# LCC Logo

# Academic Senate

# Student Advisory Committee (SAC) Minutes

**May 2, 2023**

The Academic Senate Student Advisory Committee (SAC) met via WebEx on May 2, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Members present:** Veronica Wilkerson-Johnson (Chairperson), Alex Azima (Physics Professor), Joann Silsby (CIT Adjunct Faculty and Senator), Chris Richards (eLearning), Fran Krempasky (Library and Sub-Committee on Web Resources Chair), Ronda Miller (Dean of Student Affairs), Armando Arevalo (Student Success Coach Manager), Elizabeth Clifford (Tutoring Services in Learning Commons), Louise Rabidoux (Counseling), Debra Coulston-Kwapisz (ACCESS Coordinator in CCLC), Christopher Smelker (Surgical Technology HHS Division); Student Members Paul Palmer and Danni Bott.

Special Speaker: Dr. Dawn Hardin (Math and Computer Science)

**Unable to attend:** Bruce Mackley (Marketing Director), Frank Taylor (Academic Success Coach), Bill Garlick (CIO), Jon Tenbrink (Academic Senate President and Chairperson of Music Dept), Greg Lattig (Athletic Director), Ashley Podleski (Adult Resource Center Coordinator); Student Members Keshawn Mitchell-Roland, Noel Mukeshimana, Austin Suddieth, Meghan Patterson, Baron Pham, Unique Major, Brian Ringstaff, Daniel Arnold, Caleb Caballero, Alyssa Snelson, Alysiah Mitchell-Wallace, and Student Senators Andrea Sanchez and Josiah Beauchaine.

The 05/02/23 SAC Committee highlights are as follows. Minutes provided and compiled by Senators Fran Krempasky, Joann Silsby, and Veronica Wilkerson Johnson.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Chairperson Veronica Wilkerson Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting. She mentioned that the detailed minutes over these years will be good for the SAC history and record going forward. She enthusiastically acknowledged Elizabeth Clifford as she succeeds Veronica as the new chairperson of SAC. Chairperson Veronica mentioned all of the things the committee has worked on. SAC has created a more accessible web space for students (as a great alternative to creating a chat bot as had been considered at LCC), and addressed food, clothing and housing insecurity. Now SAC is working on student textbook accessibility, thanks to Alex Azima. She thanked all of the SAC members for their input and great work over the years, and for making students front and center in everything we do. She mentioned student members over time we had the great privilege of working with, including Amalia Gonsales and Kyle Cook. Kyle now attends Central Michigan University. Several other student members have gone on to attend Michigan State University, the University of Michigan and and other institutions. It has been an honor to work with them.

Debra Coulston-Kwapisz mentioned how much she appreciated Chairperson Veronica’s wonderful leadership. Fran Krempasky added that she thought it was so important how Veronica brought people from across LCC to the table to aid our work together in SAC. She said it takes a special kind of leadership to have that occur and thanked Veronica for making everyone feel welcome and move forward on great initiatives. Fran added that Veronica’s leadership motivated people, brought in key people, and helped SAC set priorities. Veronica thanked everyone, and notably Fran and the other members of the SAC subcommittee on Student Resources. She said now students can access everything they are seeking easily on the student resources web site, with the click of a button, 24/7.

1. **Dr. Dawn Hardin – Math Refresher Program**

Veronica welcomed our guest speaker, Dr. Dawn Hardin, who shared with SAC the math refresher course for students entitled “Math Refresher and Collaboration Resources – Propelling Students to the Next Level.”

**THE MATH REFRESHER COURSE COVERS THE FOLLOWING:**

1. ALEKS Placement, Preparation and Learning (PPL) is the online platform used in this course to accurately assess, prepare, and place students in mathematics courses where they are most likely to succeed.
2. ALEKS’ Student Module provides an adaptive learning environment focused on guidance, transparency, engagement, and motivation.
3. Students will always know what they should be working on in ALEKS.
4. The online platform is designed with individualized learning to address the needs of those who may need a quick review on various topics while learning and practicing other topics.
5. Students can take the time they need to review the material and work through problems.
6. Students may work on the ALEKS modules outside of class at any time.

**LENGTH OF THE PROGRAM:**  The course is a two-week intensive program in which students cover concepts they struggle with, in-keeping with their math level. All students in the program take a diagnostic test to determine their math level. Students commit to 3 hours/day, 9am-12noon, or

5-8pm in-person in class, or 2 hours online, using ALEKS. Dr. Hardin explained it is a combination of lecture and asynchronous training. While online, the instructor and the embedded tutor mirror to observe a student’s work on a problem to see where they are they getting stuck. The instructor may then have the student leave the problem and schedule a time for the student to return for face-to- assistance in class. The students who successfully finish the program earn a one-year free subscription to ALEKS.

**WHO IS THE MATH REFRESHER FOR?** The program is available to all students, from those with little math knowledge to those with significantly high math levels who have gaps to improve. If students test into a math course but struggle, they can get help through this refresher program. It also aids those who have been away from math for a while and need to rebuild their confidence and mathematical toolbox, or ones who have recently taken an IQ Placer and did not score at the level needed to place into a class.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:** The program also covers soft skills, such as students managing their time, learning about available resources, managing stress, test anxiety, the importance of exercise, study skills, and how to move away from procrastination to setting and starting to work on a goal. It encourages participants to be honest with themselves on what they need to work on to improve their math skills. The program calls everyone who helps in the program a ‘family member’, and it uses this ‘village’ of people to help students succeed. in various ways. Some of the ‘villagers’ are from various LCC departments coming to a class to share what the department does and what student resources are available. The villagers usually provide a handout so students can build a resource notebook. The program wants students to know that they are not alone in their quest in understanding math. Students are also provided accommodations when requested. Dr. Hardin stated that their job is to make students well rounded individuals, able to be productive members of society. No setbacks are condemned.

**WHEN IS THE MATH REFRESHER AND HOW TO ENROLL:** The math refresher two-week program is free to LCC students and offered in summer semester to get students ready for math in the fall. Students can enroll through Banner under “non-credit” courses. The program goal is to refresh, renew, and get students to move to the next level in math. Louise Rabidoux told Dr. Hardin that any of the six counselors would be happy to come and speak to the students in the program. Louise will send Dr. Hardin an email about when it would be good to schedule a counselor to come and speak. Chris Richards also said eLearning would be happy to attend a session to share, and Elizabeth Clifford’s area can assist students in the Learning Commons on how to enroll in Banner for non-credit math.

**THANKS TO DR. HARDIN:**  Veronica stated she is thankful to Deborah Coulson-Kwapisz for recommending Dr. Hardin to come to our SAC meeting, and she thanked Dr. Hardin for an excellent overview. She added that this program is certainly a game changer for students. Dr. Hardin stated that she will invite the SAC members when an upcoming refresher session is scheduled, and she added that we are all now a part of the village. Alex Azima mentioned that his daughter had Dr. Hardin for a class, and she is an excellent instructor. Alex also asked Dr. Hardin if she might think about involving other disciplines. He said several years ago they had a science 100 course that created knowledge/skill and test anxiety. He said there are students in his calculus classes that lack basic skills, like what the point on a graph means. He wondered if there are opportunities for collaboration. Dr. Hardin responded “yes” and that currently they are also working with the Reading and Writing Divisions as part of College Connect.

**MARKETING THE MATH REFRESHER PROGRAM:**  Joann Silsby asked how is the math refresher program marketed so students know about it and get the opportunity to attend? Dr. Hardin stated they are working on their marketing (marquee), through a lot of word of mouth, and through departments such as the Learning Commons to let everyone know the refresher program is scheduled two weeks in the summer semester prior to the fall semester. Student member Danni Bott asked if there is a way the program could be noted in the student welcome packet and other items of outreach. She had no idea about this program, and she had to cram in taking the placement test after being away from school 18 years. Dr. Hardin thanked Danni and said she would put this on the list, and reach out to Danni to further gather her student perspective. Veronica said she would also reach out to Bruce Mackley, Director of Marketing, who is also a SAC member. She will share the presentation with him and ask that Marketing assist Dr. Hardin in disseminating information on this valuable resource. Joann Silsby also asked if this program could be advertised in Banner and D2L so students see it when they look at courses. Chris Richards said instructors can send an email to students in D2L, and when they log into D2L, they will see the Math Refresher email alert at the top of the screen, in the mini bar. Chris said Dawn can also submit a service request for eLearning to put it on the D2L main announcements page. Dr. Hardin added she has a flyer and will check that it is up-to-date, and provide it for dissemination to faculty. Chris Richards added that if Dr. Hardin puts through a service request to have the Math Refresher program on the main announcement page, to also do a service request through the LCC Help Desk.

1. **Student Academic Senator Report**
	1. Student member Paul Palmer, who recently developed and Chairs the LCC Disability Club, asked if there had ever been a disability club before? Veronica responded that this Club is a new and welcome resource at LCC, and applauded Paul for his student leadership. Paul plans to have the Disability Club meet this summer semester on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
	2. Student member Danni Bott mentioned she is busy with work, school, and finals but added that she may get 4.0 this semester, which is great news for our student member and leader!
2. **Fran Krempasky, SAC Subcommittee Chairperson of Student Resources Web Page**
	1. Fran reported that an email went out to SAC student senators and student members requesting them to look at student resource page and give their feedback and perspectives on it. There are four questions that seek anything that should be added or is missing that new students that new or existing students need. The deadline is May 5 for them to get back to Fran. She will email an additional reminder.
	2. Joann Silsby mentioned that she will be teaching a class this summer and noticed in the course syllabus the student resources web page is listed as a resource. She was delighted to see that some faculty are sharing this with their students and the word is getting out to the faculty.
3. **Alex Azima, Chair of the SAC Textbook Accessibility Subcommittee**
	1. Alex stated that he will connect with LCC faculty and staff regarding recommendations made by the subcommittee to determine ideas that can be implemented. He added a thank you to Veronica for her excellent leadership. He said he hasn’t ever seen SAC progress this far and as quickly, in all of the time he has been associated with the committee over the last few years.
4. **Chris Richards, eLearning**
	1. Chris stated that eLearning will be around all summer for students and faculty if they require assistance.
	2. Following are the topics that eLearning will be sending out for the month of May:-- Are you Graduating?
	-- 4 Ways to Get Help with D2L
	-- Got a Minute? View a Video in one minute or less on D2L Topics
	-- Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) is May 18
	-- New to D2L? Need a D2L Refresher?
	-- D2L Tools for Students
5. **Armando Arevalo – Academic Success Coach**
	1. Armando reported that the success coaches will be taking part in the commencement. He said it’s always exciting to see all the students.
	2. After the first week in May, finals and commencement, the success coaches will shift to accommodating new students coming in the fall, and those coming from high schools through Michigan Reconnect.
6. **Louise Rabidoux – Counseling, Student Wellness and Engagement Updates**
	1. Louise reported that the Counseling and Center for Student Support areas are experiencing end of the semester business and frenzy. It is wonderful that Counseling now has four, including their newest Counselor.
	2. She thanked Veronica for Chairing SAC and she looks forward to Elizabeth continuing all of our great work.
	3. She reminded SAC that they see students year-round, in between semesters and in the summer. Services are for any student, and for those starting counseling all support services.
7. **Elizabeth Clifford – Learning Center Updates**
	1. Learning Commons is expanding their hours for the summer. They will be open 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Monday -Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Fridays. Friday mornings are a new addition, and in the fall they will expand their weekend hours. Therefore, there may be up to 8 hours a day, Saturday and Sunday availability for students who want to come in to do school work on the weekends.
	2. As incoming Chair, Elizabeth will touch base with SAC and student members to determine meeting days and times for future SAC meetings. She will send out a survey in the effort to select times that do not conflict with class times, if possible. She said if everyone wants to meet during the summer, she will accommodate a meeting because she works year round.
8. **Debra Coulston-Kwapisz – ACCESS Coordinator Updates**
	1. Debra reported that all ACCESS events are done for Spring semester. On May 4 there will be a Star Wars reference - “May the 4th be with you!”! This will be in the Cesar Chavez Learning Center, Thursday, May 4 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Laura Bishop’s art class will have a display in the CCLC, and she invited SAC members to stop by.
	2. Debra also thanked Veronica for her leadership on SAC and is looking forward to working with Elizabeth.
9. **Christopher Smelker - Surgical Technology HHS Division**
	1. Christopher said he is amazed at the things this committee has done. The news about the math refresher program that our special presenter, Dr. Dawn Hardin, presented is awesome. He feels the same as Alex mentioned, that SAC has done so much in the past 2 or 3 years that he has been on the committee. He also thanked Veronica for her leadership of our group.

**Additional Comments – Veronica Wilkerson Johnson:**

Veronica stated that it has been such a pleasure having the opportunity to gather such amazing colleagues. She said “LCC is indeed a very blessed institution. We are one of the best community colleges in the nation. When you line up what we do for students alongside any other institution of higher learning, including our four-year institutions, I see such heart and culture of care represented here at LCC”. She thanked the SAC members for all that we do and encouraged our committee to continue the great work. She hopes everyone has a restful and enjoyable summer, and that we get to do something fun and fabulous. She said, “Thank you all!”

**Next meeting**: TBD (via WebEx)

**Action Items:**

1. Louise Rabidoux will send Dr. Hardin an email for times when any of the six counselors would be available to come and speak at the Math Refresher program.
2. Dr. Dawn Hardin will add SAC members to her mailing list to notify when the next math refresher program is scheduled, for those who want to attend in person or via WebEx. A WebEx session will be set up if she knows someone wants to attend.
3. Dr. Dawn Hardin emailed her PowerPoint presentation to Veronica, and Veronica forwarded it to SAC members.
4. Alex Azima and Dr. Hardin will meet to collaborate on science areas.
5. Elizabeth Clifford will send out a survey to SAC members on a days and times for upcoming SAC meetings.

**Past Action Items:**

1. Chris Richards – will share information as it becomes available on the survey to students on their preferred modality for classes.
2. Ashley Podleski - will meet with Marketing to create resources for homeless students, faculty and staff. She will share updates with SAC and have it added to the student resources page.

**SAC Meeting Dates**

SAC may meet once during the summer. Elizabeth will sent out a survey to SAC members on availability for meetings in the upcoming school year 2023–2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Wilkerson-Johnson, Chairperson

Fellow Scribes:

Joann Silsby and Fran Krempasky