



## Academic Senate Meeting

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at 9:10-11

**Present:** Marvin Argersinger, Laura Bishop, Brenda Brown, Elizabeth Clifford, Robyn Corey, Tim Deines, Nancy Dietrich, Lisa Dobson, Paige Dunckel, Bruce Farris, Sarah Garcia-Linz, Bill Garlick, Courtney Geisel, Gerry Haddad, Susan Hardie, Dawn Hardin, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Lorin Honeysett, Susan Jepsen, Heidi Jordan, Eliza Lee, Megan Lin, Tamara McDiarmid, Robin McGuire, Tricia McKay, Tracy Nothnagel, Charles Page, Scott Poe, Chris Richards, Danielle Savory, Joann Silsby, Denise Warner, Nancy Weatherwax, Sally Welch, Richard Williams, Jon Ten Brink,

**Absent:** Brittany Barber, Cheryl Chase, Amber Denney, Mark Kelland, Louise Rabidoux, Andrea Sanchez, Tedd Sperling, Jeff Janowick

- I. Call to order – 9:12AM
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Approved without objection.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Approved without objection.
- V. President's Report
  - a. Thank you to Patrick and conference service
  - b. SAC
    - i. Let's get more students involved
    - ii. Evening meetings starting Oct 18<sup>th</sup>.
      1. All virtual, will have a least two evening meetings each semester
  - c. Students are starting to feel the external stresses that affect their academics and this is when they need our support. Reach out. Embrace our culture of care and just have compassion and give them some grace when you can.
- VI. Provost's Report
  - a. Remind everyone that colleagues are tired as well. Reach out to colleagues.
  - b. Thank you for submitting Academic Alerts, most ever in the past few years. Please keep doing them. Trying to respond back to faculty.

- c. Appreciative Education (framework under Culture of Care) from last January and May had a team go to an institute. Working on making an LCC training of Appreciative Training.
- d. Worked hard in Discovery Days on “Values”. Will start working on that, working on Values of Culture of Care and principles with that.
- e. HLC is coming next year in September. Public website is up now. Lcc.edu/HLC is accreditation page. Has information and events coming up. Strategic Enrollment plan, how do we encourage people to come to LCC and retention. Also working on communication with SALT and Provost Cabinet, coordinating and getting feedback from both groups.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Engagement Committee – Senator Lisa Dobson
  - i. Working on recruiting members for committees.
  - ii. Working on plan to get people to run for the Academic Senate.
  - iii. Promote Academic Senate and accomplishments.
  - iv. Set up consistent mentoring and membership.
  - v. Requested and promoted the email badge in signatures.
  - vi. Working on Campus Wide engagement survey.
- b. TAC (Technology Across the Curriculum) – Senator Bruce Farris and Senator Bill Garlick
  - i. Blend of disciplines that are interested in Technology.
  - ii. Generative AI and effect on LCC. Concerns and AI and use of it across campus academically and administratively. Many people looking for guidance. Collaborating with CASL, how this impacts assessment. How do we evaluate competency and how does AI impact that? Many aspects across campus looking at this. No group is doing this alone. Need to have educational opportunities and what this means for employees. E-learning has been monitoring how it will be used in D2L. Encourage committee and others to play around with it, there are good things that it can do but also things that should be avoided.
  - iii. Analyze HyFlex and its future.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- a. Curriculum Committee Report
- b. Approved without objection.

IX. Continuing Conversation on Academic Senate Priorities – Senator Tracy Nothnagel

- a. Senators broke into groups to come up with concrete action plans for the four topics discussed at the previous meeting: food on campus, enrollment, quality and consistency of courses, student perspective.

- b. Executive Committee will take suggestions and put into action.
- X. SAC Textbook Recommendations – Senator Elizabeth Clifford
- a. See Appendix I.
  - b. Don't want textbooks to be a barrier to students.
  - c. Please check with Library and Learning Commons if they have textbooks for students for your course. Missing many textbooks.
  - d. Senator Tamara McDiarmid – Rental options available for textbooks. Usually \$10-15 cheaper.
  - e. Senator Denise Warner – OER is constantly changing and being updated. Check OER again. CTE and Denise are willing to help too.
  - f. Senator Elizabeth Clifford – FDIA is coming to many courses but many students want a paper copy of the book. If class is FDIA and everything is online, still recommend having a book available in library or Learning Commons.
  - g. Senator Eliza Lee – Calculator are also a barrier. Every math class requires a calculator and every student has to take a math class.
  - h. Senator Megan Lin – Don't have to write an OER, but if you're considering writing one there are OER awards. CTE oversees awards but programs help. CTE contact info for OERs/OLL: [estacioa@star.lcc.edu](mailto:estacioa@star.lcc.edu) - Amanda Estacio
  - i. Parliamentarian Jon Ten Brink - Related to textbooks for students, as Elizabeth Clifford stated, some students do like an actual textbook. Students do learn in various ways: Visual, Audible, Read/Write and Kinesthetic (VARK) learning styles. As a faculty, I try to remember this in my classes.
- XI. AI in Teaching and Learning – Senator Tracy Nothnagel
- a. See Appendix II.
  - b. Breaking down silos, know many areas are discussing AI like CASL, TAC, SAC etc. Work group would bring all the discussions together.
  - c. Senator Robin McGuire – Isn't TAC already working on this?
  - d. Senator Eliza Lee – Bringing groups together to discuss, not reinventing the wheel.
  - e. Senator Bruce Farris – Be careful that this larger group doesn't become the voice of the Senate for AI and the smaller groups get overshadowed. The other groups are still part of the Senate.
  - f. Parliamentarian Jon Ten Brink – Senate Standing Committees are working on this, other groups across campus are also working on this. Work Group will be a sharing of information of all these groups. "Cross Pollinations" to centralize the information. Break down the silos.
  - g. Senator Sarah Garcia-Linz – Like the idea of this. Main focus is academic but its prevalent in student affairs too.
  - h. Senator Paige Dunckel – Who will create group and who decides on the group?

- i. If motion approved, will be looking for volunteers.
- i. Senator Bill Garlick – Have been discussing this for months. Like the direction this is going in. Won't be as successful if just the Academic Senate. Want to hear from all the stakeholders. Support this work group.
- j. Senator Rick Williams - Define AI-is PowerPoint dressing help considered AI? Also, what is the scope of AI being concerned--plagiarism?
  - i. This will be part of the Workgroup
  - ii. Senator Bill Garlick – Some of those tools like Word, Google Docs have AI built in. Such as grammar checks, but explosive in last 8-12 months. 400 different vendors utilizing this technology. Imbed some of these features in. Workgroup would work on defining this.
- k. MAHE President Eva Menefee – This may do something to workloads of faculty. We will talk about this in collective bargaining. We need to remember how it will affect our work.
- l. Provost Sally Welch - This is really new. It's like when the internet started. Was very limited and then blew up. We need to be openminded. Don't want to put us in a box. How can we use this? How can this make us better educators? Don't want to think about policies yet.
- m. Senator Bruce Farris – Very new and constantly changing. It takes a while for a body like the senate and by then it will be different. We need to be nimble. A lot of the role might be education of faculty and students on this. AI will continue to affect different programs very differently. Hope the Senates role will be less policy as much as education and support of each program.
- n. Senator Mel Hernandez – It's already everywhere. Students are using it.
- o. Approved as voted.

## XII. Public Comments

- a. Senator Sarah Garcia-Linz – Today Sept 22 is national why apply day. #whyapply Will see teachers and admin wearing T-shirts and talking about why they applied to college. Initiative to help students apply to college. Tell students why it's important to apply to college. Look or post to social media. [ACT-#whyapplyday](https://equityinlearning.act.org/acac/resources/why-apply/) (https://equityinlearning.act.org/acac/resources/why-apply/)
- b. Reference Lead and Liaison librarian Kelli Herm – Beyond the Book is having a couple of events in October. Still have copies in the Library.
  - i. [BEYOND THE BOOK MOONCAKE FESTIVAL](#) – Beyond the Book is presenting a two-day festival. Beyond the Book Mooncake Festival. Tuesday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 2-4 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor TLC Library. Come to the Mooncake Festival to celebrate and explore themes of this year's Beyond the Book selection, *Interior Chinatown* by Charles Yu. Sample mooncake and other treats, create poetry and crafts, discuss the book, and watch film clips and

discuss Asian representation in the media. Open to all; reading the book prior is not required.

- ii. Other book discussions will be happening both in person and virtually on other dates. We still have copies of the books in the library if you would like a copy for yourself or would like to request class set for students. See our Beyond the Book Guide for more information (<https://libguides.lcc.edu/beyondthebook>)
- iii. Library has first and third Thursday noon to 2pm drop in computer help. LCC emails, office 365, google docs, computer basics.

XIII. Potential Future Agenda Items

- a. None

***Purpose:*** *The purpose of the Academic Senate will be to provide faculty input and advice to the administration concerning issues of College-wide educational philosophy, College-wide academic policy, and priorities in the College-wide deployment of capital or financial resources, except as covered by the scope of collective bargaining. The Senate will be proactive and collaborative in its approach, seeking consensus whenever possible, and will foster and support effective and transparent communication with the college community. Student learning is the ultimate goal of this body.*

# Appendix I

## Student Advisory Committee (SAC) Recommendations to the Academic Senate Regarding Textbooks

As the costs of higher education rise, making college education unaffordable for many students, LCC faculty can help mitigate some of the costs. Specifically, LCC faculty can help make an education at LCC more affordable by reducing the costs of textbooks in one or more of the following ways:

- Switching from traditional textbooks entirely or partially to Open Educational Resources
- Requiring older editions of textbooks, rather than the more expensive newer editions
- Purchasing several *additional* copies of textbooks to put on reserve in the Library for those who cannot afford textbooks or those who are not able to obtain them in a timely manner
- Donating old desk copies of textbooks and encouraging students to donate their textbooks after semesters are over, to be stocked on shelves or in kiosks in the departments, making them accessible to future students

In addition to addressing the rising costs of textbooks, switching to Open Educational Resources (OERs) will make available the required textbooks on the first day of classes, avoiding the shortages of costly textbooks experienced by many students in recent semesters. This issue has become more serious in recent semesters, sometimes preventing students from participating in class for several weeks.

The committee respectfully recommends that our colleagues consider and discuss the above recommendations, as well as any other related ideas, during Department and Program meetings, and then to follow up with appropriate action plans.

## Appendix II

Whereas TAC, CASL, Math, English, and other programs and divisions on campus are having separate conversations on AI;

The Senate Executive Committee moves to create a Senate Work Group to facilitate and centralize cross campus dialogue on AI.