

# CLASSIFIED SENATE MEETING MINUTES

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FRIDAY, January 15, 2021  
1:15p.m.-3:00p.m. – Via Zoom Conferencing

**Call to Order:** John Feist called the meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

## **Roll Call:**

**Approval of Agenda:** Ernest Guillen motioned to approve the agenda; Kyle Stroud 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Agenda approved by general consensus.

**Approval of Minutes:** No minutes to be approved from December's meeting

**Public Comments/Guest:** President Rodriguez or other Administrators may join the meeting

Going straight to reports

## **Discussion:**

## **Reports:**

### **President report:**

**John Feist**

Classified Senate Presidents had a meeting with interim Chancellor Jose Torres and these meetings will become recurring. These meetings will be more along a dialogue instead of reporting. Jose Torres will be available to speak at our meetings for a Q&A or open dialogue.

### **Treasurers Report:**

Phylicia Sanchez has no update but verifies no change in budget.

### **Committee reports:**

Introduction of classified staff and which committees they serve on...

**Patrice Hollis** serves on Scholastic Standards and Scholarship Committee

**Girija Raghavan** serves on District Budget Committee and Campus Budget Committee

**Ernest Guillen** serves on the Arts, Lecture and Diversity, HS Task Force and the President's committee on Race, Equity and Inclusion and is the Vice President of the Classified Senate

**Mary Valdemar** serves on several committees about diversity and equity, EEO, committee on antiracism and the CSEA Pack Political Action Coordinator

**Kyle Stroud** serves on Guided Pathways Executive Committee

**Sarah Yearyean** serves on Facilities and Safety Committee

**Nathan Yearyean** serves on Technology Committee

**Caleb Losee** serves on the Basic Skills Committee, was able to pass funding for an embedded tutoring pilot program for mathematics

**Christie Gabriel-Millette** serves on Enrollment Management and Student Equity and Guided Pathways, Student Success and Support Committee, Sustainability Committee and the Curriculum Committee

**Phylicia Sanchez** serves on the Spotighting Our Success Committee and the Arts, Lecture and Diversity Committee

Spotlighting our Success Awards will be virtual for 2021

**Cedric Wrenn** and **Judy Rodriguez** won the 2020 Spotighting Our Success awards. They will still be honored at the 2021 awards

**John feist** shared the Classified Senate Objectives as a reminder and that it does differ from the union objectives. This is to introduce the committee and the representatives on the committee is how we get the objectives accomplished.

The objectives are:

1. Facilitate communication among students, staff, faculty, administrators and the surrounding community.
2. Promote equal treatment and respect fir classified staff by recognizing and appreciating their value and contribution to the learning environment and campus community.
3. Create shared responsibility and accountability, by promoting the participation of classified staff in collegial consultation.

The constitution is being looked at to make sure the criteria includes equity, inclusion and transparency.

## **CSEA Report...**

**Cassandra Thomas** is the new CSEA chapter President. She has served with the union for about 8 years.

Introduction of CSEA

**First Vice President - Dave Stevenson**

**Past President - Kevin Palikki**

**Union Steward - Phylcia Sanchez**

**Treasurer - Rosemarie Hansen**

**Secretary - Corina Baber**

**Communications Officer - Francis Sutherland**

**Political Action Coordinator - Mary Valdemar**

**Cassandra Thomas'** goals are to focus on completing the classification study. Spoke with Kristina Hannon and it should be completed by Summer 2021. HR environment has changed over the past five years and Cassandra plans to utilize and improve that to get more collaborations and transparency. Cassandra wants to build a more collaborative relationship between both Classified Senates at Valley and Crafton.

**Cassandra Thomas** added her personal email in case any classified staff needs to get into contact with her away from district email.

**Cassandra Thomas** looks forward to serving as the President and her goal is to be as transparent as possible.

**John Feist** is now going over the Purposes listed in the Classified Senate Constitution

1. Promote the voice of classified staff on non-collective bargaining issues.
  - a. We do not involve ourselves in union matters but if discussions come up then they can be forwarded to the union.
2. To provide the President of the college with recommendations and views on matters affecting conduct, welfare, and the growth of the college.
3. To enable the Senate, through the governance structure, to address the board of trustees with recommendations and views on matters affecting the conduct, welfare and growth of the college.
4. To promote communication, mutual support and understanding among the classified staff, faculty, administration, Board of trustees, students, and other interested person(s) having to do with the conduct, welfare and growth of the college.
5. To articulate the expertise of the classified staff so that we are recognized and valued.

### **Informational items:**

Discussion of goals and objectives for the Classified Senate

1. Establish a working relationship with the union
2. Hiring of the Chancellor and the impact that has on us a District
  - a. One issue at hand is KVCR
3. Getting the conversations on equity and inclusion to result in action

Discussion of FranklinCovey large group training

1. Classified staff felt management should be in the training
  - a. Cassandra Thomas clarified that management went through the training last year.
2. Laura Gowen was told the workshop was different then what the managers went through but it was the same.
  - a. Ernest clarified that this was for just classified to give them an in-service in leu of classified week.
3. The facilitator was not good. The subject matter was needed but with a different facilitator. Her methods (calling on random people) was not trust building.

Discussion of COVID-19 cases

1. Disappointed that it took a state regulation to have COVID information released to employees.
2. John asked Jose Torres to have these emails more regularly and possibly with more information, time period the employee was on campus.

### **Action Items:**

The scholarship committee has lost most of its Fundraising avenues, but scholarships still need to be awarded. How do we continue to award scholarships without depleting the account entirely? Look at decreasing number scholarships given out per year and new innovative ways to fundraise.

The email went out asking for employees to serve on the classified senate scholarship committee and formed the committee will not only be reviewing the scholarship applications but also the number of scholarships given out and new ways to fundraise. How do we move forward in a way that is not only equitable to the students but sustainable for the Classified Senate. Currently four people volunteered for the committee. More time is needed to find more members. No action needed at this time, matter move to February's meeting.

Allowing for paper applications for classified staff who are applying for the classified employee scholarship for the employees are not attending Valley or Crafton. Phylicia needs more time to create a paper application to present to the senate. No action needed, item is moved to February's meeting.

**Discussion items:**

**Open Floor – 10 minutes:**

Are the open forums working or do they need to be changed? There have been a couple of open forums, attendance started off good (in the 20's) then it started to drop off. Discussion was about the cultural and racial issues at the beginning of the pandemic then broadened to other issues being faced by classified staff. It was advocated for with the President and losing it could be a strike against the Classified Senate. Some ideas given from individuals were to move from Fridays to another day, having them as needed, have topics for each meeting. **Amanda Moody** says Mondays would be good following the Classified Senate meeting to continue the discussion as needed. **Abe Fulgham** likes that idea. There will be one general meeting a month and one open forum a month. A survey monkey will go out asking staff when they prefer to have the meeting and the issue will be brought up at February's meetings.

February's meeting needs to be rescheduled due to the Holiday.

**Ernest Guillen** motions to move the February 12<sup>th</sup> general meeting to February 19<sup>th</sup> and the forum to February 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Abe Fulgham** 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved by general consensus.

**Next Meeting:** February 19, 2021 (moved from the 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Holiday)

**Meeting Adjournment:** Ernest Guillen motioned to Adjourn and Amanda Moody 2<sup>nd</sup> approved by consensus.

Minutes submitted by: Amber Martin