**Porterville College Academic Senate APPROVED**

**Minutes: November, 6 2020**

I. Miles Vega called the meeting to order at 8:04.

II. Roll Call:

Voting Members: Miles Vega, President; Jeff Keele, Past President; Kathryn Benander, Vice President; Matthew Flummer, Secretary-Treasurer; Rickelle Syrdahl, Sarah Rector, David Kavern, Patty Serrato, Stephanie Cortez, Miguel Ruelas, Beverly Ward, Robert Haynes

Non Voting Members: Joel Wiens

Guests: Rebecca Baird

III. The agenda was approved as amended \*(M-S-P, Kathryn Benander, David Kavern).

IV. The minutes were approved as amended \*(M-S-P, Sarah Rector, Kathryn Benander).

V. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Faculty positions ranking:
   1. Physical Science
   2. Psych Tech
   3. Kinesiology
   4. Biology
   5. DRC
   6. English
   7. History
   8. EMT
   9. ASL
2. Distance learning policies seem very rigid when we’re being required to be flexible with everything else; DL policies were not designed for pandemic situations; perhaps we need to change the training to reflect the fact that some classes are synchronous via Zoom
3. Computer access for students (update): there’s some communications issues because there’s one group doing the applications and another group doing the lending; we’re also looking for more resources; but they ordered 200 and only 50 have been checked out; we’re seeking out different avenues for resources
4. Summer schedule: at the next meeting, we’ll discuss the summer schedule
5. Social justice: let’s be sensitive to our students and the words or phrases that we use in class; plus there are things that are illegal to talk about in class – i.e., we cannot endorse a political candidate
6. Flex agenda (suggestions):
   1. Presentation on what is illegal to share in class
   2. Something on OneDrive from a faculty member
   3. How to make forms work
   4. How to do things with Zoom
   5. Navigate
7. New executive members: We have a nomination!
8. Release time: Miles and Jeff pushed hard to get increased reassign time for Senate president, Dr. Habib decided to increase curriculum chair; it was originally a .6 for Senate President; she gave us .2 more that we could reallocate, Dr. Habib has offered to increase it starting in January;
   1. the proposal is to increase to .5 for Senate President and .3 for Curriculum chair.
   2. Motion to allocate the release time for .5 for the Senate President and .3 for the Curriculum chair \*(M-S-P, Kathryn Benander, Miguel Ruelas)

VI. Reports

1. Melissa Black has conducted the mentor program for 10+ years; but recently that was taken from her by the administration and given to Reagan Dozier. One worry is that this should be a faculty run program not administration run.
2. Science is getting pressure from the administration to figure out a new way to assess because of the problems with Proctorio. We should try to bring students on to campus for testing.

VIII. Adjourn: 9:07

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Flummer, Secretary-Treasurer

*\*In consideration of the Brown Act, Items considered to be part of routine procedural business or that incur a unanimous vote have been determined to not require delineation of votes.*