**Porterville College Academic Senate APPROVED**

**Minutes: March, 26 2020**

I. Miles Vega called the meeting to order at 8:06.

II. Roll Call:

Voting Members: Miles Vega, President; Jeff Keele, Past President; Kathryn Benander, Vice President; Robert Simpkins, President Elect; Matthew Flummer, Secretary-Treasurer; Sarah Rector, Patty Serrato, Bret Davis, Brandon Hall, Elizabeth Buchannan, Miguel Ruelas, Robert Haynes, Lupe Guillen, Richard Goode

Non Voting Members: Rebecca Baird

Guests:

III. The agenda was approved as amended \*(M-S-P, Bret Davis, Patty Serrato).

IV. The minutes were approved as amended \*(M-S-P, Bob Simpkins, Jeff Keele).

V. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Commencement – Scholar of the Year/Medals of Distinction: commencement will be canned – a video that is mostly not live with a small part that is live. The award ceremony will be live via Zoom the night before.
   1. Scholar of the year: there were two very qualified nominations. Dr. Habib stated that if we selected 2, she would select the scholar of the year. After an hour of deliberation, the Senate Executive team couldn’t decide, so 2 people were presented in a meeting with Dr. Habib. At the end, she allowed 2 co-scholars of the year.
      1. We need to codify how we handle issues like this in the future and put it on our website (perhaps in the bylaws?)
2. Social Justice – started on the social justice lexicon
3. Emeritus/Retirement Process – the goal is to have nailed down the process by the early fall.
   1. Subcommittee – Jeff Keele, Bob Simpkins, Miles Vega
4. E/W Grades: Erin Wingfield sent out an email about E/W grades from the State Chancellor’s Office about the extension of suspension of various grade related regulations due to COVID. The proposal is to offer the same EW process as last semester for Excused Withdrawals (EW). EWs can be initiated by the student by completing the Extenuating Circumstances petition. If a student completes the petition through May 15th by 5pm for the Spring Term, then they receive an EW. Students don’t have to submit supporting documentation if they note that they are dropping due to COVID related issues.
5. Summer/Fall Return – some clarification on in-person classes should be coming soon.
6. Flex Days – Senate President and VPI run flex day. We’re locked into 2 days in the fall and 1 in the Spring by our contract. So, we can’t change flex until the contract is changed.
   1. Topics: Guided Pathways, speaker on equity in the classroom, OER and zero cost textbooks, accessibility, Achieving the Dream, reflection on the pandemic
      1. Suggestions: eLumen training, Banner training, clarity on guidelines related to COVID (masks, contact tracing), social justice
7. Guided Pathways – one project is to name and finalize the meta-majors. Bob’s proposal is to rename them “Academic and Career Pathways”. There are two options proposed.
   1. Motion to support the proposal \*(M-S-P, Jeff Keele, Miguel Ruelas)
   2. 2-year plans: we are being encouraged by admin to select specific courses to fulfill requirements that are not specified by the major.
   3. Motion to support keeping GE categories as general as possible in the 2-year plans unless there is a good reason to suggest one class over another \*(M-S-P, Jeff Keele, Richard Goode)

VI. Information



VIII. Adjourn: 9:35

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.*