



**Teaching & Learning Committee Minutes**  
**Date: October 24, 2017 12:50pm-1:50pm**  
**Location: ST 107**

Quinton Bemiller chaired the meeting.

**Present: Dan Reade (Comm); Starlene Justice (Sci & Kin); Jessica Dobson (Comm); Quinton Bemiller (AHWL); Dr. Jody W. Tyler (Sci & Kin); Dr. Margarita Shirinian (Comm); Stephany Kyriakos (SBS); Patty Worsham (BEIT)**

**Absent: Beverly Wimer (Sci & Kin); Dr. Virgil Lee (Sci & Kin); Dr. Teresa Friedrich Finnern (Sci & Kin); Mitzi Sloniger (Comm)**

**Visitors: Suzie Witmer (Sci & Kin); Arlene Alvarez (Bookstore); Maria Sanchez (Bookstore)**

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Motion to approve agenda by Starlene Justice; Second by Jody Tyler; Approved unanimously

Motion to approve minutes by Dan Reade; Second by Starlene Justice; Approved unanimously

Abstentions: none

Note: Voting and parliamentary procedure is restricted to only members of the committee.

II. Positive Pedagogy

- Quinton shared that culturally relevant pedagogy is being talked about quite a bit. Thinking about how the student engages with the work can help that student stay motivated in the class. Quinton would like to see a continued discussion about how to share information and keep a repository for the ideas that are mentioned in this committee or at the forum.
- Jessica shared a positive growth experience in her class at the prison: the students are engaged and eager to improve—very motivated and also very emotionally invested in the class. We discussed how to give students emotional space when returning tests or essays (final grades on assignments). Jody and Stephany shared how they or other instructors return tests, asking that the students take 24 hours to review comments and reflect before wanting more feedback from instructor.
- Patty shared her first day experience of giving students the opportunity to think about their pathway and what lifestyle they are interested in. She is still deciding how effective this strategy is in retention.

III. Recap/Discussion of Faculty Forum from Oct. 10, 2017:

TLC Hosted a Faculty Forum on 10/10/2017. It was attended by faculty from the following departments: AHWL, SCI, COM, SBS, and BEIT. Eight faculty were present: six full-time and two associate faculty.

- Multiple faculty are concerned over the proposed photonics center. They are philosophically opposed to having Norco College be associated with any entity connected to weapons and defense.
- Some faculty are concerned that being a DACA sanctuary next door to a government/military center will bring federal agents onto campus.

- Multiple faculty are concerned about over-committing the college to so many initiatives, when basic needs of instructors are not being met, such as technology and facilities.
- Some faculty feel that the various proposed initiatives serve the interests of administrators building their résumés, rather than addressing the needs of teaching and learning.
- Facilities are substandard for some disciplines.
- There are safety concerns for faculty teaching in the WEQ.
- Instructional time is lost to technology issues.
- Some faculty believe decisions are being made by administrators without using shared governance.
- The proposed move of Art and Music to the Business Park (off campus) was seen by faculty in other disciplines as a breakdown of campus community. Some faculty proposed GE classes be offered at the Office Park instead. Some faculty expressed that this idea should have been discussed in ISPC before being investigated by administration. (More transparency).
- Will some faculty be forced to teach at the prison or at high schools?
- Some faculty are not supportive of the dual enrollment proposals.
- Why did the president displace an anthropology class to accommodate a special board meeting in HUM-111 on 10/10/2017? The anthropology class was relocated to the old board room, while the board meeting took place in the classroom. Students had an exam that night, and no tables to write upon.

The takeaway from this Faculty Forum was that a number of faculty have a growing distrust of our current administration and have real concerns and fears about the direction of the college. They want their questions answered and their concerns addressed.

**10/24 COMMENT:** Is there a way to use the forums to generate solutions as well as voicing concerns? We discussed the idea of having the forums stop at a certain time to start discussing opportunities for solutions or next step actions.

IV. Discussion/Action Items:

- Proposed Faculty Activities Announcement: TABLED for next meeting
- Proposed TLC "Digest" (Info on Pedagogy sent to NOR-faculty): TABLED for next meeting
- Review/Update TLC Fall 2017 Report to Senate/Goals (attached): Review the handout to see if we should be added to any of the strategic goals. Also, check the mission statement. If you want to add any adjustments, then email Quinton before Monday (October 30<sup>th</sup>).
- Leading from the Middle Institute TLC Participation: <https://rpgroup.org/leading-from-the-middle#317398-overview>

V. Good of the Order

- Some topics were mentioned in PDC that may align with TLC:
  - Not having adequate lecture rooms
  - Class sizes that are too large
  - How is space being allocated?

**WHAT NEXT?**

**Next Meeting:**