



Minutes
RCCDFA/CCA/CTA/NEA
August 23, 2022
Riverside City College Library Room 404 & Zoom

Present	Absent
Rhonda Taube (RCCD (Riverside Community College District) Faculty Association President)	
Vivian Harris (Secretary)	
Lee Nelson (Treasurer)	
Emily Philippsen (Membership Chair)	
Jeff Rhyne (MVC (Moreno Valley College) VP)	
Jennifer Floerke (MVC FT Rep)	
Zander Allport (MVC PT Rep)	
Virgil Lee (NC (Norco College) VP)	
Araceli Covarrubias (NC FT Rep)	
Diana Campuzano (NC PT Rep)	
Dariush Haghghat (RCC (Riverside City College) VP)	
Scott Brown (RIV FT Rep)	
David Martinez (RIV PT Rep)	
Cameron Young (PAC Political Action Committee) Chair)	
Faculty Guests	

1) Meeting called to order at 1:08 pm

a. President's Report: Rhonda Taube

- i. RCCD has become a voting member of the [Central Labor Council \(Inland Empire Labor Council\)](#). 5 faculty delegates are needed to attend monthly meetings @ 6:30 pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 1074 E. La Cadena Dr., Riverside, CA 92507. Delegate duties may also include interviewing potential candidates running for regional positions, discussing voting issues and ballot initiatives, etc.
- ii. Due to COVID and course cuts, RCCD Faculty Association membership has decreased from 1200 to 986 members.
- iii. Motion to approve new Executive Board members – Vivian Harris (Secretary), Cameron Young (PAC Rep), Zander Allport (MVC PT Rep), and David Martinez (RIV PT Rep). (Lee/Philipsen). Approved unanimously

2) [Chubb Life Insurance](#) + Long Term Care Presentation: Edwina Cardenas (HR) & Megan Ellis (Insurance Rep)

- a. Long-term health care is mandated in some states (i.e., Washington State)
- b. CA Long Term Care Taskforce is proposing a solution to the problem because it's likely that CA will eventually impose a state mandate
- c. People usually need long-term care due to aging (#1 reason) and illness, and it's not covered by health insurance or Medicare
- d. RCCD employees can qualify for Chubb life insurance & long-term care by answering four questions. 10 approved employees are required to implement the plan @ RCCD.

3) Presentation by RCCD Board of Trustees and Moreno Valley City Council Candidate [Keri Then](#)

- a. Keri served ten years of active duty in the military, started her education at community college, and is currently an Analytics/GIS/IT Visiting Professor at the University of Redlands (in the School of Business).
- b. Keri has served on the Advisory Committee at Moreno Valley College and has cybersecurity experience.
- c. Keri's goal is to reduce the cost of College to \$0 and lower the cost of ebooks, exams, etc. while providing the best higher education possible.

- d. Keri is endorsed by the Inland Empire Labor Council, Riverside City Council Member Clarissa Cervantes, and Congressman Mark Takano.
 - i. Motion to endorse Keri Then (Nelson/Young). Approved unanimously.
 - ii. Motion for the Faculty Association to commit \$5k today to Keri Then's campaign. (Haghighat/Rhyne). Approved unanimously.

4) Moreno Valley College

- a. Vice President's Report: Jeff Rhyne
 - i. Jeff reported that the initial Faculty Association meeting of the semester with MVC College President Robin Steinbeck (and Jennifer Floerke) went very well today.
 - ii. Jeff gave special thanks to Ron Kirkpatrick and the MVC Facilities Team for working overtime to ensure everything was ready and in place by the start of the fall term after all faculty offices in the humanities building were remodeled.
- b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Jennifer Floerke
 - i. There have been inquiries about how to align reassignment with accreditation standards. New reassignments must be negotiated as they have always been in the past. The precedent sets a one-semester negotiation and must align with the [Faculty Contract](#).
- c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Zander Allport
 - i. Zander attended a 3-hour part-time flex faculty development open forum "Working Conditions Are Student Learning Conditions" to hear out part-time faculty members' concerns. Much of the discussion was about associate faculty's classes getting cancelled, and a desire for more transparency around the protocol through which the decisions are made about which classes get assigned to whom, and which classes get cancelled. [Associate Faculty reemployment preference inquiries](#) must be sent to Shari Yates or Susan Brucks.

5) Norco College

- a. Vice President's Report: Virgil Lee
 - i. Virgil attended the CTA summer conference. Most sessions were catered to K-12 employees, but there were some informative CCA breakout sessions for higher education.
 - ii. Norco's hiring process has been slow because the Human Resources representative for Moreno Valley has also been working

at Norco. Hopefully, Norco College will obtain a designated Human Resources representative soon.

- b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Araceli Covarrubias
 - i. Araceli received inquiries about faculty being required to provide add codes to students after the 1st day of class (whether or not the course is full). Nothing in the [Faculty Contract](#) obligates faculty to add students to their courses once a class has begun. However, low enrollment can potentially have a negative impact on being able to offer a class (or even a program).
- c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Diana Campuzano
 - i. No response has been provided from Vice Chancellor Few about Associate Faculty unemployment issues. On multiple occasions, the district supplied incorrect information regarding dates and future work to the State unemployment. Diana will follow up with Vice Chancellor Few about this issue and reach out to CTA for support. Associate Faculty can find general information about filing here: <https://cca4us.org/issuesandaction/parttimefaculty/>

6) Riverside City College

- a. Vice President's Report: Dariush Haghighat
 - i. Chancellor Isaac appointed a new Interim President and Vice president of Finance at RCC after the departure of the former RCC president and Vice-President of Finance in the Summer.
 - ii. While the new Interim president has been busy at work tackling the pressing issues of the College, the Interim Vice-president's tenure was extremely short-lived, and she was dismissed after three days of service.
 - iii. Dariush is personally disappointed that the selection of the interim presidents and vice presidents did not go through our normal consultation processes with the participatory governance groups. There is always a risk when we deviate from the established consultative, transparent, inclusive hiring processes and end up with top-down decision-making processes.
 - iv. While Dariush has been pleased with the work of the new interim president, he is not surprised that the tenure of the interim vice president was so short-lived. That is the challenge and risk of top-down decision-making processes.
 - v. Dariush is also disheartened that the District Administration has not taken the position of Vice-president of Finance at RCC seriously and

practically abandoned that position with spotty and patchwork services from different individuals.

- vi. Somehow it seems the District office is conveying the message that the work and challenges of the District office are more crucial than the work and challenges of a major college like RCC.
 - vii. That is really frustrating and disheartening.
 - viii. Dariush and Rhonda had several conversations with the Chancellor regarding the challenges the Mask mandate has created for faculty, administrators, and the Faculty Association. As such, the Faculty Association had to issue a demand to bargain on the impact of the Mask mandate on faculty working conditions.
 - ix. The District and the Association's negotiation teams are scheduled to discuss the mask mandate's details and its impact on faculty working conditions.
- b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Scott Brown
 - i. No report
 - c. Part-Time Representative's Report: David Martinez
 - i. No report

7) Secretary: Vivian Harris

- a. No report

8) Membership Chair: Emily Philippsen

- a. Emily suggests hosting a membership drive to recruit members and applying for a reimbursement grant from CTA. Other ideas include contacting faculty directly (in their offices) to increase membership.
- b. Emily reminds everyone to double-check their monthly paychecks to ensure they're paying membership dues.

9) Treasurer: Lee Nelson

- a. Lee will report the fiscal budget information soon.
- b. In addition, the CTA will pay for the transportation, meal, and hotel (if shared by another conference attendee, and a half for a single room) for Executive Board members or delegates (approved by the Association Executive Board) who attend [CTA conferences](#) (during the fall and spring terms).

10) Political Action Committee Chair: Cameron Young

- a. Cameron Young is PAC Chair and Assistant Treasurer. Mike Chavez is the main Treasurer. Mike Chavez is to be added to the Altura Credit Union

account as an authorized signer and to issue debit cards to Mike and Cameron from the Altura account.

- b. Daryl Craig Terrell is running against Keri Then for Area 5 Trustee.
 - c. Kendra Webber is running the social media campaign.
 - d. Cameron has a meeting with CTA tomorrow about the ABC grant.
 - e. The Current PAC balance is \$6500 and will be \$1500 after spending \$5k in support of Keri Then's campaign. Motion to replenish \$5k funds immediately. (Young/Rhyne). Motion amended to provide \$15k PAC funds for fundraisers, refreshments, social media, etc. (Haghighat/Philippsen). Approved unanimously.
 - f. Suggestion to provide a stipend for Cameron as PAC Representative because he can't get release time for political activities. Tabled for future discussion.
- 11) Open Hearing
- a. Request to have a microphone placed closer to the Executive Board members so they will be more audible during Zoom meetings
 - b. A suggestion was made to use an OWL device in the FA Executive Board room
- 12) Closed Session – Two items were discussed
- 13) Adjourned at 3:38 pm