



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, March 16, 2020**

Zoom and Teleconference

**I. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**A. Roll Call**

President Stankas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed members and guests.

C. Aschenbach, M. Bean, A. Bruzzese, M. Cruz, S. Curry, D. Davison, G. Dyer, S. Foster, S. Henderson, G. May, K. Mica, L. Parker, and C. Roberson.

Staff: Tonya Davis, Director of Administration; April Lonero, Executive Assistant; and Edie Martinelli, Events Manager.

**B. Approval of the Agenda**

MSC (Bruzzese/Davison) to approve the agenda as presented.

**C. Public Comment**

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Executive Committee on any matter not on the agenda. No action will be taken. Speakers are limited to three minutes.*

Julie Oliver, Cosumnes River College; Debbie Klein, Gavilan College; Dan Crump, American River College; Wheeler North, San Diego Miramar College; Roy Shahbazian, Santa Ana College; Thomas Renbarger, Merritt College; Teresa Aldredge, Cosumnes River College; Matthew Henes, Pasadena City College; Mark Sellick, Riverside City College; and Manuel Velez, San Diego Mesa College were in attendance. .

No formal public comment was entered.

**II. REPORTS**

**A. President's/Executive Director's Report – 30 mins., Stankas/Mica**

Stankas provided an update regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its impact on Academic Senate Events. Stankas and the Executive Director are monitoring directions for event organizers from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Governor Newsom, and the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The Academic Senate Office

is in regular contact with the event venues regarding their response to COVID-19 and event restrictions. Stankas emphasized the work of the Executive Director to ensure the fiscal health and responsibility of the organization and that the Academic Senate fulfills its mission in compliance with its rules and bylaws. Due to the current CDC guidelines to cancel gatherings over 50 people and city-ordered venue closures, the 2020 Spring Plenary Session can no longer be held on April 16-18, 2020, at the Oakland Marriott City Center, and the Career and Noncredit Education Institute can no longer be held April 30-May 2, 2020, at the San Mateo Marriott. The recommendation from the Executive Director, President, and the Academic Senate Office is to postpone the 2020 Spring Plenary to July 2020 to run concurrently with the 2020 Curriculum Institute. The Area Meetings would be delayed until this time. Holding the Plenary Session in July accounts for district travel restrictions and recognizes the situation of the field during this time. To allow the current Executive Committee members to remain in office until an election is conducted in July 2020, the Executive Committee would need to take action to amend Section 1.C Terms of Office of the Academic Senate Rules. Stankas discussed the importance of supporting local senates during their transitions to remote instruction or campus closures and the concern that faculty engagement in state-level work may be low at this time.

Mica informed the committee of consultation with the Academic Senate's parliamentary and legal counsel regarding our event practices and conversations about Spring 2020 events with Executive Directors of partner organizations. Mica shared the recommendation development process, including the analysis of hotel capacity, attendee overlap, district travel restrictions, and the Academic Senate bylaws requiring two Plenary Sessions a year.

The committee noted concerns such as the ability for faculty to request travel, the longevity of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the possible room for flexibility in the bylaws under the current circumstances. Members asked for the exploration of additional options.

### **III. ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. Discussion of Officers Term – 30 mins., Stankas/Mica**

The Executive Committee discussed the recommendation to amend Section 1.C Terms of Office of the Academic Senate Rules regarding extending the Officers' and representatives end of term date. Mica noted that a lapse of Officers and representatives would be a breach of duty for the Executive Committee. Stankas informed the committee of the functions of Plenary, including providing guidance and recommendation to the Chancellor's Office and California legislature on academic and professional matters as directed in Title 5 Section 53206, holding elections to ensure the continuity of the organization, and providing professional development to faculty statewide.

Members expressed apprehension toward extending Officer and representative terms considering the Fall 2019 Resolutions concerning term limits, the field perception around extending terms, and summer reassign time. Members suggested holding the Spring 2020 Plenary Session virtually and conducting

voting electronically. To move elections permanently to an online format, a revision to the Academic Senate rules needs to be made. The committee discussed surveying the field to gather their preference regarding electronic voting and the timing of voting.

Members shared concerns that a virtual conference or electronic voting may not fulfill the current need in the field and could perhaps overwhelm the field in light of current pressing matters. It was suggested that in a time of emergency, there should be flexibility in our typical events and processes. Additionally, there is a concern that a change to instant runoff voting per the Fall 2019 Resolutions combined with a move to an online format may be too much significant change at once. Members also recommended creating a procedure for holding, modifying, or canceling events and how to conduct elections in emergencies.

**MSC (May/Henderson) to approve holding Executive Committee elections in an electronic format, one-time, during Spring 2020 with a reconsideration of the date by the Academic Senate Office, with no amendments to the Academic Senate Rules or Bylaws.**

**B. Professional Development for the Field – 30 mins., Stankas/Mica**

The Executive Committee discussed professional development activities for the field during the remainder of Spring 2020. The committee noted that the field needs resources and support on topics such as converting to remote instruction, assisting faculty with classes that do not convert well to remote instruction, supporting local governance processes, supporting students in this transition, and supporting oneself and other faculty. Members suggested ideas including, regional video chats, small support groups, and webinars. Concerns were raised regarding the ability to produce enough relevant and accurate support and content. Stankas requested short-term and long-term professional development ideas are sent to the President, Vice President, and Executive Director.

No action by motion was taken on this item.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

The Executive Committee adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

April Lonero, Executive Assistant

Cheryl Aschenbach, Secretary