



**YFA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
APPROVED MINUTES
January 20, 2021**

Meeting is called to order at 3:04 pm

QUORUM [X]

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Shelley Akiona	[X]
Vice President/CC	Erik Andal	[X]
Vice President/MJC	Steve Choi	[X]
Budget Analyst	Vacant	[-]
Secretary	Iris Carroll	[X]
Treasurer	Larry Scheg	[X]
MJC College Council	Ross McKenzie	[X]
Rep At-Large/MJC	Optimism One	[X]
Rep At-Large/MJC	Hardev Dhillon	[X]
Rep At-Large/CC	Craig Johnston	[X]

Other Positions:

Faculty Liaison:	Allan McKissick	[X]
Lead Negotiator:	Jim Sahlman	[X]

REP COUNCIL

Agriculture/Environmental Sciences: Mike Morales	[X]
Allied Health: Jill Ramsey	[X]
Arts/Humanities/Comm: Haleh Niazmand	[X]
Family/Consumer Sciences: Amy Carnahan-Cook	[X]
Behavioral/Social Sciences: Steve Choi	[X]
Business: Linda Kropp	[X]
Library/Learning Resources: Iris Carroll	[X]
Physical/Recreation/Health Ed (FA): Demetrius Snaer	[Jim S.]
Literature/Language Arts (A): Optimism One	[X]
Literature/Language Arts (B): Tony Pacheco	[X]
Science/Math/Engineering: Tom Nomof	[X]
Science/Math/Engineering: Hardev Dhillon	[X]
Special Programs (EOPS/DSPS): Ben Riley	[X]
Student Services/Counseling: Hanna Louie	[X]
Technical Education: Tim Vaughan	[Absent]
CC Rep A At-Large: Don Dickinson	[Absent]
CC Rep B At-Large: Sylvia Watterson	[X]
CC Part-Time At-Large: Peter Northrop	[X]
MJC Part-Time At-Large: Duane Brooks	[Absent]

Note: held via Zoom because of the coronavirus outbreak

Consent Agenda

Approve YFA Rep Council Minutes – December 9, 2020 with corrections

- Ross McKenzie moved with Linda Kropp seconding.
- The consent agenda was approved with one abstention.

Action/Continuing Projects

- COVID Side Letter: Consideration for Next Steps – Shelley Akiona
Shelley reminded the body that our COVID side letter agreements are in effect until COVID ends; however, YFA is starting to consider next steps. As a consequence, Shelley is talking with Chancellor Yong and Board members about several issues including vaccinations. For now, Chancellor Yong is monitoring legislation and Shelley is keeping a running list of issues about which we should be aware

including: vaccinations, ability to continue working remotely, routine testing, etc.

- Colleges' Presidential Changes – Shelley Akiona

Shelley announced that President B. from Columbia will be the acting President at MJC and that it appears that the District will begin its search for a new MJC president. Representatives spoke highly of Dr. B.

- Budget Update – Shelley Akiona

Shelley announced that a recent enrollment update given at College Council shows that we're about 17% down in enrollment districtwide. This seems to be the trend statewide and nationally (14%). Luckily, the District reports that our reserves and fund balance are substantial enough that we could manage the storm for three years.

Shelley asked Chancellor Yong about the 2.49% raise for August based on our funding formula, and he doesn't foresee any problems with that moving ahead.

In addition, there is substantially more federal CARES money coming, and Chancellor Yong advised the two VPIs to let some low-enrolled classes go so we can continue to serve students.

Ross alerted us to the fact that the official enrollment update given at College Council shows a productivity target to which faculty never agreed.

A discussion ensued about part-time faculty situations in light of our low enrollment and drop in the number of sections.

Larry Scheg reminded us that if you're under load you have until spring 2022 to make it up. In addition, he reminded us that any banked time will get paid out at the rate at which you earned it when you separate from the district. However, if you use the banked leave to make load, it gets paid out at the current rate.

Steve Choi gave the group an update on AB 897, which would allow part-time faculty to work up to 80+% of a full-time load. The bill has expired and will be reintroduced in 2021. So, it'll be another two years before it makes it to the governor's office.

- Request to Consider Re-Establishing Political Action Committee (PAC) – Shelley Akiona

One YFA member has asked the YFA to consider recreating the Political Action Committee. A lengthy discussion ensued. Larry Scheg reminded the group of the financial and legal problems the PAC caused YFA in the past. Linda Kropp reiterated his points by telling us that running the PAC was super cumbersome (in terms of legalities and finances) and that we couldn't get someone to run it.

Tom Nomof stated that our strike experience taught us that it is important to be able to get funding for Board candidates. It is a powerful option that YFA has. Historically, so much of the reason why we didn't have much influence was because of the Board composition.

Shelley agreed and added that if we decide to endorse we can do so within our bylaws. Therefore, we agree to look at the Bylaws endorsement revisions and not form a PAC.

- [MJC Mission, Vision & Values Statements](#) – Ross McKenzie / Shelley Akiona
 Ross reported that movement on the statements are stalled, especially given the fact that former President Houpis was the big driving force.
 Shelley and Ross were able to convince College Council that we shouldn't accept a short mission statement without a values statement. The statement has gone to Senate and they'll review it before it goes back to MJC CC.
 The body gave Shelley thumbs up for she and Ross to continue to advocate for more meaningful statements.

- [MJC Decision Making Principles](#) – Shelley Akiona
 Former President Houpis introduced these principles in College Council. Even though these principles were agreed to be used in College Council only as a framework for decision making within that body, the principles statement made its way to the President's page on the MJC website and has cropped up in other committees. Therefore, Shelley has flagged the process. In fact, when she brought this up, Dr. B. agreed that this statement never went through the shared governance process.

- Spring Nominations / Elections – Shelley Akiona
 We discussed the timeline for the upcoming election. It was recommended that we hold a Zoom forum for the presidential nominees and that Allan McKissick serve as the moderator.

 Iris Carroll made a motion that was seconded by Ben Riley. The motion passed and YFA will plan a Candidates' Forum.

Announcements, Updates, Reports, and Other Business

- Part-Time Membership Drive Update -- Iris Carroll
 Iris Carroll reported that on the January dues list we had 26 part-time members and we just added four more today. Geri Wend sent out the membership postcard to part-time faculty last week. In addition, we are planning a Q & A for part-time faculty to occur after February 1.

 Iris will send out a recruitment email to all part-time faculty with links to the membership video and the YFA website. Iris also announced that she is starting to plan a part-time webpage for the YFA website, working with Pete Northrop and Duane Brooks, our part-time representatives.

 Pete announced that he thinks two more members will be coming from Columbia, and Shelley thanked Pete for doing a great job.

- College Council Updates – Ross McKenzie / Craig Johnston
 Ross had nothing else to report other than the what was included in the discussion above. He did add that Dr. B. has done a good job of jumping in.
 Craig Johnston reported that at the Columbia College Council, Dr. B. talked about his dual role, COVID protocols, and about cell phone service.

- Vice Presidents' Updates – Steve Choi / Erik Andal

Erik Andal reported that they are talking about scheduling Zoom YFA meetings at Columbia. They haven't continued to hold YFA and Senate meetings together as they have done historically.

Steve Choi reported that we currently have many RFIs going out to the district and have many issues brewing. He told us to let him know if we hear anything in our divisions about processes not being followed. He reported that he is working on some grievances, and that the issues tend to be about process. Shelley interjected that there are some problems with part-time hiring process in more than one area.

Allan thanked Steve and Shelley for working on these issues.

- Negotiations Update – Jim Sahlman / Negotiations Team Members

Jim reported that we've had one session already (1/15) and that the tone of negotiations is good.

He continued by telling us that even though the goal of this year's round is to clean up contract language in each of the articles, that's not going to happen. Instead, we'll need to pick and choose what we get to.

Currently, the team is working on part-time re-employment preferences. Jim informed us that what we have in the contract now is basic language from the law in addition to the point system that we created. Our focus now is to devise a method that works for part-timers and retired faculty who may want to come back and teach. We're looking at some other methods for doing this that have already been adopted by some NorCal and SoCal districts. We've tried to be data oriented; therefore, we've requested data from District regarding the point system. Jim thinks we'll probably finalize this issue.

We've also talked a lot about compensation for part-time office hours. Jim is very confident we'll get this issue finalized during this round of negotiations.

Another area of discussion that we're beginning is the class capacity tie breaker. He reminded the body that we have to decide on class capacity before a class can move to the Curriculum Committee. We have a few options that we're looking into.

Jim wants the team to get to the issue of stipends and reassign time for which there are several issues that need attention. For example, faculty are getting stipends without YFA knowledge or input, which is clearly an issue of compensation. YFA needs to make sure everyone is getting fairly compensated for all the work they do. Also, faculty are getting assignments without YFA knowing about it. This practice sends a mixed message: District says we need to scale back reassign time and yet administration creates these reassign positions. This practice can send a message of favoritism. We need ensure that the system works fairly and consistently districtwide.

Jim concludes by saying that he thinks we're in good shape and having productive discussions.

- Other

People were asking about former President Houpis. Allan McKissick warned against rumor mongering and reminded us that Dr. Houpis had not been well for some time.

ADJOURNED 4.55 p.m.