Classified Senate Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2024| 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. |Zoom Meeting: https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/89274540735?from=addon & SU 211

Classified Senate Attendance			
Scott Broberg	**Present**	**Katie Olivier**	**Absent**
Andy Chau	**Absent**	**Cecilia Schreyer**	**Present**
Heather Dominguez	**Present**	**Jillian Whistler**	**Present**
John Fawcett	**Present**	**Curtis Williams**	**Present**
Lucy Grams	**Present**	**Eric Wilson**	**Present**
Jeanette Grimm	**Present**	**Sean Wellengard**	**Absent**
Sue Harlan	**Present**	**Alexia Wood**	**Absent**

Guests

Michelle Auduong, Jessica Bravo, Alex Buus, Cynthia Chavez, Karen Cifuentes, M. Crawford, Denise D'Amore, Tanya De La Cruz, Jeff Delaney, Nexy Gavidia, Martha Guevara, Mireille Halley, Vickie Hay, Kayla LaBounty, Karen Latham, Shelley Lowrey, Belta Moon, Martha Munoz-Sanchez, JohnPaul Nguyen, Thuy Nguyen, E. Ortega, Beatriz Rodriguez, Mette Segerblom, Eva Shaffer, R. Sukaesih, Aalayah Thompson, Lupe Tinoco, Van Tran, M. Vaughan, Michelle Wang, Austin Webb, Veronica, Teresa, Roxann, and Tiffany.

Guests: Lee Gordon

Recorder of Minutes: Beatriz Rodriguez Vaca

1. **Call to Order -** Classified Senate President:

President John Fawcett called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

2. **Approval of the Minutes -** Classified Senate Body:

Motion 1: Senator Jill Whistler moved to approve the 12/13/23; motion seconded; motion approved.

3. **Public Comment**

- None.

4. For the Good of the Order

- None.

5. Officer, Senator, and Committee Reports:

A. President's Report – John Fawcett
- There is a lot of activity on the signage committee. The major focus of the committee is getting much larger and clearer signage on our buildings to support better navigation around the campus.
- He sits in other various committees.

B. Vice Presidents' Reports: No report.
C. Classified Senator Reports – No reports.
D. CFCP Report: Michael Carrizo – No report.
E. Other Committee Reports:

6. Unfinished Business:

A. None

7. New Business:

A. Budget Presentation by Academic Senate President, Lee Gordon:

- Talked about 1) the causes and the consequences of the state of California's budget shortfall, 2) Coast district's budget messaging, and 3) our current funding.
    1. There is no single agreed upon estimate for the current size of the state of California's budget shortfall. There are major differences between the Legislative Analyst's Office analysis and the Governor's January proposal. In December the Legislative Analyst's Office reported that revenues were well below prior estimates leading to a long-term budget deficit projection by the legislative analyst of $68 billion. Governor Newsom's January budget proposal predicts approximately a $38 billion shortfall. One reason why there are 2 different numbers is that the governor and the legislative analyst disagree about how to categorize some spending actions in the governor's proposed budget. Both the legislative analyst and the governor estimate that there will be issues in the revenue collections and California's needs in the future. The difference between the Governor's projected deficit and the legislative analyst's projected deficit is driven by the Governor's more optimistic state revenue forecast. Estimates of the State's budget shortfall will be updated in May as more information becomes available. The Governor's updated estimates will be unveiled in his revised budget, which is sometimes called the May revise. That must be released by the fourteenth of May. The main reason for the budget problem is that State revenue collections have been coming in much lower than previously projected. Forecasts for future revenues have also been adjusted downward, as a result. This occurs after several years of strong revenue growth that produced budget surpluses. The extent of the 2022 revenue shortfall only became clear a few months ago, in late 2023, due to the extension of tax filing deadlines for 2022 taxes to November of 2023. Because of this delay state leaders had to finalize the 2023-2024 budget last June with much less complete revenue information than usual. They enacted a budget assuming significantly more revenue for the 2022 tax year than actually materialized. They have to close this budget gap. California did set aside funds for a rainy day, meaning that the State has significant resources to address a budget shortfall. At the end of last month California held a total of more than $25 billion in 4 state budget reserves. Both the legislative analyst and the governor have projections on the upcoming cost of living adjustment. The legislative analyst calls for a cost-of-living adjustment of 1.27% in the next yea; the

2024 year. The governor projects a cost-of-living adjustment of 0. 76% in 2024 and 2025. Growth funding is to increase by 0.05%.

2. Coast district's budget messaging: For some time now the Coast district has employed austerity messaging in its communications. We continue to have the challenging situation wherein the district, on the one hand, tells us that we will be either no new hiring other than for compliance or very little. At the same time, in making its projections, the District maintains the fiction that there will be expenditures on filling the very positions it has already told us will go unfilled. The Unions and the Academic Senate have asked the district to provide us with a projection based on the very assumptions that the district has already given us with respect to new hiring. You should know that the College Budget Committee has provided us already with similar projections for OCC and OCC is half the District. So, our problem in getting accurate information is not from the college. It is from the district. With respect to our current funding, all the community colleges that receive funding directly from the State are funded at the funding levels of enrollment in the 2017-2018 academic year. This doctrine has been called the Hold Harmless Doctrine. This is due to expire at the end of the next academic year. It will be replaced in the 2025-2026 year by a program called the Funding Floor. This will have no provision for cost-of-living adjustments or other funding increases unless our enrollment surpasses the funding floor level, which is the enrollment that we had in 2017-2018. Even with the recent increases in our enrollment, we are way below the levels that we were at in 2017-2018. What this means is that even if we continue to increase our enrollment gradually, the additional students do not produce any additional revenues to the college. This is different than it was before this system came into place a few years ago. Under the District's Fiscal Stabilization plan, the college is charged with balancing its budget. OCC is currently working on its plan which is to be submitted at the March 06 Board of trustees meeting. This is an important matter that affects all of us in our employment here. Everybody should know that has been going on for two years. We are just asking the district to give us accurate projections.

B. Caring Campus:

Jessica Bravo:

- The mission of OCC Caring Campus is to cultivate a caring campus community rooted in collaboration and mutual respect among other diverse groups of employees and students and so, by working to enrich employee connections, we built a strong foundation for robust interdepartmental communication and partnership to enhance the student experience. Increase employee job satisfaction and promote a deep sense of community and belonging by creating an inclusive supportive environment the effects of caring campus will improve student engagement and inspire best practices for equitable and accessible learning.

Lucy Grams:

- Last week they went over the internal department contact list. When the committee members first met, they shared experiences about how we did not know how to refer students to other departments and who to refer them to. This is helpful to pinpoint specialized needs for the students. This will be as to date as possible. If anyone is not listed yet, they can reach out her. She showed the logo for caring campus. She introduced the Coast Cares Card. It is not a name tag. It is an opportunity to present yourself to students in an accessible way so they know they could identify you as an employee that works here, and they can easily know your name, pronouns, and languages spoken. They will roll those out soon.

Alex Buus:

- The reason why we are doing this is to help students. We want to be a welcoming campus. If a student is within 6 feet of distance, ask them if they need help.

Jeanette Grimm:

- Asked if there is an interest from Classified Senate to co-host bingo with Caring Camus. It would be on Wednesday, March 27 in leu of the regular senate meeting.

C. First Amendment Chancellor's Letter: John Fawcett asked Classified Professionals to read the letter and submit feedback before endorsing the letter.

8. Open Forum:

- There will be a student job fair on Friday, March 08.
- Prizes are welcomed for the bingo session.
- Fill out the survey that went out this morning, the Classified Professional Survey.

Motion 2: Senator Jeanette Grimm moved to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded; motion approved unanimously.

9. Adjournment of the Regular Meeting:

Meeting ended at 12:01 p.m.