

District Academic Senate Meeting - Agenda

Tuesday, September 21, 2021
3-5 pm

Zoom Information

- Join Zoom Meeting
<https://lrccd.zoom.us/j/96845456244?pwd=U1p6Uzd2ZXVqb3ZlR1U5eGk4bmYrUT09>
- Meeting ID: 968 4545 6244
- Passcode: 738934
- One tap mobile
 - +16699006833,,96845456244# US (San Jose)
 - +12532158782,,96845456244# US (Tacoma)
- Dial by your location
 - +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
 - Meeting ID: 968 4545 6244
- Find your local number: <https://lrccd.zoom.us/u/avmTFy48J>
- Join by Skype for Business
- <https://lrccd.zoom.us/skype/96845456244>

Preliminaries

- Call to order
- Land Acknowledgement
- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of September 7, 2021 Minutes
- Public Comment (3 minutes per person as time permits)

DAS President's Report (10 minutes)

- Review of meeting notes and weekly recaps and answering of any clarification questions.

Decision Items (15 minutes per item)

1. Brown Act and Passage of AB 361-Required Special Findings
 - a. The DAS will discuss and vote regarding the current COVID-19 pandemic California state of emergency. Is the state of emergency continuing to directly impact the ability of DAS members to meet safely in person? [see Supplemental Materials]

California Title 5 §53200 "10+1" 1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites 2. Degree and certificate requirements 3. Grading policies 4. Educational program development 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success 6. College governance structures, as related to faculty roles 7. Faculty roles and involvement in the accreditation process 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities 9. Processes for program review 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development 11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.

Discussion Items (15 minutes per item)

1. District Accessibility Plan Implementation Committee (DAPIC) [TIME CERTAIN 3:15]
 - a. Co-chairs Kandace Knudson and Torence Powell will report on the DAPIC work thus far and sharing of proposed next steps.
2. Faculty Statement on Professional Ethics
 - a. Discussion encouraging college academic senates to reaffirm their statements on professional ethics if they already have one [[Cosumnes River College](#)] or to work to approve one for their college.
3. Attendance & Drop Policy Guidance
 - a. Understanding LRCCD Attendance & Drop Policy (P-2222/R-2222) is permissive, ARC is interested in providing guidance for faculty around equitable practices. Are other colleges interested in aligning guidance around a shared understanding of what a permissible range of attendance might look like? Might DESCC be the correct to assist with investigating this?
4. Equity Training for Performance Evaluation Committee Team Members
 - a. SCC AS passed a resolution recommending equity training for all members on performance evaluation committees. DAS reviewed this resolution on April 6, 2021 and asked all colleges to consider the resolution. Colleges will share feedback on the SCC resolution and next steps will be determined. [see Supporting Materials for the full resolution language]
5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
 - a. Time for reflection on how to infuse DEI work into everything associated with academic and professional matters.

Reports (5 minutes per item, as time permits)

- Meetings with Chancellor, Deputy Chancellor, etc.
- College Academic Senate Presidents
- District Curriculum Coordinating Committee (DCCC) (Giordano)
- District Equity & Student Success Committee (DESSC) (Anayah)
- District Educational Technology Committee (DETC) (Trench)
- Other meeting reports
 - AB705 (Oliver)
 - Accreditation (Oliver)
 - Adjunct Hiring Manual (Crosier)
 - Accessibility (DAPIC)(Knudson)
 - Budget (Myers)
 - Calendar (Oliver)
 - Equivalency Task Group (Oliver)
 - Ethnic Studies Council (Cheshire/Heningburg)
 - Prison & Reentry Program (Crosier)
 - Other...
- Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC)
- Los Rios College Federation of Teachers (LRCFT) (Newman)

Future Events

- Future DAS meetings-Oct 5 & 19, Nov 2 & 16, Dec 7
- [LRCCD Board of Trustees](#) Meeting, Wednesday, Oct 20, 2021, 5:30pm
- [ASCCC events](#)-many other events and institutes are listed on the website
 - [Area A](#) Fri Oct 15

- [Fall Plenary](#) Nov 4-6

Supplemental Materials

Decision Item #1

Legal Guidance on AB 361 from LRCCD General Counsel Jake Knapp:

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, which amends the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies the ability to conduct virtual meetings (as Los Rios had previously done throughout the pandemic pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order). The legislation included an urgency clause, which means it takes effect immediately.

Virtual Meetings Allowed in Certain Circumstances

In a nutshell, AB 361 allows local legislative bodies to continue holding remote meetings without complying with the normal Brown Act teleconferencing requirements, such as having to disclose the teleconferencing locations of remotely participating members or make them accessible to the public, but **only under the following circumstances during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor**:

- 1) State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; **or**
- 2) The legislative body is meeting for the purpose of determining, by a majority vote, that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees as a result of the state of emergency; **or**
- 3) The legislative body has already determined, by a majority vote, that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees as a result of the emergency.

Special Findings Required

In order to continue using the more flexible virtual meeting rules under AB361, if the state of emergency remains active for more than 30 days, local legislative bodies must reconsider the circumstances of the emergency and **adopt findings by majority vote that either:**

- (1) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person; **or**
- (2) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend social distancing measures.

These findings must be made every thirty days at a public meeting in order to continue using the AB361 virtual meetings provisions. This means that we will likely need to have a standing action item to allow the board to make the required findings.

Additional Requirements

AB 361 requires a public comment period where the public can address the legislative body directly. It expressly prohibits local governments from limiting public comments to only comments submitted in advance and specifies that the legislative body "must provide an opportunity for the public to ... offer comment in real time." Additionally, the legislative body must allow for public comment up until the public comment period is closed at the meetings. The agenda must include information on the manner in which the public may access the meeting and provide comments remotely, and **if technical problems arise that result in the public's access being disrupted, the legislative body may not take any vote or other official action until the technical disruption is corrected and public access is restored.** Los Rios

was already complying with these public comment best practices, so these additional statutory requirements should not add an additional hurdle for future virtual meetings.

Not Just the Pandemic

The statutory language was written in a way that would encompass not only the current pandemic, but other states of emergency declared by the Governor. A legislative committee analysis, for example, cites wildfires and other emergency conditions that may qualify – but again, only if (and while) the Governor issues an emergency proclamation.

Governor’s Emergency Proclamation

The Governor issued an emergency proclamation for the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020. That emergency proclamation has not been rescinded, and remains in effect. The Governor could rescind his emergency proclamation at any time, and the legislature may also override an emergency proclamation by concurrent resolution. Finally, there is pending litigation in Southern California challenging the length of the Governor’s current emergency order. In the event that the existing COVID-19 emergency proclamation is rescinded by the Governor, the legislature, or the courts, we would no longer be eligible to use the AB361 virtual meeting process – the regular Brown Act teleconferencing rules would apply.

Discussion Item #4

Sacramento City College Academic Senate

Resolution 2021-01: Resolution in Support of Equity-focused Professional Development for Performance Review Team Members

Whereas, the goals of California Community Colleges as stated in Title 5 include eradicating institutional racism, eliminating barriers to student equity, and ensuring “the equal educational opportunity of all students”,¹ and which are supported by Title 5 Job Announcements and Qualifications requiring “a sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students”² for faculty and administrative positions and,

Whereas these goals have been similarly affirmed through formal positions adopted by the Los Rios Community College District (LRCCD) Board of Trustees (BOT), Los Rios Community College District Academic Senate (LRCCD AS), and Sacramento City College Academic Senate (SCC AS)³ and,

Whereas, Sacramento City College’s New Faculty Academy (NFA), as a college-sponsored and college-funded professional development program, provides mentorship for new faculty through a curriculum focused on “culturally responsive teaching, innovation, and transformation”, equipping faculty to “teach in an inclusive, culturally appropriate, culturally responsive manner so that each student has an equitable opportunity to learn and succeed”⁴ and,

Whereas, Performance Review Teams have significant influence over the career, pedagogical practices, and working environment of tenure-track faculty,⁵ and include members who may or may not have been trained in culturally responsive practices and,

Whereas, Sacramento City College’s (SCC) Faculty Statement of Professional Ethics affirms that faculty should “regularly assess for personal biases and remain dedicated to a culture of equity and fair advancement for all,”⁶ and this commitment includes an Equity Reflection⁷ that is now required of all faculty undergoing performance review as evidence of the importance of equitable faculty practices in the pedagogical assignment and,

Whereas, “policies for faculty professional development activities” are a “10+1” issue and are under the Academic Senate purview as a recommending body to our college administration and to our LRCCD Board of Trustees ⁸ therefore,

Resolved, that the Sacramento City College Academic Senate recommends and urges all members of faculty Performance Review Teams to engage in equity and anti-racist professional development offered or sponsored by our SCC Staff Resource Center for this purpose and,

Resolved, we urge our College administration to examine and align institutional practices with stated equity commitments in order to ensure a fair and equitable process for all faculty undergoing the performance review process and,

Resolved, we urge the Los Rios Colleges Federation of Teachers (LRCFT) to consider how equity and anti-racism efforts may be further supported by future contract negotiations regarding the performance review process and,

Resolved, that we as an Academic Senate body will disseminate this resolution widely to constituency groups at Sacramento City College, our District Academic Senate, our College and District administrative personnel, and our Board of Trustees.

Notes:

¹ CCC Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Title 5 CCR § 51201

² CCC Job Announcements and Qualifications, Title 5 CCR § 53022

³ LRCCD BOT Resolution № 2020-09 Affirming Our Commitment to Student Success for Black and African American Students, Adopted July 14, 2020. LRCCD Academic Senate Call to Action, Approved Tuesday November 17, 2020. SCC Academic Senate Resolution in Support of Equity, Anti-Racism, and the ASCCC and DAS Calls to Action, Approved December 1, 2020

⁴ SCC NFA Curriculum Syllabus

⁵ [LRCFT Contract 2021-2023 Articles 8](#)

⁶ [SCC Faculty Statement of Professional Ethics](#)

⁷ [LRCFT Contract 2021-2023 Article 8 and Appendix E1](#)

⁸ [LRCCD BOT P-3412](#)

Los Rios CCD Academic Senate Call to Action

Approved Tuesday November 17, 2020

The four Los Rios Colleges and the District Academic Senate support the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Fall 2019 Plenary Resolution “[Support Infusing Anti-Racism/No Hate Education in Community Colleges](#)”. Specifically, to the following Resolved statements from that resolution:

- denounce racism for its negative psychological, social, educational, and economic effects on human development throughout the lifespan;
- take steps to not only strive for a greater knowledge about and the celebration of diversity but also to support deeper training that reveals the inherent racism embedded in societal institutions in the United States, including the educational system, and asks individuals to examine their personal role in the support of racist structures and the commitment to work to dismantle structural racism; and
- infuse Anti- Racism/No Hate Education in all its activities and professional development opportunities to the degree that doing so is feasible.

To achieve this, our Academic Senates are committed to:

1. Include a discussion of anti-racism/no-hate education on agendas. Remembering that we do not have to have an answer to start a conversation.

2. Prioritize culturally responsive curricular redesign with our curriculum committees.
3. Acknowledge, without assigning blame, that the structure of our colleges houses the biases and prejudices of their founding times. Those biases have privileged some and disadvantaged others, particularly African American and LatinX communities.
4. Prioritize the evaluation of hiring and evaluation processes with an equity lens.
5. Request services from the ASCCC about any of these topics if needed.
6. Evaluate our academic senates and find the voices among our faculties missing in governance. Find ways to empower those voices.
7. Work with our administrations, classified professional colleagues, and students to find constructive ways students can express themselves about structural and historical biases that exist.

Land Acknowledgements

[ARC Indigenous Land Statement](#)

“We acknowledge the land which we occupy today as the traditional home of the Maidu and Miwok tribal nations. These sovereign people have been the caretakers of this land since time immemorial. Despite centuries of genocide and occupation, the Maidu and Miwok continue as vibrant and resilient Federally recognized tribes and bands. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the generations that have gone before as well as the present-day Maidu and Miwok people.”

[CRC Land Acknowledgement](#)

“We pause to acknowledge that Cosumnes River College sits on the land of Miwok and Nisenan people. We remember their continued connection to this region and give thanks to them. We offer our respect to their Elders and to all Miwok and Nisenan people of the past and present.”

[FLC Land Acknowledgement](#)

“We respectfully acknowledge the land currently occupied by Folsom Lake College as the traditional home of the sovereign Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok peoples who have a unique and enduring relationship stewarding this land since time immemorial. Despite colonization, occupation and genocide, the Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok people continue and thrive in their resilience and self-determination. We celebrate and recognize our Nisenan, Maidu and Miwok tribal neighbors and honor their sustained existence.”