

Riverside City College Academic Senate

June 1, 2020 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM / Zoom

3:00 I. **Call to Order 3:02 pm**

3:00 II. **Roll Call – sign-in**

President: Mark Sellick
Vice President: Kevin Mayse
Secretary-Treasurer: Mary Legner

Departments:

Applied Technology: Stephen Kennedy
Art: Will Kim
Behavioral Science: Marc Wolpoff
Business Admin/IST: Mark Lehr
Chemistry: Stacie Eldridge
Communication Studies: Cliff Ruth
Cosmetology: Peter Westbrook
Counseling: Sal Soto/Scott Brown
Dance/Theatre: Jodi Julian
Early Childhood Education: Emily
Phillippsen (Not Present)
Economics/Geography/Political Science:
James Hayes
English: Jan Andres
History/Humanities/Philosophy: Kirsten
Gerdes
Kinesiology: Dennis Rogers
Library: Linda Braiman
Life Sciences: Lisa Thompson-Eagle
Mathematics: Evan Enright
Music: Kevin Mayse
Nursing: Lee Nelson
Physical Science: James Cheney (Not
Present)
World Languages: Huda Aljord (Not
Present)

Other:

Associate Faculty Representative: (Not
Present)

Ex-Officio Senators:

EPOC: Kathleen Sell
ASC: Hayley Ashby
TLLC: Mary Legner
GEMQ: Debbie Cazares (Not Present)
RDAS: Tucker Amidon (Not Present)
SAS: Eddie Perez (Not Present)
Curriculum: Kelly Douglass
Faculty Association: Rhonda Taube/Emily
Phillippsen (Not Present)
VP, Academic Affairs: Dr. Carol Farrar
College President: Dr. Gregory Anderson
ASRCC (Student Representative): Tyrese
Blue (Not Present)

Recorder of the Minutes:

Parliamentation: Sal Soto

Jess McDermott

Guests:

James McCarron, Kinesiology
Emily Spencer, Chemistry
Kristine Di Memmo, Dean of Instruction
(CTE)
Paul O'Connell, Applied Technology
Micherri Wiggs, Communication Studies
Mikelaitis Jodon, Information Technology
Shari Yates, Early Childhood Education
Thea Quigley, Project Director Ed Block
Grant
Virginia White, Life Sciences
Joanie Gibbons-Anderson, English &
Speech Communication
Dariush Haghighat, Political Science;
RCCDFA VP

3:05 III. **Open Hearing 3:04 pm**

- Senator Soto – Just in a meeting in the Teaching and Learning Committee. Started meeting and colloque said we can't ignore what is going on around us and get to business. Must acknowledge what is happening around us then continue.
- **RCCAS President motions to amend agenda to move Round Table discussion up to discuss issues disrupting teaching environment now, then continue in order. M/C/S: Nelson/Westbrook and Soto, 18 yes Round Table Discussion 3:11 pm**
- Senator Nelson – Situation is deplorable. Murdered an innocent guy. We need to talk about this in terms of diversity and equity. When I look at what we at RCC do, we support these measures in terms of fair treatment of all people. As soon as we can make a strong statement supporting changes and talking about how we deplore these situations all the better.
- RCCAS President Sellick– Sent out ASCCC message from President Sanchez and gave suggestions for colleagues to learn about anti-racist, no hate curriculums.
- Senator Ruth – Represent RCCAS in workgroup called Communication and Engagement under taskforce for safe return. Seeing if there is a message that will go out in regard to this. How does senate think this should be distributed? Or, if ideas come up in the future how to communicate, contact Ruth.
- RCCAS President Sellick– Number of taskforces convened to give advice to Chancellor on how to return safely. There is a robust faculty representation. A message was sent to college presidents regarding composition of courses and how they must tie closely to title 5 as RCCAS' charge is over curriculum.

- Senator Hayes – Want to echo Nelson's comments. Think RCC is anti-racist. When we talk about pedagogy we are talking about a radical, political activity that acknowledges institutional racism and disadvantages students face. One can talk more openly about this. Haghighat talked with FA about making a statement as well. I feel fortunate to do this in our work and stand behind other people and take this action in our everyday activity.
- RCCAS President Sellick – Yes, it is a privilege to be able to speak about this, but we should also create platforms for our students to have these discussions as well.
- Senator Gerdes – There is a BLM inland empire protest for this afternoon 4-6 pm outside of Riverside Library. Already threats of violence. A student made an announcement about this in class today, so know RCC students will be there. There could be some traumatic events happening with students. Be aware that students are involved on the ground with this work.
- RCCAS President Sellick– If in Riverside and wish to participate, please do so. Exercise civic responsibility and go. Recommendation from students, remember a triage model, which is why this semester we provided bare minimum of work to satisfy pedagogical standards. Strongly suggest everyone revisits their curriculum and see what you can do to lower that burden. Students want to be part of rallies and have voices heard. Terrified of fact still in the middle of a pandemic. I don't know how any of this will impact the spread of COVID19. Should be raised as a fact to consider.
- **Question:** Senator Soto – Can we as a senate give recommendation or allow permission to the rest of faculty to be able to talk about this in our classrooms? Perhaps some part-time faculty feel they can't speak about it. We can make a statement or message.
- **Answer:** RCCAS President Sellick - Empowering part time faculty to discuss this in their classes should be stated by RCC and RCCA's President. Timely comments are valuable. I personally feel compelled to write something but don't want to do so prematurely without having this discussion without all of you. Want it to come from all of RCCAS. We must empower colleagues to have discussions in their classrooms.
- Senator Douglass – I think that the best we can do is to begin to have students know we are there and support them. Don't want to retraumatize students. Need to make statement that is straight forward and says: Black lives matter, we support you.
- RCCAS President Sellick – We should make clear to uncomfortable students that their grade is not dependent upon talking about these issues, but also that we stand in support of those opposing structural racism. Right now, is the time to reach out and bring them in and listen. We all need to listen.
- Senator Julian – Huge social media person and kids identify with social media more than email or websites. The big curve

right now across social media platforms are no statement is a statement. So, someone has to say something. Even if it is as simple as black lives matter. No statement is a worse offense. Really important for college to support thought across platforms. Need to say something. We have to say something.

- RCCAS President Sellick – Point well taken. Not an option. Matter of who to say it.
- Senator Sell – The urgency to that need to get it right but getting out there is extremely important. Colleagues also traumatized and those statements of support need to be offered to them as well.
- RCCAS President Sellick - Absolutely, colleagues need to be supporting one another and our message should make that clear. In the event that don't get something from Moreno Valley that reads like a resolution, I will write something and send it to all of you to get an idea of whether you have comments. Need to capture statements and sentiments that have been offered and make sure it goes where we think it should go.
- **Question:** VP Mayse – I agree with everybody, but should we have one statement and have RCCAS send it to the president to send to the Chancellor or do we want 10 different statements out there? Should we encourage administration to send out what we send out or should it come from district?
- **Answer:** RCC President Anderson – First of all start off by recognizing and appreciating what I've heard so far. Particularly heard a great deal of empathy for students and colleagues. Hear most of all is that everyone is committed to success of students and college and that our college, like any, has special role in creating a better society. Intent has been to put out thoughts on behalf of administration in a video message. Last night and this morning there have been requests to get out message on top of video of message. We are working on it. Message will go out to college today sometime. The video message will go out tomorrow night or Wednesday, June 3. More importantly, beyond that message, is that I continue to seek strength from faculty in the immediate term and communicate support of students and their communities. This is an immediate and mediate goal. In long term must find strength within, finest faculty in California, no one is better equipped than we are to respond with vigor and use this moment as a catalyst for change. We have deep roots in our community, and we must get back to role as community engagement. What I can do is commit administration to supporting faculty that are in charge of key parts of instructional mission. We must support this work and be absolutely clear that there is no more important work than transforming society than the work we do together. Commit self to listening better. My job is to listen to those who have reached out to me. I will continue to explore ways to listen and demonstrate that administration will do whatever it takes to transform students' lives and transform society.

- RCCAS President Sellick – Thanks, President. Just received resolution from Moreno Valley College Academic Senate. So will now pull up that message to direct our message. Read message aloud so we can discuss it. There are also statements issued by local colleges about issues that we could draw upon to formulate our own response.
- RCCAS President Sellick reads resolution aloud.
- Senator Julian – Think resolution is great for college website. But we need something out today to say that we are behind this thing. Cannot wait until tomorrow or Wednesday. They will not understand why we aren't making a statement. Black Lives Matter – words can be simple. The institution needs short graphic or something along with resolution at some point, so students know we are supporting them.
- Senator Ruth – Think important in terms of tone of message not being so corporate so to speak but to be more genuine. It needs to be genuine and heartfelt and real.
- RCCAS President Sellick – I agree. Not supportive of idea to copy this resolution and send to students. Need to be clear that we support them. We need to make formula via a mechanism we use to do things like his. One thing I will ask is to title this under emergency format as we are responding to an emergency situation.
- **Motion to agendaize this resolution for our meeting. M/C/S: Nelson/Westbrook**
- RCCAS President Sellick - One thing we are supposed to do is use this resolution format by means to share collective will as a message, but this is not the way to reach people.
- **Question:** Senator Nelson – Can we do both? Share formal resolution from RCCAS and make statement on social media? We could send out statements via email as well to represent more personal message and statement about what said publicly. Needs to happen as soon as possible.
- Senator Rogers – Killer Mike in Atlanta spoke eloquently, needs to be powerful, raw, and short. We are faculty, but we have a personal side and think RCCAS President could penetrate that with his eloquence and make it precise.
- Professor McCarron – African American athletes are hurt and confused. And everyone here has great intentions in saying we support you. I think it should be included that we support something peaceful as well. Some of these young men want to go out and participate but it isn't right, and it hurts other members of our community.
- Senator Gerdes – Not our place to tell people how to express their protest and all have different ideas about range of activities. Don't think we should tone police.
- RCCAS President Sellick– Think support piece is consistent piece we are hearing. It is our job, committed as an institution to acknowledge our shortcomings and do what we can to be

supportive. Agree, I'm wary of getting into weeds of what people should/should not be doing. There are lots of ways to make sense of this situation. Not our job to express that as much as it is to show support for students and communities necessary at this moment.

- **Question:** Senator Soto – Can we include faculty in our support?
- RCCAS President Sellick – Yes, and staff and administration. Point well taken. We need to be supportive of all members of institution and all community members they serve.
- RCCAS President Sellick – At the end of the meeting, I'll look at the document that was sent and put something together and send it out by 6/7 at the latest, so be on the lookout. Want consent, don't want it to be a process of voting. This belongs in this discussion, so feel I have consensus to send it out.
- Senator Douglass – Go back to Jodi's comment about more than one message like formal from RCCAS to colleagues and staff but to craft a social media message that comes out from RCC social media and be retweeted and supported by faculty. I think Jodi is right. That's where students get messaging.
- RCCAS President Sellick – That will need to be directed to social media, but we don't have one.
- Senator Julian – The college hired a social media group on campus. Any statement that goes through this group is supposed to be sent to Patti Cartwright and she will contact social media guru who will get it out across all social media mediums.
- **Motion for those in favor of us showing support of resolution from MVCAS. Approved. Is in support of resolution.**
- RCC President Anderson – There is a firm that handles social media support as of last week. We will get something out. Send anything to Peggy Lomas (formerly Cartwright?) Who works under chancellor Goldware. I will get out message tonight as it is clear it should be good vs perfect.

3:20 IV. **Approval of the Agenda**

- Approved with the moving up of the Round Table discussion.

3:20 V. **Approval of the minutes:** May 18, 2020

- RCCAS President Sellick will send these out.

3:25 VI. **Officer and Liaison Reports 4:01 pm**

A. President

- Task forces have reconvened to discuss reopening colleges. We oversee educational programs and their development, and we entrust classes and discipline to faculty. At the same time, we are oriented by instructional principal of equity, need to be mindful of situation in right now and the limited number of options. We need to be mindful of what we do in that

environment, particularly with synchronous. I implore all faculty to consider multiple ways to teach in an online environment. Research reveals time and again that mixed approach is most effective – both synchronous and asynchronous. Schedule for fall constructed the way it is so there can be regularly scheduled sessions. But be mindful of equity who have no choice but to take courses in online environment. Questions regarding pedagogy in online environment?

- VP Hayse – On Lecture workgroup, won't go into effect until winter of 2021, but talked about prioritizing by looking at health of students, etc. then right behind it is student success and student first. Pounded into colleagues that we may have to work harder but must do what is right for students first.
- RCCAS President Sellick – All courses will be flagged to show lecture instruction will be done online. Reasons to keep schedule one, is funding. Not sure if reasonable because state could see what we do, and it is online. Second, so that we don't have conflicting Zoom meetings. Would have chaos without the grid, but the point is to message it clearly that instruction done online modality until winter of 2021. Labs will be scheduled and possibly completed as a hybrid/section of that with social distancing protocols implemented.
- **Question:** Senator Soto – From students' perspective, how will course messaging be made clear?
- **Answer:** RCCAS President Sellick – Messaging should be this is primarily an asynchronous class. Make sure that just because it is scheduled doesn't mean synchronous during those times. Need to message in a way that is clear for students and faculty.
- Senator Thompson-Eagle – For Hybrid with science lab, I would like to see for sake of transparency, a clear message up front that says labs are faced to face lecture online, but should, due to health crisis, be prepared for online format if choose to shut down. Not fair otherwise. If synchronous, we have to show that. All about communication and transparency.
- **Question:** Sectary Legner – Right now, students can opt to get an EW after a course is complete. Will this happen in the Fall? Have seen students struggle with technology and accessing Math texts online.
- **Answer:** RCCAS President Sellick – State Chancellor's Office issued title 5, which allowed fluidity with EW grades for spring, to extend for 180 days. If statement about that in fall, it would have to be forthcoming. For now, EW not applied in the fall. As far as difficulty students having with materials and access to technology, in the future, I'm hopeful that you can make changes and signal expectations, so students know what they can expect and what they are in for. As I said, course by necessity, must be taught synchronous.
- Sectary Legner – Struggles have to do with getting materials on computer and the need for a printer. Concerned because feel for students and one right now who has to write out from computer because doesn't think from computer. She doesn't want to do online, but that's how it is.
- RCCAS President Sellick – Will take this up with VP Mills about way to message courses going forward. Important to make expectations clear before student enrolls.

- VP Academic Affairs Farrar – As discussed in Leadership Council, the issue of messaging is being taken up by Vice Chancellor Mills. We got feedback from Dept. chairs. Information from Dept chairs is being brought forward on district wide conversation, and I'll check back with VP Mayse as we develop the language of messaging.
- RCCAS President Sellick - Can get budget report from Vice chancellor Brown. A moving target disagreement between legislator and governor on how to deal with funding. I think his most recent statement about it will be suggestive and will bring up tomorrow night at board meeting at 6 pm. Show up for better understanding of budgetary picture.

B. Vice President – no report.

C. Secretary-Treasurer – no report.

D. RCCD Faculty Association

Senator Julian – FA President Taube wanted me to let the body know that FA is working closely with the Chancellor to let faculty have access to their offices on a more regular basis.

E. College President Anderson – Read PLT notes on progress of safe return task force. Have strong representation across district and RCC. We are larger, and our complexities abound. RCCAS President Sellick and FA President Taube are strong. These two will hear from President Anderson and continue to make voice loud and clear. Briefly, faculty members on search committees continue to produce high quality candidates. Being handled with great care. We can be reassured of future of college. It is moving forward with you and new hires. Committed to students, first and foremost and to achieving justice in society. Anticipate approval for board of trustees in June and July. Need to continue to listen. Don't hesitate to message President Anderson. Need open communication. Our college is strong and will continue to be a strong presence in our community where students can come together and contribute to strength of community..

F. ASRCC Representative – No one present.

3:55 VII. **Council and Curriculum Reports 4:26 pm**

A. Educational Program Oversight Committee (Sell/O'Connell)

- Meeting June 8, 3-5 pm, getting ACCJC annual report results and have draft of teaching and learning principals and core competencies.

B. Curriculum Committee (Douglass or designee)

- To clarify, if you ever want to teach a campus course and the campus closes again, you must submit a DE proposal. It is standard, emergency only. But everything allowed to teach this summer and fall must have DE proposal and everything else you want to teach.
- Being proactive in number of proposals reviewing in the fall, so make an official decision. Anticipate an extra meeting at the beginning of the academic year. Aug. 25 have an actions items only meeting to manage huge number of proposals. Also, Curriculum institute is July 7-10 and VP Farrar has been sent 15 names of committee members and others who want to go. Should be a strong committee. 5 or 6 new reps will be elected and present. Douglass was reelected last week as Curriculum chair. VP Farrar has asked us to be participate in webinars on competency based education, she would like us to be involved in this conversation.

Upcoming webinar in June. A lot to learn as a college and disciplines to see how competency based education will work for us. New area to learn a lot about.

4:25 VIII. **Ongoing Business 4:30 pm**

A. Ratification of divisional elections positions (Mayse)

The RCCAS will ratify the results of the divisional elections

- Haven't heard anything from divisions who didn't submit. Performing arts finalized a list but don't know if dean sent it. Didn't receive anything from deans.
- RCCAS President will make a request to get outstanding results from deans.

4:35 IX. **New Business 4:31 pm**

A. Acknowledgement of Emeriti Faculty (Sellick) The RCCAS will acknowledge its emeriti faculty

- RCCAS President Sellick – A number of members taking golden handshake and retiring this year. Vice Chancellor Mills mentioned a couple more who may opt for early retirement and may get more names. Ask that you empower as senate to send these names to district for proper recognition. Will combine and confirm with you that want emeritus title. Not everyone does. This time, I sent an email to colleagues asking if they wanted to be acknowledged as emeriti faculty. Got a good number of faculty. All have confirmed yes.
- **Motion to empower RCCAS President to accept emeriti. M/S/C: Mayse/Legner**
- RCCAS hasn't done this for a few years, so RCCAS President will touch base with Vice Chancellor Mills to find names not given last several years and see if they want that title. In terms of adding names to wall, will put new plaques. RCCAS may need to revisit board policy 2000 which includes conferring of emeriti status as it was changed several years ago. RCCAS will revisit that board policy this next year.
- **Question:** Secretary Legner – Pisa and Mills, both faculty at one time, will they be getting some acknowledgement of that and put on wall?
- RCCAS President Sellick - Susan accepted emeriti from us, Shelia is also afforded emeriti from RCC.
- **Motion to allow RCCAS President to confer emeriti status authorized by RCCAS. Vote yes – yes votes out number nos.** Will continue to confer status of emeritus and when done RCCAS President will sent the list to Vice Chancellor Mills and to all Senators.

B. College Updates and Roundtable Discussion and Updates

(Sellick) The RCCAS will hold a roundtable discussion regarding the College's approach to issues that senators have confronted.

Topics may include: Safe Return Task Force groups, pedagogy in

the online environment, and Canvas issues – moved to start of meeting.

- Motion to re-open not supported.
- Statement from RCCAS will be sent out by RCCAS President in a couple hours. Be on the lookout for that.

5:00 IX. **Adjourn 4:40 pm**
Motion to adjourn
Lehr/Mayse

DRAFT