

Riverside City College Academic Senate
November 18, 2024 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM • Hall of Fame

3:00 I. Call to Order at 3:01 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 (arrived 3:45pm)

Behavioral Science: Eddie Perez

Business, Law & CIS: Skip Berry (not present)

Communication Studies: Lucretia Rose

English: Christine Sandoval

History/Philosophy/Humanities/Ethnic Studies: Daniel Borses (not present)

Library & Learning Resources: Sally Ellis

Life Sciences: Lisa Thompson-Eagle

Mathematics: Evan Enright (not present)

Music: Steve Mahpar

World Languages: Araceli Calderón

Department Senators (Term ending 2026)

Art: Will Kim

Chemistry: Leo Truttmann

Cosmetology: Rebecca Kessler

Counseling: Sal Soto

Dance and Theatre: Jason Buuck

Economics/Geography/Political Science: Kendralyn Webber

Kinesiology: Jim Elton

Nursing Education: Lee Nelson (not present)

Physical Science: James Cheney

School of Education & Teacher Preparation: Emily Philippsen

Associate Faculty Senator

Lindsay Weiler

Ex-Officio Senators

TLLC: Lashonda Carter (not present)

ASC: Jacquie Lesch

EPOC: Wendy McKeen (arrived 3:13pm)

GEMQLC: Wendy McKeen (arrived 3:13pm)

RDASLC: Patrick Scullin (arrived 3:45pm)

SAS LC: Vacant

Curriculum: Kelly Douglass (departed 4pm)

Parliamentarian: Sal Soto

RCCD Faculty Association

Emily Philippsen

Administrative Representatives

College President: Claire Oliveros (departed 3:47pm)

VP Academic Affairs: Lynn Wright

VP Business Services: Kristine DiMemmo (not present)

VP Planning and Development: Kristi Woods (not present)

VP Student Services: Thomas Cruz Soto, Interim (not present)

ASRCC Representative

Vacant

Recorder of Minutes

Sydney Minter

Guests

Natalie Halsell, Professional Development Coordinator, Planning & Development

Kevin Wurtz, Student Health & Psychological Services

Maurice Bowers, Student Equity Grant Specialist, Equity/Inclusion/Engagement

Breanne Soto, Life Reporter, RCC Viewpoints

3:05 II. Approval of the Agenda: M/S/C: (Soto/Calderon) to approve the agenda with minor modification moving item VIB to VIID. Passed unanimously.

3:05 III. Approval of the Minutes: Oct. 21 and Nov. 4

- M/S/C:(Phillipsen/Sandoval) to approve the October 21 minutes. Passed unanimously.
- M/S/C: (Soto/Elton) to approve the November 4 minutes. Passed unanimously.

3:06 IV. Public Comments

- Kevin Wurtz, Mental Health Supervisor at RCC, shared mental health resources and supports for faculty and students.

3:10 V. Liaison Reports

A. RCCD Faculty Association

- Faculty Association had a Town Hall meeting last Friday that was well attended.
- Perris Skills Center - Not a lot of transparency from the district in relation to the project and faculty are experiencing frustration about that.
- 65 people are taking the golden handshake, 23 are faculty.
- Faculty are encouraged to read the weekly Faculty Association minutes about retirement and other pertinent information.

B. College President

- Thank you to those who attended the 1st LHSS cozy corner coffee chat. There were 30 plus individuals who participated and we appreciated hearing the students' questions, thoughts and ideas.

- On December 5th or 12th, the president will meet in La Casa and have a conversation with the HACU (Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities) team that participated at the National Convening.
- Save the date: Tuesday, December 10th from 12pm-2pm for retiree winter gathering in the cafeteria. Thank you to all the faculty that took the golden handshake spring and mid semester.

C. ASRCC

- No report at this time.

VI. Committee or Council Updates

- A. Curriculum co-chair Kelly Douglass will provide an update about timely curriculum items (information)
- Two massive changes due to legislation
 - Every ADT had to have the language updated to reflect Cal GETC as opposed to CSU or UC general education. There was also a local change where any ADT that had Math, or PSY/SOC had to be edited because PSY 48 increased units. – These were all approved in a special DCC (District Curriculum Committee) meeting. All will go to the BOT (Board of Trustees) in December.
 - AB1111 (Common Course Numbering, CCN) is a law that compels the community colleges to have common course numbering system shared amongst the California Community Colleges. The State Chancellor's Office and ASCCC saw this as an opportunity to forge new alignment between community colleges and the CSUs/UCs. The focus was on easier articulation of courses from one institution to another. We have to align 76 or more classes by 2027, which will be addressed in different phases. The timeline is very difficult, as we know. The CSUs and UCs are under no legal timeline and they do not have CORs (Course Outlines of Record) as we do in the CC system.
 - Phase 1 is 6 classes in fall 2025; phase 2 is 20 classes fall of 2026 and phase 3 is 50 classes.
 - We are in the middle of CCN phase II at the state level. Group 1 met the last week in October, Group 2 is meeting this week, and Group 3 will be meeting the first week in December.
 - ASCCC is asking faculty to weigh in on a post survey for the course template in addition to the pre-survey already requested. The survey opened Nov. 14 and will stay open until Dec. 4. It is suggested to include department chairs when sending out the survey, beyond just the senate president and curriculum representatives.
 - Part one of the template document is required language and part two is any local additional information.
 - There were questions about what will happen with older course articulations, and how associate faculty can contribute to the process.

VII. Ongoing Business

- A. VP Wilcoxson and the Senate Nominating Committee will lead a vote on replacement for RCCAS Vice President (term of Spring 2025-Spring 2026) (action)

- M/S/C (Perez/Weiler) to accept Star Taylor as the VP of Academic Senate, completing VP Wilcoxson's term, from Spring 2025 to Spring 2026. Passed unanimously with 20 votes.
- B. EPOC faculty co-chair Wendy McKeen will review the committee's proposed updates to Tiger Pride Values and a proposed tri-chair model (second read, discussion, + action)
- Tiger Pride Values: Changed "and minoritized" to "or minoritized" in the equity portion of the Tiger Values. Discussion about using "historically excluded" for future edits. Concern expressed about RCC needing to embody the values. M/S/C: (Sandoval/Calderon) to approve the Tiger Pride Values as presented. Passed unanimously.
 - Proposed Tri-Chair Model: M/S/C (Weiler/Thompson-Eagle) to add a classified tri-chair to join the EPOC administrative and faculty chairs. Passed unanimously.
- C. VP Wilcoxson will share a report about ASCCC Fall 2024 Plenary (information + discussion)
- ASCCC final resolutions should be out in time for the final meeting RCCAS meeting. Highlights offered:
 - Adopt using outcomes for the course outline of record--failed
 - Advocacy to restore student language in English and math--passed
 - Support of faculty for the implementation of AB1111--passed
 - Nutrition science as Cal GETC passed
 - Designation for an official Native American holiday for California -- passed by acclimation
 - Encouraging transparency about automatic bill practices in course material access--passed
 - UC transferability of English for speakers of other languages and all communication courses- -passed
 - Acknowledge (EOPS) Extend Opportunities Programs and Services and implementation without articulation to safeguard student success for future course numbering phases--passed
 - Delay public facing implementation of course numbering until chapter agreements are established—passed
 - The ASCCC finalized resolutions packet did not make RCCAS agenda deadline; the document will be included for our last meeting this term.
- D. RDAS Faculty Co-Chair Patrick Scullin will provide a second update on the RCC/RCCD faculty List Serv proposals (discussion + action)
- The district is looking for RCCAS to approve the List Serv language for RCC-Faculty. We are asked to decide to leave it unmoderated or have it moderated by a faculty member.
 - In the old List Serv system, faculty names had to be manually entered to permit access. The new system will automatically populate who belongs on the list. The same rules will apply throughout the district depending on which groups one belongs to. If approved, the new list-servs would be turned on

subsequently (perhaps sometime during the spring semester). M/S/C: (Perez/Sandoval) to approve RCC-Faculty be an unmoderated List Serv. Failed unanimously. Discussion points/questions suggested RCCAS is not yet ready to vote one way or another.

- Lingering areas of confusion included understanding implications for timeline and communications for the shift to new list-servs and away from old ones, concerns about whether district would be modifying messages (and who would be in that role), associate faculty access considerations, motivation for the changes overall, precise definition of “moderation,” and a question of who moderates lists now vs. if we opted into moderation with the new lists?
 - Senate would like to revisit this topic with more clarity.

VIII. New Business

A. President Scott-Coe or designee will share an update about faculty Emeritus status procedures under AP 2000 (see Section 2 G) for faculty who are planning their retirements (information + discussion)

- Everyone was directed to page 3 of AP 2000 for reference.
- The issue was raised earlier this semester by members of the nursing department because we have a golden handshake happening, and some faculty seek to initiate the Emeritus process before they retire.
- People who are in the process of retiring can request a recommendation for Emeritus status. This status can be beneficial if they are planning to be published, attend conferences, etc. Essentially, an Emeritus faculty member becomes a kind of ambassador for their discipline and the college.
- Emeritus status can be granted to a faculty member who has earned retirement and it will be based on their academic rank at the time of their retirement.
- The Chancellor has indicated his desire that Emeritus status should be more rigorous and should not be automatically granted. But that change would require an update/revision to our current procedure in place.
- President Scott-Coe has reached out to those faculty who were officially identified (thus far) as retiring to inquire if they would like to be put forward. If you know someone in your department who did not receive an email from President Scott-Coe, please have them reach out to her directly.
- For any faculty who are interested in Emeritus status but do not say so in December, they can still be considered after their retirement is official.

B. Ratification of new and ongoing appointments: President Scott-Coe or designee will present candidates (action)

a. CCN Phase II Convenings: Additional Faculty Nominees if needed

- Nothing new to report

b. Faculty Guide/Handbook Team (so far) for Winter SPRs

- Gratitude expressed to Senator Thompson-Eagle for pointing out the need for updating the Faculty Guide/Handbook.
- M/SC: (Thompson-Eagle/Rose) to support winter special projects for 4 team members updating the Faculty Guide and Handbook. Faculty volunteers thus far are Brit Osgood-Treston—TLLC; Mark Haines—DLC; and Emily

Phillipsen--FA. Still pending one representative from Faculty Development. Passed Unanimously.

- Will start the updating project in the winter term. It would be ideal to have a senator present.
- c. Faculty Co-Chair for SAS
 - Continued conversation on SAS and how it will be constructed, and how that will impact faculty chair recruitment

IX. Officer Reports

A. Secretary

- Survey out for IETTC. The survey came out from Vice Chancellor Bishop on Wednesday, November 13th. Please complete it and encourage faculty to do so as well.
- Reminder: Senate meeting on December 9th to finalize some unfinished business. There will be no standing guest reports or officer reports. The seating arrangement in the Hall of Fame will also be set up differently in preparation for the Faculty Retiree Celebration.
- The Faculty Retiree Celebration is being co-hosted by senate and the Faculty Association and will directly follow our Senate meeting from 5-6:30pm. Please RSVP if you have not already.
- RCC's IRB was a topic of interest in the last few weeks. IRB = Institutional Review Board, which is a committee that reviews research studies involving human subjects to ensure they meet ethical standards, comply with regulations, and protect participants. VP Wilcoxson and Secretary-Treasurer Wiggs have had several meetings with faculty and administration about RCC's IRB.
 - As a quick history, RCC's IRB was established in 2015 when Dr. Isaac was the college president. The IRB was determined to be a confidential committee of only faculty voting members, with the intention at that time to have divisional representation. The IRB was, initially, only receiving about 4 applications for research per year, but applications have been increasing, with 2024 seeing about 15 so far.
 - What's clear at this time is that there is shared faculty interest in addressing what we collectively foresee for IRB in the future including its composition, reporting structure, maintaining confidentiality or being public, and whether/how the same group should evaluate proposed external and graduate level research as well as RCC student research.
 - Please anticipate hearing more about this in the spring.
- Today is VP Wilcoxson's final senate meeting. It has been an honor to serve and learn alongside VP Wilcoxson. He will be missed.

B. President

- We will bring Kevin Wurtz back on our Senate meeting on December 9th for a listening session regarding faculty's concerns about mental health supports for students and community.

- Dr. Rankin sent out an email regarding events providing post-election support for students, faculty, and classified professionals on November 21st. There will be two virtual workshops. The workshops for students are at 12:30pm and at 4:30pm for classified, faculty, and managers.
 - Meeting with Interim Chief of Police DiMaggio was last Wednesday, November 13th to create a connection to Academic Senate. He is open to coming to Senate in the spring to listen about faculty concerns.
 - HRER task force. One department chair from each college joined the taskforce which is focused on addressing systemic reform. Some suggestions are being made that colleges should adjust the prioritization schedules; faculty voices are crucial.
 - Security audit update. Many RCC faculty participated in the electronic survey; 83 of 95 faculty respondents were from RCC, 11 were from COIL, and one from Culinary. The focus groups did not go as we carefully planned and hoped for, with only 4 faculty able to participate. Communication/emails issues were identified as the problem by district and the consultants, and this affected the timeline and faculty ability to contribute. We still do not know when the security audit presentation will come to the board. Details to follow.
 - Course caps workgroup has been an ongoing project for at least 2 years. The cross-district workgroup has done a significant lift to draft a procedure that will come to Academic Senate for a first read at our next meeting on Dec 9. As this topic has been historically a source of anxiety, confusion, and even intimidation, it will be an important milestone to review and finalize a vote on this procedure in spring.
 - Procedural Clarification. The senate is permitted to agendaize closed sessions to seek input from members of the body for items permissible for Academic Senates under the Brown Act and according to Government Code 54957(b)(1). Faculty should not read any connotations, positive or negative, into the appearance of such an item on any upcoming agenda.
 - Be on the lookout for forums and collaboration with constituency groups on important college-wide subjects and themes in the spring semester.
- C. Vice President
- Senate leadership has our 2nd meeting on Thursday, 11/21 with the interim Vice President of Planning and Development Dr. Kristi Woods.
 - A team will present to the Board of Trustees on ESCALA on Tuesday, 11/19.
 - It is critical that we continue to push for an appropriate and clear definition for HY-FLEX.

X. Open Hearing

- Faculty are not getting support for Canvas and they are not getting any response or support when they are logging onto their online courses. What can we do to make sure this does not happen as we prepare for the winter and spring semesters?

- The RCC President still has not assembled her Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, Antiracism, and Belonging for Social and Economic Justice.
- Faculty members emphasized that 4 faculty participants were inadequate for the security audit.
- One senator shared the concern that she was meant to be involved in the focus group but that she was excluded. Her input would have been invaluable because of ongoing experiences of harassment she documented last spring, as well as a lack of administrative support or follow-through since a police report in May 2024.
- One faculty member indicated the focus groups were not really a group at all. In the meeting she attended, she was the only person (faculty member) present.
- The laptops that were purchased from COVID, which are down to about 400, are falling apart. How do we address the issue of access for our students when so much of their work is online?
- EPOC successfully completed the prioritization process. There has been some delay in announcement, but the regular process is moving forward. Be on the lookout for the email from Riv-All.

XI. Learn, Share, Do

- Please encourage faculty to continue reading Faculty Association minutes
- There is a holiday party and retiree celebration Tuesday, December 10th from 12-2. This is an all-college celebration.
- Please continue to talk to faculty about AB1111 (CCN) even if it has not hit your department yet so there is less confusion when it does. Please inform faculty in phase 2 that there is now a pre-survey AND a post-survey.
- Let faculty know Star Taylor will be new Vice President of Academic Senate.
- Please encourage retiring faculty to reach out to President Scott-Co for Emeritus Status
- Please encourage faculty to respond IETCC survey sent by Vice Chancellor Bishop.
- Please come to the faculty retiree celebration on December 9 from 5-6:30pm after Academic Senate meeting. Please RSVP.
- The last District Academic Senate meeting is after the Thanksgiving break on December 2nd. Please come if you've not been able to make a District Academic Senate meeting yet this semester.
- There are a few more chances to a fall RCC sporting event since we have some teams entering the championships. Please attend if you have not been able to make a sporting event yet this semester. **Question:** On what List Serv might we learn about sporting events? Everyone may not be seeing all announcements.
- Please RSVP to the events promoted by Dr. Rankin in an email on November 14th for post-election support.
- Looking for a senator to be on the winter Faculty Guide Update Group.

XII. Adjourn at 4:55pm M/S/C (Perez/Philippsen) to adjourn. Passed unanimously.