

## **Cuesta College Federation of Teachers**

AFT Local 4909

Strength Through Unity

## **Executive Board Meeting**

November 26, 2024

# **Adopted Minutes**

Greg Baxley, President – P	Galadriel Bree Highhouse, PT Faculty Committee & COPE Chair- A
Michael Mogull, Vice President – P	Roland Finger, CoR Co-chair-P
Amy Kayser, Secretary/Communications Chair-P	Jennifer Shellhorn, CoR Co-Chair -P
Alex Kahane, Academic Senate President – P	Tom Patchell, Grievance Officer - P
Neil Higgins, Treasurer – P	

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

**Motion** to approve agenda made by Neil, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jen, no objections.

#### 2. Issues related to Vice President of Instruction

- VPI made statement at Academic Senate meeting on 11-22-24 urging senators not to vote for a nominated faculty member for next Academic Senate President.
- Dr. Stearns met with Greg to discuss the matter. No action taken, listened to concerns.
  - Discussed role of leaders and how to ensure faculty can work with senior administration in participatory governance.
- Some comments made by VPI at the Nuts and Bolts session for new tenure track faculty were not encouraging, fear-based, and seemed inappropriate.
- Last negotiation meeting was via Zoom. There was discussion about a dean wanting to demote a division chair for various reasons.
- Discussion about whether other leaders knew in advance about the statement.
- How can faculty feel comfortable contributing to the college without fear of being discredited?
- Senate next steps:
  - o Call off cycle meeting on Friday of finals week for the one agenda item that was tabled.
  - Alex to meet with Jill and convey how damaging this was to our faculty, especially new faculty.
    - VPI is on TRC and since Senate is consensus, wondering if faculty will be intimidated to vote.
      Many untenured faculty are on senate.
      - They can abstain from the vote or can send a substitute.
      - Suggestion that VPI recuse himself from ITRC.
- Discussed message to send to faculty from CCFT about being concerned and assuring them that union is here to protect them and encouraging tenured faculty to vote on controversial topics.
- Discussed possible action items such as hostile environment complaint, censure from Senate, no confidence vote.
- Administration and faculty relationship has caused strife across campus.
  - Possibly contact CCUE to make joint statement, notify BOT
  - Concerned about negotiations with VPs. Accomplished most of the goals except for compensation and service faculty hours.
- Discussed writing letter to share with Jill about how concerned faculty are and how it has affected the campus climate.
- Action plan
  - 1. Contact non-tenured senators and advise them to send tenured faculty to the senate.
  - 2. Draft a letter to Jill outlining concerns.
  - 3. Send a letter to all faculty with feedback from Alex.
  - 4. Consider attending the Charis meeting and BOT.

# 3. adjourn

### Other

Email motion and vote 12/11/24

Nancy Steinmaus and Jen Shellhorn have been PT faculty members of the negotiation team this semester.

Motion to compensate PT members of the Negotiation Team with \$1,800 each made by Roland,  $2^{nd}$  by Mike, no objections.