Anthropology
 - Brock Russell – Astronomy
 - Stacey Eldridge, Mike Dahl, and Leo Truttmann – Chemistry
 - b. SAS: Fine and Performing Arts (FPA) faculty representative. **M/S/C (Borses/Kim)** to ratify the FPA preference to have Maggie Worsley finish out the term of Brian Keen on SAS. Passed unanimously.
 - c. Global Learning & Study Abroad (GLSAC) faculty representative: One self-nomination was received. **M/S/C (Rose/Nelson)** to ratify Chie Ishihara to finish the term of Tonya Huff (ends June 2025). Passed unanimously.
 - d. District Noncredit Committee faculty representatives: **M/S/C (Calderon/Thompson-Eagle)** to have Carla Reible and Amber Lappin represent RCC as voting members and Kathy Nabours to attend as a non-voting member of the District Noncredit Committee. Passed unanimously.
 - e. Faculty Co-Chair for SAS: Position still vacant

IX. Officer Reports

A. Secretary

- Friendly reminder. You'll notice in senate minutes and the sign-in sheet that we have included names as well as terms for all senators. Would like to suggest doing this at councils/committees/workgroups so that committees/councils can take more direct responsibility for their membership rosters.
- A holistic committee audit may assist with keeping committees and its members up to date on the duration of their assignments.

B. President

- Following up with bookstore management since last meeting about questions of book and course materials markups. The other senate presidents are also investigating, as is our CMAC committee. Scott-Coe reached out to VC Bishop to make him aware of these concerns as well, particularly as they impact our students reliant on vouchers. This will be an item at district academic senate in October, possible agenda item for us TBD.
- Working with Senator Thompson-Eagle regarding academic honesty and student conduct discussion item for Oct. 21 or Nov. 4 meeting. Senator Calderon has also recommended we include the BIRT/Cares form information. If your department has concerns in these areas related to academic matters, please have them reach out to me as well.
- DLC sent out its memorandum of HR details to Dr. Isaac last Monday. As of today, there has been no response. DLC will be discussing next steps at their meeting this Thursday.
- The Area D virtual meeting will be next Friday, Oct. 18. Scott-Coe will be attending with VP Wicoxson. Hopefully the resolutions packet will be ready to share for senate feedback at our Oct. 21 meeting well in advance of Plenary. VP Wilcoxson is delegated as our RCCAS voting representative for Fall Plenary because Scott-Coe will not be able to attend.
- Meetings this Friday: Both for the District's 25 year plan and the equivalency workgroup. More soon.
- Security audit: Senate leadership is aware that faculty were contacted last Wednesday for focus groups on Friday (Oct 4) and this coming Friday (Oct 11). This is discouraging as it comes a month after initially reaching out to recruit faculty back in August for September dates. Scott-Coe asked for that other dates/times be made available to ensure faculty in-person input in proportion to administrative input over the summer months.
- Senate leadership will be reaching out to form a small ad hoc workgroup of 3-5 to take a look at the bylaws. Please contact officers if you are interested.

C. Vice President

- Senate spotlight coming in November. If your department has an impactful program lead by faculty, we want to celebrate this at the Board.
- ESCALA – One of the best conferences Wilcoxson has been to. Focus was on building culturally responsive educational environments.

- Please remind your departments about Distinguished Faculty Lecturer nominations. This is a tremendous honor that we have the opportunity to bestow on a faculty colleague. Emails have been sent out for the past two weeks via Academic Senate email, and another reminder went out today. Nominations are due Oct. 14 at 11:59 PM.

X. Open Hearing:

- Reminder that senate is not meant to discuss open hearing items when they are shared since they are not agendaized for discussion.
- All individuals who went to Ghana returned back to campus 2 hours ago.
- NANDI was a fulfilling conference. Student representatives attended in addition to faculty. More information to follow.
- Faculty who teach hybrid courses are supposed to meet regularly but students are reporting this is not always happening. Encouragement to look at this modality and the definitions. We should clarify the language that is being used to call out those courses.
- Successful animation convention; thank you to everyone who was involved.
- Let's invite the new Dean of Equity to introduce themselves at upcoming Senate meeting.
- Library is out of laptop computers to loan students. Would like this added to future agenda for discussion.
- Door count of library is 88,000 showing it is a very popular resource and the center is being well utilized.
- RCC needs to add changing tables in the restrooms for parenting students. The limited lactation spaces were also pointed out.

XI. Learn, Share, Do

- Please share the DE help sheet with departments.
- Please talk with your departments regarding the AI guide.
- Please be intentional about thinking about the committees/councils/workgroups you are part of and where they fit (or should fit) in our structure.
- Please remind full-time faculty Distinguished Faculty Lecturer closes on October 14th. Encourage faculty to nominate themselves and remind them:
 - They'll give a 30-40 minute talk at each college in an area they study.
 - The role comes with a 0.2 reassigned time.
 - Likely to be invited to address the graduating class at faculty member's home college.
- Please work towards publishing agendas and minutes for ALL committees/councils/workgroups including names and term dates of participants to create wide spread clarity and shared responsibility.
- Please be open to participate on ad hoc senate bylaws work group.

XII. Adjourn at 4:39 pm

M/S/C (Borses- Thompson Eagle)