

College Council Agenda

November 4, 2020

ZOOM (remote)

Draft

Attendees: Larry Cushnie, Mahsa Mohajeri, Jay Mayer, Jane Harness, Benjamin Johnson, Pedro Reyes, Thomas Green, Jaime Flajole, Kathie Pham, Marianna Asaturova, Haris Mujahid, Ruzeda Fields

Secretary: Christa Zinke

Guests: Rosie Rimando-Chareunsap, Betsy McConnell Gutierrez

Begin: 2:30pm

End: 4pm

1. WELCOME AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- Updates from Council members about the happenings within their constituent communities
 - **Jay:** Currently making sure that remote operations are running smoothly. Working on labs and making sure that at least 20 machines on all campuses are available 24/7. The majority of labs will be shut down at 11pm. Just now receiving chromebooks that were ordered in June. Have plenty of hot spots.
 - **Mahsa:** USA President, working on student involvement in a remote environment. This has been challenging to host remote events. Currently creating a canvas page so that students can learn more about resources the USA and South are providing students. The USA VP hosted a few election and voter education events. Programmers who are new to South are struggling with developing student and faculty/staff connections for these events.
 - **Jane:** BST, HS 21+ coordinator. HS 21+ is working hard to keep retention. Had 75-90% retention during face-to-face instruction. This is a struggle for online operations. They are improving, using an “intrusive” model of continual emails and check-ins. Have lost students due to lack of technology.
 - **Ben:** Enrollment Manager, Georgetown.. Georgetown are holding hybrid classes and currently has a lot of activity on-campus. Looking to hit 80-90% of the enrollment compared to last year.
 - Concerns are raised about racial disparities in salaries of classified staff: Has the college done a comparable worth study, which looks at the skills levels necessary for all college jobs and makes sure there aren't salary disparities leading to racial disparities
 - **Pedro:** Career Link, working with students in a hybrid model and meeting contractual obligations to submit paperwork to funding partners. Students are actually handling the transition better than expected.
 - **Thomas:** Working on the CIPE grant (Communities of Inquiry Practice and Excellence): A CIPE is a small group of Seattle Colleges faculty working in collaboration to investigate questions aligned with the anti-bias, anti-racist (ABAR) pedagogy and practice, the district core strategic priorities and Guided Pathways principles. Members conduct an inquiry project during the spring quarter and report findings at the end of that academic calendar year. CIPes explore and develop diverse interests within and across disciplines, divisions, and programs to promote student achievement and success. Starting BRIC committee, to look at different pedagogical styles to help address racial disparities.

Faculty Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) has created another FLC grant for faculty in 2020-2021 to support faculty's commitment to anti-racist education, equity and academic excellence – Book Reading/Learning Circle grant. The Book Reading Learning Circles (BRLC) provide an opportunity for informal and productive conversations among district-wide colleagues and interested parties (faculty and staff) related to anti-bias anti-racist (ABAR) practices, or pedagogies and academic excellence. Book readings should reflect on innovative culturally responsive teaching, anti-racist practices or pedagogies, online learning, or any subject matter directed at eliminating achievement gaps for our students. Funding: up to \$800 per team. One person per application per academic year. Four Circles will be supported each quarter. One student will have an art show in Tacoma this year.

- **Jaime:** Working with registration to work to enroll students who cannot use the MySouth portal to register for classes so that students are able to register for classes while spots are available. Reaching Financial Aid to help with funding has been difficult. TRIO EOC and SSC are still taking students. EOC helps with students for enrollment and funding, one of which is signing up for financial aid. Since most of advising is through email, it is harder to have in-depth conversations about potential funding sources and connecting students to those services. Advising are doing Zoom office hours and they are finding that students are asking them lots of random questions (how do I turn in an assignment on Canvas, financial aid, etc).

Advisors are wondering if there aren't any chromebooks available and a student puts in a request, how are they alerted that they aren't available

- Jay: Students are notified via email that they are on a waitlist. Due to the backlog, we can't give a timeline of when students will receive the technology.
- **Marianna:** Flexibility – tutoring is as flexible as much as they can. They are open 7 days a week so that students can get help. We have allowed our tutors to change their schedules so that they are available until 9PM. Another thing that we are talking about in the MOSS meeting, working to bring international students on-board as tutors. They are having issues with the needs of getting international students eligible for on-campus work experience.
- **Ruzeda:** USA is working to try tackle letters to President Rosie. We have a lot of questions to ask her and as students of color and we are really focusing on the BIPOC demands and if we could execute that in an appropriate fashion, that would be great.
 - **Larry: Please let us know if you have any lists or demands that the council could bring up and support you with these efforts.**
- **Haris:** A couple of things: 1. Student success – we as a department, Academic Programs, are making strides to ensure that students succeed. Students are making the effort to succeed and faculty are trying to work with students to help them succeed in a more equitable fashion. There has been a lot of anxiety around the election this week. 2. There was an issue of VPNs, business and accounting department, students are taking classes from around the world and are not currently in the US. There is an issue in China that they do not allow Google, the students need to have a VPN device that is very costly and leading to students having issues submitting and proctoring exams. They had to recourse and find a solution for that, so that is taking a lot of time and effort to find alternative ways.
- **Kathie:** Scholarship Program Manager with Office of Advancement. Student scholarships There are scholarships and Emergency Funds available for students <https://seattlecolleges.academicworks.com/> Students are looking for both funding for school and for additional living expenses. Will be holding scholarship workshops. Office of Advancement is also looking to partner on grants

2 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 7, 2020 (Done through online survey)

3. REGULAR BUSINESS

- Updates
 - Ballot box usage – 2,613 ballots submitted at SSC Box
 - Gender Inclusive Bathrooms – Pres. Rosie
 - Rosie: We are supportive of this and currently there will be a gender inclusive space in the welding remodel and the wellness center. We will be checking on the Auto remodel. Our strategy is that with anything new we will include gender inclusive bathrooms. We are looking at being specific about any of our single use bathrooms being gender inclusive. I will follow up with Julianne to see where we are with that.
 - District Budget Forums – Pres. Rosie
 - Rosie: We would like to create a budget council where there is representative participation that works alongside cabinet on building the budget. We are looking at how others have done this and putting together a recommendation for that this year so that next year we have a new structure in place where there is a transparent process of budget building and a way for people outside cabinet to participate in building the budget.
 - Larry: There's a struggle about whether this should be a subcommittee within College Council or a more robust council on its own.
 - Haris: We should have a more broader committee where there is a bigger committee where there are representatives across the district to discuss various budget development for the district etc.
 - Rosie: Timely question! We are giving feedback to the chancellor about what we think would be more effective ways to give input of larger budgets and district processes. We are recommending that there is cross-functional, cross-representation of folks that engage in the development process along the way so that there is transparency and allows others to be involved in the decision making process. Without a formal structure, there is not a way for input to be given to Presidents and the District. So, it is changing the structure so that it includes this as a part of the standard practice rather than an add-on to the current process.
 - Collaboration with Labor Education & Research Center surveying student workers
 - Surveys are complete and tallying data now. This is the first chance to use this as a new data tool to be used more regularly to understand how our students are engaging with work and the impact that has.
 - Acronym Leaders recap (district-wide budgeting; equity in online education; professional development reorganization)
 - All three campuses will be retaining a significant amount of online learning after the return to on-campus operations. Eventually, if we retain online edu as a focus how do we make sure that it addressed with an equity lens.
 - Jane: most of our students in my program are students of color and a lot of them do not have technology background and so some of our outcomes include digital literacy. When I am working face-to-face, I can work with students and help them create a powerpoint, etc, on the computer. I get providing computers and internet is helpful, but the other piece is actually taking us away from providing the individual support that many of our students need. I go back and forth between whether online provides more equity or takes away from it. We are losing students because we aren't able to provide our students with the extra support that they were getting in the classroom.

4 NEW BUSINESS

- Recap of the Fall Budget Forum from 10/27
 - Rosie: One of the things I wish I had made more clear in the video, was that any extra revenue or money that becomes available, it will be directed to instruction since that is where we make up the majority of our revenue through enrollments and tuition. We're not going to rent or lease our way out of this, we are going to teach and enroll our way out of this moving forward. We need to be clear that instruction is our core function, and enrollment and student education is our core function. This makes for tough calls, like closing the copy center and child care center.
- Building a new Budget Committee
- Approving College Council representative for the Wellness Center Advisory Committee
 - Jane: this is moving ahead and they are creating an advisory committee and are currently looking for 3 more students to be on the committee. We need to nominate someone from this committee. (Larry: do we need to nominate you?) If I were to serve, I would serve as a faculty and as a college council representation
 - Larry: I nominate Jane
 - Benjamin: I second
 - Jane's nomination approved
- BIPOC Committee outreach and support
- Civic Engagement Joint project with North
 - Civic Engagement committee – putting together a speaker series to discuss national, regional, and local political issues. Also, putting more opportunities for students to come to forums and ask questions about the larger things going on in this world.
- Establishing Council priorities for 2020-2021
- Continuing considerations
 - Homeless students support
 - Wellness Center update
 - Duwamish partnership
 - Public art project in coordination with art faculty

5 ACTION ITEMS

- Submit representative for Wellness Committee
- Follow-up with President about gender-inclusive bathrooms & automatic door repairs

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **December 2, 2020 @ 2:30-4pm**