



**Minutes**  
**RCCDFA/CCA/CTA/NEA**  
**March 14, 2023**  
**Norco College Center for Student Success Room 217 & Zoom**

| <b>Present</b>   | <b>Absent</b>  |
|--|--|
| Rhonda Taube (RCCD (Riverside Community College District) Faculty Association President) | Diana Campuzano (NC PT Rep)                            |
| Vivian Harris (Secretary)  | Asatar Bair (RCC FT Rep)                               |
| Emily Philippsen (Membership Chair)  | Cameron Young (PAC (Political Action Committee) Chair) |
| Lee Nelson (Treasurer)   |  |
| Jeff Rhyne (MVC (Moreno Valley College) VP)  |  |
| Jennifer Floerke (MVC FT Rep)  |  |
| Rhejean King-Johnson (MVC PT Rep)  |  |
| Virgil Lee (NC (Norco College) VP)   |  |
| Araceli Covarrubias (NC FT Rep)  |  |
| Darius Haghghat (RCC (Riverside City College) VP)  |  |
| Scott Brown (RCC FT Rep)   |  |
| David Martinez (RCC PT Rep)  |  |
| Marianne Reynolds CTA (California Teachers Association) Staff Member                     |  |
| Faculty Guests   |  |

1. Meeting called to order at 1:06 pm.
2. The Faculty Association Executive Board members introduced themselves at the start of the meeting.
3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Motion to approve minutes from the March 7, 2023, meeting. (Araceli/Lee). Approved unanimously.
4. President's Report: Rhonda Taube
  - a. Discussion ensued about the Political Action Chair (PAC) position on the FA Executive Board.
    - i. The Political Action Chair position cannot be included as part of a Teaching Assignment (TA). District release time cannot be provided for political activities (because it is illegal).
    - ii. Traditionally, one or more of the elected FA Board members assumed the PAC duties. Fall 2022 was the first time the PAC position was assigned to a non-FA Executive Board member (who was appointed by the Executive Board).
    - iii. A list of duties and responsibilities is necessary to determine the terms and scope of the position.
    - iv. It was clarified that the PAC Treasurer (not the Chair), is responsible for filing paperwork on behalf of the Faculty Association.
    - v. Motion to compensate the current PAC for work that has been completed for this semester, postpone PAC Chair duties until they can be redefined, and have the FA Executive Board appoint a new PAC Chair (Lee/Rhyne). Approved unanimously.
  - b. Rhonda asked the Executive Board for feedback about the upcoming CCA Presidential elections.
    - i. Motion to endorse Julius Thomas for CCA President. (Rhyne/Floerke). Approved unanimously.
5. Moreno Valley College
  - a. Vice President's Report: Jeff Rhyne
    - i. Jeff, Jennifer, and Rhejean had productive meetings with MVC President Steinback and Vice President Amezquita. We are grateful for President Steinback's very quick turnaround time on making her administrative determination on two faculty investigations.
    - ii. Faculty Association Executive Board elections for Full-Time and Part-Time Representatives are forthcoming:
      1. Nominations will be accepted from March 23 –April 7.

2. Elections will be held April 17 – May 1.
  3. Voting will take place electronically through Simply Voting.
  4. If there are no ties, the results can be reported at the May 2 Faculty Association meeting.
  5. A runoff election will begin May 5 (if needed).
  6. To run a comprehensive election, Jeff will need the current list of Faculty Association members from Emily no later than April 7.
    - a. Emily has requested assistance with updating the list of Faculty Association members. Motion to approve Kayla Henry to assist Emily with updating and finalizing the list of current Faculty Association members. (Rhyne/Lee). Approved unanimously.
- iii. Last Friday, the Executive Board spent 6.5 hours updating the Bylaws.
    1. We are considering extending term lengths from 2- to 3-years.
    2. Slight changes were made to Officer duties. The Executive Board will need to approve these changes prior to the start of the elections.
    3. The revised duties for Full-Time and Part-Time Representatives will be provided for each position on the election ballots.
  - b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Jennifer Floerke
    - i. No report
  - c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Rhejean King-Johnson
    - i. No report
6. Norco College
    - a. Vice President's Report: Virgil Lee
      - i. No report
    - b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Araceli Covarrubias
      - i. No report
    - c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Diana Campuzano
      - i. No report
7. Riverside City College
    - a. Vice President's Report: Dariush Haghighat
      - i. The situation with faculty offices at RCC is getting worse.

1. Dariush was dismayed to find out that an RCC faculty member's office had not been effectively attended to a couple of weeks after the office had been flooded.
  2. Dariush was told that there may be empty offices at RCC. However, some faculty have been asked to share offices.
  3. Dariush encourages the Faculty Association Vice Presidents to contact the Vice President of Academic Affairs at their respective colleges to inquire about available space for faculty offices.
- ii. The FA Board needs to engage the District and Human Resources in a more feasible, orderly approach with faculty investigations.
    1. Some have suggested that the Chancellor and the General Counsel should be involved in the final decision when launching an investigation against a stakeholder (before dishing out such investigations to outside sources). This is feasible because the General Counsel is already employed by the District.
    2. When these cases are referred to outside attorneys, they cost a profound amount of money.
    3. The District spends a considerable amount of money on investigations. They have stated that all claims must be investigated.
    4. While most investigations are legally warranted, some of them seem excessive, as if the District is overreaching.
  - iii. Administrators who are involved with investigations should attend training so they will be equipped with the necessary skillsets for resolving investigations.
    1. Some Deans have been submitting 90-day notices of termination to faculty.
    2. This causes a host of problems for the District and the Faculty Association.
    3. At times, the District exceeds investigation timelines under [Section 59342 of Title 5](#), which requires special permission from the state.
    4. The Faculty Association has requested an Ombudsman from the District, to no avail.
  - iv. The Faculty Association has included a Faculty Investigations position in the Bylaws.
- b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Scott Brown
    - i. No report
  - c. Part-Time Representative's Report: David Martinez
    - i. No report

8. Secretary: Vivian Harris
  - a. The [Spring CCA Conference & Who Awards](#) is being held Friday, April 28 - Sunday, April 30 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa.
    - i. Per the [conference agenda](#), to vote in any CCA elections held at the conference, delegates must be checked in by 9am on Saturday, April 29.
  - b. Faculty members who are interested in attending, please send your name and personal email address to [Vivian Harris](#) so she can request Board approval for you to be included as delegates.
  - c. There are no [registration](#) fees.
  - d. RCCD Faculty Association Delegates will receive full reimbursement for their room and travel expenses.
    - i. You must be present and sign in at the CCA Council session meeting from 9am-12pm on Sunday, April 30 to be eligible for reimbursement.
  - e. FLEX credit can be provided for attending the [conference](#) (if submitted as an independent activity in [Flex Track](#)).
9. Membership Chair: Emily Philippsen
  - a. Motion to approve funds for the Membership Chair to purchase ink and paperwork for membership cards (Nelson/King-Johnson).
10. Treasurer: Lee Nelson
  - a. Lee completed the Risk Assessment questionnaire for the TB test results at RCC Health Services.
11. Political Action Committee Chair: Cameron Young (report submitted electronically)
  - a. Cameron plans to meet with a CTA liaison on Wednesday to discuss the issue of amending a filing.
  - b. As done previously, the Scale to Win program can be used to contact voters directly by registering a toll-free number (in lieu of using personal phone numbers) with a campaign verify token. It would cost \$95 and can take up to 20 days to complete the re-registration.
12. District Academic Senate President: Mark Sellick
  - a. No report

13. Open Hearing
  - a. If a new tenure-track faculty member is hired during the spring term, their First Fridays meetings should count towards their FLEX commitment for that academic year.
  - b. Faculty hired in the spring and granted tenure after 3.5 years are not officially tenured until January 1 of the following year (after tenure is granted).
14. Closed Session – Five items were discussed.
15. Adjourned at 3:24 pm