



## Planning and Budget Council

Minutes – **APPROVED**

November 27, 2023

1:30 – 3:00 PM

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**Attending:** Li Collier, Patty Collis, Stephanie Dirks, Anne Donegan, Gene Durand, Robert Ethington, Maggie Fishman, K. Frindell Teuscher, Angélica Garcia, Robert Holcomb, Kate Jolley, Sara Jones, Sean Martin, Eve Miller, Nancy Persons, Joshua Pinault, Whitney Schultz, Sandy Sigala, Jeremy Smotherman, Teresa Solorio, John Stover, Debbie Weatherly

**Absent:** D’Juan Brundidge, Benjamin Goldstein

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### 1. Approval of 11/13.23 Minutes

A committee member had concerns with the minutes and will send corrections via email. Updated minutes will be brought back to share with the group at the next meeting.

### 2. Member Announcements and Questions

Robert H and Nancy will give an update to the Council on the district education plan at the January 22, 2024 meeting.

### 3. Guided Pathways workplan

Presentation by Matthew Long and John Stover. It was reiterated that this is a workplan required by the Chancellor’s Office, it was due this past June, but SRJC has received an extension.

The workplan has been presented in various venues and to multiple groups, included at town halls, Academic Senate, Management Team, Student Government, Classified Senate and back to the Academic Senate again for a second reading on December 6<sup>th</sup>. It will go next to the President’s Cabinet, and then to the Board of Trustees at the December meeting.

English, Math and ESL departments have been contacted to provide opportunities for feedback.

Debbie W wanted to express her thanks for being part of the workgroup and really appreciated the fact that students attended, and their feedback was valuable.

It was mentioned that many in the Math Dept felt this workplan was hostile, that it was written without any math input and math faculty are feeling unappreciated for all the hard work they are doing to get students to pass their courses. It was further stated that we are not really addressing the needs of our students.

It was discussed that the workplan is focusing on how the institutions and systems can better formulated for our students. The terminology may be off-putting as this is not something we have done very often; we are identifying what is not working for our students at a systemic level.

It was stated that the math dept has strong opinions that mathematicians are the best people to teach math courses.

Another council member asked about how this group was formed, and if the workplan was binding. It’s connected to 10+1 and grading, academic calendar, evaluations, canvas etc.

The workplan states these are “possible solutions” to the identified barriers as identified by the workgroup. There is more process to come, this is the first step of many before the district begins working on an identified option.

In response to the questions related to the 10+1 and senate purview, Nancy P wanted to reassure everyone that she was part of the workplan. It was reviewed at the Senate a few times, she stated

that this is a workplan to identify barriers and propose potential solutions, this is not an implementation plan. Nancy reminded everyone that we need to have a student-centered lens when we're discussing things. The spirit of Guided Pathways has to do with being very student centered.

One council member stated that he believes there is a problem with a lot of these initiatives, especially GP, that it is an attempt to override the governance processes that have been hard fought for and undermine the union's rights to negotiate matters before there is momentum built behind them. There was a request for the district to ask for another extension and delay submitting the workplan or at least give the union the opportunity to review this workplan before submitting.

Dr. Garcia stated she would like to keep the process of collegial discussion moving along but is not going to ask for an extension. She stated that we are the last college to submit a workplan and it is in the best interest of students that we complete this work. Dr. Garcia reiterated that if we don't submit a workplan, we will have to return the money. And we would still need to move forward with figuring out how to do Guided Pathways because that is in the best interest of students. We just won't have any money to do the work.

Discussion then ensued around the process for areas that may require future effects bargaining.

One council member stated that all groups were invited to participate in the workgroup.

#### 4. **PBC Training: Planning**

Jeremy began the discussion by stating the goal of PBC is to ensure that we are running through the planning process as all key performance indicators and ensuring that the district is following its mission in support of annual planning and resource allocation. To help achieve that goal when PBC is talking about aspects of planning, and related to resource allocation, we all have the same understanding of what planning is and real planning is supposed to be accomplishing and how do we support that. He asked the group: What is the purpose of the strategic plan?

Responses:

- Lay out our goals and priorities for the college.
- It's something we're required to do.
- To give us direction.
- To promote having an aligned college, forward thinking.
- Making sure that we fulfill our mission.

Jeremy asked another question. We're starting our education plan process because the technology plan, we have a sustainability plan. Why do we have those?

Responses:

- Operational plans to make sure that we implement things that can achieve the goals that set out in a strategic plan.
- I don't know.
- It's communication, about what's going on.
- A shared understanding of what the plans are, consistency in the plans so they all line up.
- The strategic plan function is something of a North Star. How the other plans relate to each other in syncing with our North Star, also accreditation requirements as well.
- The process of prpp should be one that is actually connected to the strategic plan.
- To ensure that the budget, the resources of the college are directed in a way that supports strategic planning - the mission specifically.

Dr. Garcia asked do all of our plans exist on their own or they're any that link or connect or reference?

Jeremy stated that all the plans should be connected and linked. We are in the beginning stages of rebooting our entire planning process, because all the other associated plans have expired by these two to three years. Ideally they would all be linked.

A comment was made that sometimes we have the intention to integrate. But when we actually do different plans not everybody is familiar with every big plan. The PBCs charge and function is to make sure these plans being developed are connected to each other and connected a strategic plan.

Jeremy shared a [visual](#) of integrated planning and the different levels.

Discussion on PRPP and the different requests for each year (comprehensive vs specific sections)

Jeremy continued the discussion on integrated planning. The next part of planning is key performance indicators. How do we know we're accomplishing what we're trying to accomplish?

More group discussion ensued on PRPP and institutional plans. The college tried to integrate in response to accreditation recommendations/obligations to ensure that we are addressing initiatives and oversee the PRPP process. We need to maintain transparency with our minutes and agendas and communication is very important. We have a lot of different components, areas, and departments, and if we're not maintaining strategic direction, things can go sideways very quickly.

Jeremy stated that the importance of our key performance indicators and the type of indicators that we have available to help justify the kind of programs and projects that are being done, how we incorporate those things into our planning processes. When something comes to PBC, as either a grant plan or something similar in terms of how do we support the district moving forward, connecting things to our strategic plan, our mission, vision and value statements and every subsequent plan that's happening as a whole, especially when there are things that we need to try to support as a district.

5. **Proposed Agenda Items for Next Meeting – January 22, 2024**

Robert H and Nancy to give update to group on the district education plan

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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[PBC Committee Function](#)