

April 16, 2020
Academic Center, ZOOM

Present: David Wain Coon, Jonathan Eldridge, Greg Nelson, Isidro Farias, Meg Pasquel, Karen Robinson, Peggy Dodge, Maridel Barr, Kim Foulger, Luanne Mullin, Marian Mermel, Monica Applegate, Hellen Sigaran (student rep); Fernando Sanchez Lopez (student rep); Micöi Benèt

Absent: There were no absences.

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Superintendent/President Coon.

1. **Agenda** –The agenda was approved by consensus.
2. **Minutes** - The minutes of the February 13, 2020 and March 5, 2020 College Council meetings were approved.
3. **President’s Report**

COVID-19 update:

Beginning Monday, April 20, 2020 College of Marin (COM) campuses will only be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Restrictions remain the same as the March 30, 2020 stay at home (SAH) order. Based upon Governor Newsom’s recent update, there is no known opening date but many restrictions, such as social distancing and wearing face masks, will remain in effect.

Jonathan Eldridge, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Student Learning and Success, announced that the approach for summer instruction is being finalized. Even if SAH concludes before the end of summer or fall, serious social distancing measures will likely remain in place. This year the summer session will take place exclusively online. To meet basic transfer pathways, the administration, faculty and staff are looking at existing courses and figuring out continuing education for online instruction purposes. The District will provide faculty with necessary training to improve online teaching skills.

While the approach to fall courses is less certain, it is likely to include continuing online instruction plans, or a mix of social distancing and online instruction. One major current goal is to review courses that do not lend themselves to online learning and figure out approaches to facilitate lessons, keeping health and safety restrictions in mind. The fall schedule may morph accordingly but an in-depth assessment will take place in the coming weeks.

So far, there have only been 58 withdrawals from individual classes, and not from the College of Marin overall. This may have to do with active COM student ambassador outreach and the staff/faculty/student availability and support. By comparison, Santa Rosa Jr. College has processed 1,200 withdrawals. COM has provided continuing support to students in need in the form of local grocery store gift cards, connections to county resources, and individual student follow-up. Staff closely monitors student requests and response time is typically less than a day. Separately, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act has given COM \$1.3 million - half of this amount will go directly to students and the other half will be used to recoup expenses incurred by the District to take COVID-19 health and safety measures.

Meg asked whether the District has a plan to get students better internet, WiFi and data access. Vice President Eldridge acknowledged that traditional low-income Marin County communities, like the Canal and Marin City, do not have same level as internet access as other neighborhoods. This is a concern that the administration is trying to resolve along with many other schools. Currently, there is a Countywide ask in addition to Statewide initiatives that COM is exploring along with other resources and options.

Marian asked if ESCOM members may go onto campus, during SAH. Superintendent/President Coon stated that both COM campuses are closed for all practical purposes and nobody should go to campus unless it is absolutely essential. When asked whether community education will go online this summer, ESCOM was informed that the option is under consideration by Carol Hildebrand.

Besides email, most communications from COM are online and through social media. The COM website has been updated to easily access support services and resource guides for COVID-19: <http://www1.marin.edu/>.

Capital Projects Update

Isidro Farias, Director of Capital Projects, provided an update on Capital Projects along with a [presentation](#). He reported that the Learning Resource Center (LRC) will have a maximum size of 85,000 square feet (gross), more than originally expected to facilitate student programming. He also reported that while the G4 Architects had planned to present to College Council at this meeting, and the Board of Trustees on April 21, all presentations have been postponed. Town halls are also cancelled although there were a few online town halls. Design plans will be on hold until July 2020. Due to an anticipated recession, LRC construction costs are likely to decline, and this will factor into design considerations.

The public works Essential Work Exemption have allowed projects such as the LRC abatement, Jonas Center, Miwok building, Fusselman Hall, the Library and Bookstore

move to go forward. All workers, use COVID-19 protections and are OSHA and CDC compliant.

4. Constituent Reports

ASCOM

Hellen reported that ASCOM has cancelled all in-person events that were planned. Instead self-care events, that include trivia, games and Netflix nights, are held remotely using Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Zoom and Facebook Live. The main goal is to create a space that is fun and attracts diverse students. The next event is a Netflix party, on April 23, even though there are some concerns about Zoombombing. ASCOM is working on how to deal with the issue of Zoombombing.

Elections results will be announced soon but Hellen was happy to report that Fernando Sanchez Lopez was voted as ASCOM president and Khadija Nakhuda was voted Student Trustee, for 2020-2021.

ESCOM

Luanne reported that ESCOM has cancelled many events but at least half of the ESCOM clubs are still holding weekly meetings online. While Zoom is a new experience for many members, most are willing to learn how to use it. ESCOM was very pleased that the Director of Advancement, Keith Rosenthal, joined their remote council meeting. Otherwise, ESCOM team is doing great and ESCOM council elections will move forward, although there are not a lot of vacancies.

Academic Senate

Meg reported that the Academic Senate (AS) will use the [electionbuddy](#) application to send out 300 ballots and the ballot will be finalized on April 20, 2020. Faculty has spent a lot of time talking about the issues presented by COVID-19. Among the issues is Advanced Placement scores and how students will be placed, in conjunction with University of California (UC) transfers. Meg asked that Hellen and Fernando to let her know about issues students are facing that they may not feel comfortable communicating to faculty directly.

Classified Senate

Maridel reported that the Classified Senate (CS) discussed COVID-19 issues and how to get work done from home. The Zoom conference was a good way to catch up with different departments across campus. Most useful was the exchange of time-sharing experiences and tips to overcome some of the challenges presented by remote work. The CS breakfast has been cancelled but a CS webinar, in conjunction with staff nominations, may be held in its place in May.

5. Board of Trustees

The College Council reviewed the Board of Trustees regular meeting agenda, for April 21, 2020. The Zoom meeting will be very limited, without a study or a closed session, but with public comments to be submitted before the board meeting begins.

6. Meeting Wrap Up

President Coon announced that this year's commencement will be virtual. Jon Horinek, Dean of Enrollment Services, is working with a vendor to compile a commencement recording.

The employee recognition lunch, that typically takes place the day before commencement, will be also be virtual, likely in a town hall format. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

6. Meeting Schedule: The next Meeting is May 7, 2020 and most likely via Zoom.

7. Adjourn Meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.