



Minutes
RCCDFA/CCA/CTA/NEA
April 30, 2024
Riverside City College / Library Room 404 & Zoom

Present	Absent
Rhonda Taube (Riverside Community College District Faculty Association President)	
Emily Philippsen (Membership Chair)	
Lee Nelson (Treasurer)	
Sonya Nyrop (Secretary)	
Jeff Rhyne (Moreno Valley College VP)	
Jennifer Floerke (MVC FT Rep)	
Rhejean King-Johnson (MVC PT Rep)	
Virgil Lee (Norco College VP)	
Araceli Covarrubias (NC FT Rep)	
Diana Campuzano (NC PT Rep)	
	Mike Chavez (Riverside City College VP)
David Martinez (RCC PT Rep)	
Marianne Reynolds (CTA [California Teachers Association] Staff Member)	
Faculty Guests	

1. Meeting called to order at 1:04pm.
2. Motion to approve minutes from [April 23](#) (Rhyne/King-Johnson). Motion approved unanimously.

3. President's Report: Rhonda Taube
 - a. The Chancellor has signed the MOU to roll over the Contract for two years. Rhonda will send a letter to our colleagues to provide information and prepare for ratification.
 - i. **Motion** to have the voting on ratification of the rollover on May 13-27 (Campuzano/Lee).
 - ii. Emily and Jennifer will coordinate with Simply Voting for the ratification. Faculty members should check their spam/clutter boxes to ensure they receive all emails.
 - iii. Faculty who wish to vote on this ratification and are not members should reach out to Emily Philippsen, the membership chair, to complete paperwork.
 - b. A firm has been selected for the districtwide safety survey. The next step is board approval; the cost will be included in the board book. The firm's plan includes interaction with stakeholder groups, including faculty and classified professionals. Unfortunately, the timeline the firm was given by the DO begins in the summer. Consequently, the DO was asked if they could interview faculty last and provide SPRs for faculty who participate in the summer.
 - c. There are numerous questions and potential issues on high-flex classes such as the training required, impact on course caps, and issues of privacy for faculty and students.
 - i. The FA wants to ensure there is a consistent definition of what high-flex is as there does not appear to be a clear and consistent definition at the DO.
 - ii. We will also need to reach an agreement on how a high-flex course fits into a teaching assignment.
 - d. Rhonda introduced Araceli Calderon as a candidate for full-time representative at RCC for the rest of this year and next year. Araceli has attended FA meetings and is ready to commit the time for FA.
 - i. **Motion** to approve Araceli Calderon as a full-time representative for RCC (Floerke/Rhyne). Approved unanimously.
 - ii. **Motion** to compensate Araceli Calderon for 32.5 hours at the lab rate (Rhyne/Lee). Approved unanimously.
 - e. Rhonda reminded everyone that graduation is approaching.
 - i. **Motion** to approve allocation of funds up to \$700 for RCC and \$350 each for MVC and NC for alcohol at commencement celebrations (Covarrubias/Floerke). Approved unanimously.

4. Moreno Valley College

a. Vice President's Report: Jeff Rhyne

- i. Jeff attended a session on bargaining at the recent CCA conference.
 1. At the session on bargaining, the presenter's perspective wasn't completely aligned with higher education or the RCCD FA.
 2. The CTA will increase dues this year so we will see a slight rise in dues being taken out. Please remember that any increase to our "local"/RCCDFA dues would have to be approved by a vote of all members, and we have no plans at this time to raise our dues on top of CTA increases.
 3. These are the dates for the CCA conferences next academic year.
 - a. Fall - October 25-27 at the Westin SFO in Burlingame
 - b. Winter - February 7-9 at the Sheraton Universal in Los Angeles
 - c. Spring - April 25-27 (location TBD)
 4. California AB2277, which would raise the maximum assignment for part-time faculty to 80-85% of full-time equivalent load, was discussed. CTA and CCA recommend supporting this bill; a small contingent spoke against this bill, including some part-time faculty.
- ii. Jeff reminded faculty planning to retire that they must work individually with STRS to select a retirement incentive and complete paperwork according to the published timeline. A checklist is provided in the packet they receive.

b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Jennifer Floerke

- i. Jennifer shared the election results.
 1. District President: Rhonda Taube
 2. Vice President, MVC: Jeff Rhyne
 3. Vice President, NC: Araceli Covarrubias
 4. Vice President, RCC: Emily Philippsen
 5. District Treasurer: Felipe Galicia
 6. District Secretary: Sonya Nyrop
- ii. Jennifer also attended the CCA conference.
 1. She thanked the FA Executive Board for approving a last-minute delegate.
 2. Jennifer attended a session on by-laws and gained information to help RCCD FA move forward.

- a. She learned that numerous colleges are in similar positions to RCCD, which validated the idea that statewide CTA isn't completely knowledgeable about community colleges.
 - b. In the previous two submissions of our by-laws, the FA hired an attorney to revise them based on the feedback received from CTA. Both submissions were rejected for completely different reasons.
 - c. We also learned that not having revised bylaws approved by CTA is not totally necessary. In short, they support locals continuing operating and hope for revisions according to their (K12-focused) templates.
- c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Rhejean King-Johnson
 - i. No report

5. Norco College

- a. Vice President's Report: Virgil Lee
 - i. Virgil expects the District will agree soon to modify the Part-time Healthcare MOU to allow 65+ associate faculty members to participate in the District's health insurance offerings. It is also expected that the current open enrollment period for associate faculty members will be extended.
- b. Full-Time Representative's Report: Araceli Covarrubias
 - i. Araceli received questions from the NC VPAA regarding the MOU on Prison Education and Dual Enrollment Additional Compensation (dated 1/26/22).
 - 1. Is it an error that the dual enrollment section of this MOU only refers to associate faculty? Rhonda confirmed that the language is intentional and is intended to incentivize part-time faculty to teach dual enrollment courses.
 - 2. Does the extra commuting compensation granted in the MOU apply only to in-person courses? Yes, it does. Faculty members who teach online courses are not entitled to the extra commuting compensation.
 - ii. In addition, the NC VPAA asked about the duration of summer chair duties, specifically whether summer chair terms go through the last day of the summer term or whether they go up to the fall term.
 - 1. The Collective Bargaining Agreement states that summer chair duties begin after commencement end on the first service day [of the fall term] ([CBA 41](#)). Thus, summer Chair

terms begin the day after commencement and end on the day before the beginning of the Fall term.

2. Rhonda suggested adjusting this section during the next contract negotiations to clarify off-contract time and remove "on the premises" language.

iii. The Contract does not require a specific percentage of face-to-face courses. It is also possible to have an entire full-time load from reassignment only.

c. Part-Time Representative's Report: Diana Campuzano

i. No report

6. Riverside City College

a. Vice President's Report: Mike Chavez

i. No report

b. Full-Time Representative's Report:

c. Part-Time Representative's Report: David Martinez

i. Several associate faculty members asked about preference and schedules. Preference does not allow people to pick and choose dates/times; it only gives faculty first choice of available classes from the chair.

7. Membership Chair: Emily Philippsen

a. No report

8. Treasurer: Lee Nelson

a. No report

9. Secretary: Sonya Nyrop

a. No report

10. District Academic Senate President: Felipe Galicia

a. The District Ed Plan did not pass at MVC Academic Senate or College Council. The DO has changed the timeline and will revisit the process for this plan.

b. The Guided Pathways retreat on May 3 from 9am to 3pm will be at the Moreno Valley Conference and Recreation Center. Over 200 individuals will be attending, and the focus will be on scaling GP practices and supporting retention efforts.

c. The work group focusing on automatic ADT placement met in April and will determine the process for contacting students not placed on an ADT.

- d. The Chancellor spoke on SB895 at the District Academic Senate (DAS) meeting and RCCD's efforts to implement a bachelor's degree in nursing. The Senate Education Committee reviewed and unanimously supported the proposal. The next steps will be a budget/appropriations review and then a review by State Senate.
- e. The Chancellor also discussed attending the Public Policy Institute where they discussed overall student/population decline in California and its impact on future funding allocations.
- f. The work on an independent study BP/AP has been paused as there were concerns and questions about research processes at community colleges, which are not research institutions.
- g. RCCD is preparing for common course numbering. The state has also recommended common symbols such as L for labs. Our ability to do this is uncertain as Anthology only allows for a limited number of characters.
- h. The Standards Committee is looking into clarifying processes to support programs and assessing programs to determine when changes are needed.
- i. The competency language in the catalog has been changed to remove the minimum requirement of a C or better. This is for local degrees only.
- j. The District is hosting three Humphrey fellows from Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, and Honduras. Felipe encouraged everyone to welcome and meet them when they visit each of the three colleges.
- k. RCCD was awarded an IE grant to pay for 25 students' passports.
- l. DAS acted on AP 2100, which covers requirements for graduation degrees/certificates.
- m. DAS also discussed high-flex classroom upgrades. RCCD had received a COVID block grant that provided each college money, which is being used to upgrade classrooms to be high flex ready; some funds also went to facilities. However, it is uncertain how and when these decisions were made.
- n. DAS is working on implementing a clearer equivalency process. One suggestion has been to create a work group to do all equivalencies throughout the year. Rhonda agreed the process can be clearer to prevent potential grievances.
- o. The summer program in Japan is extremely popular and is one of the most popular study abroad programs. The Chancellor wishes to pause this offering next summer to assess it.

11. Open Hearing

- a. None

12. Closed Session: 5 items were discussed.

13. Meeting adjourned at 3:31pm.

The next meeting will be at Norco College in CSS217.