Minutes
RCCDFA/CCA/CTA/NEA
November 4, 2014
RCC, DL 404

Present                      Absent
Dariush Haghighat (Faculty Association Pres)  
Shari Yates (Secretary)  
Rhonda Taube (Riv FT Rep)  
Leo Truttmann (Treasurer)  
Mark Sellick (Riv VP)  
John Sullivan (Riv FT Rep/CCA)  
Fabian Biancardi (MV VP)  
Cindy Mahon (MV PT Rep)  
Joe Eckstein (Nor VP)  
Dorothy Reina (Nor PT Rep/CCA Dist K Dir.)  
Chris Rocco (MV FT Rep)  
Tim Wallstrom (Nor Rep)  
Mark Carpenter (Guest)  
Jacqueline Lesch (Guest)  

1) Call to Order 1:05pm

2) Motion (Sullivan/Eckstein): To approve minutes. Approved unanimously.

3) President Report—**Dariush Haghighat**

4) Dariush thanked Marianne Reynolds, Rhonda Taube, and Shari Yates for their help in sending out the faculty survey regarding the upcoming contract negotiations. Rhonda drafted the language, Marianne formatted the questions on SurveyMonkey, and Shari and Rhonda sent out the emails.

5) Last night there were a couple of very interesting presentations at the Board of Trustees’ committee meeting. One of the presentations was by the Mass Notification Taskforce for safety. The presentation went well. Trustee Figueroa posed interesting queries to the committee including questioning who authorizes the safety procedures for lock down or evacuation. Is it the district or the college presidents?

6) The committee was praised for sorting out the many details and system mechanics. More procedures and polices need to be formulated that are currently not in place. For example, if faculty do not allow students to use cell phones, how will email blasts, voicemail blasts, FB and Twitter alerts help? If phones aren’t on, is there an intercom system?

7) The board was very responsive to Vice Chancellor Robin Steinback’s presentation on full time to part time faculty ratio in our district. The presentation was refreshing because it was the first time that the board heard what actual data can be included and what factors have to be excluded from the district’s report to the Chancellor’s office regarding the full time, part time ratio in our district. The district cannot obfuscate the numbers counting administrators who teach classes in the ranks of full time faculty. Our district is ranked 48th out of 76 districts in the state.
8) Dariush challenged Vice Chancellor Aaron Brown to suggest acknowledging that the 50 percent ratio is the floor and not the ceiling. Dariush shared with the trustees the Association’s frustration with the district budget prioritization, using the 50 percent ratio as the ceiling rather than the floor. Dariush shared with the board that the Association is extremely dismayed with the dismal record of our district in being 48th out of 76 districts in the state in full time, part time faculty ratio. That is a record that no stakeholder can be proud of in our district. If we wish members of our community to take our mission statement seriously, then our district has to change its budget priorities and make full time faculty hiring its top priority. We cannot claim that we are a student-centered district while remaining at the bottom bracket of full time, part time faculty ratio in the state.

9) Professor Ward Schinke asked Aaron Brown what base year was used for our district’s full time, part time faculty ratio. Then Professors Schinke and Lee Nelson asked Aaron Brown if the district has asked the chancellor’s office for any exemption from the 50% requirement. Aaron suggested that the district has never asked for such exceptions. However, after further probes from Professor Schinke, Aaron indicated that the district has excluded some funds.

10) The bottom-line is that the Board of Trustees heard that our district needs to focus on hiring more full time faculty. All the evidence is there.

11) Dariush shared with Marianne Reynolds, our CCA staff member, his and the Association’s extreme disappointment and frustration with the CTA’s inadequate support of our campaign efforts during the recent election.

12) Vice Presidents’ and Representatives’ Reports

13) Moreno Valley College—

14) Chris Rocco. Chris Rocco reported that Rick Hanson from CCCI is alerting the district that money is coming concerning AB 1469 (State teachers’ retirement Defined Benefit Program funding).

15) Chris has been working with the MVC librarians regarding their hours for the spring schedule. The formula needs to account for the compressed calendar. The hours that librarians are expected to work each week should be in line with RCC and NC librarians.

16) Fabian Biancardi.

17) Fabian reported that a deal seems to have been worked out with the investigators. One interview has been completed, one more will be held next week, and two more the week following. The investigators have agreed to the faculty interviews with representation and questions 24-hours in advance.

18) Cynthia Mahon. Cynthia sent the query to part time faculty asking who is doing institutional research. She received seven responses and will send out another email
reminder to non-respondents.

19) Norco College—

20) Joe Eckstein. Joe met with Beth Gomez, VP of Finance, regarding general liability and property expense.

21) Dorothy Reina. Part timers have mentioned concerns to Dorothy but they do not want those concerns to be mentioned in the minutes. It’s challenging for Dorothy to not be able to help but the faculty members are fearful.

22) Riverside City College—

23) Rhonda Taube. 84 people have taken the faculty survey regarding the upcoming contract negotiations. November 14th will be the last date to complete the survey.

24) Mark Sellick. Mark has been examining a right of assignment issue to get clarity. In the contract, it doesn’t say literally “right of assignment;” under article three it states “include but not limited to determine the assignment and thereof.” A department is weighing the option of offering a class and is unsure that they want it offered for a number of reasons. The department is going to vote on whether or not they will continue to offer the course, but department members are concerned that the administration may try to force the department to offer the course, despite the outcome.

25) Mark has been receiving inquiries regarding Institutional Service (IS). IS load should be five hours a week based on the 40-hour model workweek. It seems that some faculty are not aware that this is the expectation, likely because it is not articulated directly in the contract. It can come up in Improvement of Instruction (“IOI”).

26) Last week, when discussing the VC of Education interviews there was a discussion between Mark Sellick, Rhonda Taube, and Fabian Biancardi about the qualifications and processes of the search committee. Mark addressed the concern that he broke confidentiality. He pointed out that principles and processes connected to the hiring process are public and thus are not confidential. Candidates, however, and discussions that committees have regarding them, are confidential.

27) John Sullivan. Regarding the election, Juliann Anderson has been posting on Facebook about the Faculty Association PAC endorsing her. Juliann has been working the phones and social media.

28) Part time faculty representatives have been working on negotiation items the last few weeks.

29) John has received questions about faculty not receiving membership cards. Shari is working toward getting the cards that didn’t come through.
30) John sent out an email when Hudson notices were delivered that if faculty want to become a member, a membership form is included in the packet. Shari has scanned the application form so we are happy to email it out, so faculty can print, and send it back.

31) The faculty workroom in the Quad has a printer now.

32) We are having difficulty getting login information for the computers. John is talking with Susan Mills and Associate Vice Chancellor Rick Herman regarding this issue.

33) **Treasurer Report: Leo Truttmann.** No report

34) **Secretary Report:** No report

35) **Open Session:** Mark Carpenter attended a part time conference and most of it was on part time employment and unemployment issues. Faculty need to list the DHR phone number on the unemployment application since DHR knows what to say. Also there is movement called the New Majority where “at will” contingency employees walk out of the job. It is similar to “A day without Mexicans” campaign. [The current contract does not allow for walkouts/lockouts or strikes. "During the term of this Agreement, neither the Association, its officers, agents, members, nor any employee will authorize, instigate, encourage, aid, condone, participate in, or engage in a strike or work stoppage of any kind, regardless of whether there is a claim by the Association of breach of this Agreement or a Federal or State law by the District."]

36) Closed Session—Six items discussed.

37) Adjournment 2:45pm