



## **Shared Governance Council (SGC) Meeting Minutes February 21, 2024**

Attending: President John B. Cook (Ex Officio); Vice President Andrea Nathanson (Cabinet), Vice President Darcey Kemp (Cabinet), Vice President Mary Kaselouskas (Cabinet), Vice President Chris Thuot (Cabinet), David Panchenko (President, Student Government Association), Professor Christina Atwater (AUC Faculty Co-Chair), Amanda Dufault (AUC Interim Staff Co-Chair), Kim Noel (AFSCME Leadership), Professor Renae Gorman (MCCC/ PA President); Nanette Flores (Executive Assistant to the President; minutes)

- I. Minutes from September SGC Meeting: No edits.
- II. NECHE/Removal – Notice of Concern (January 2024): No follow ups. Noted by Dr. Cook, a report from Academic Affairs will be submitted in the summer; after this meeting we'll have outcomes to share
- III. Review/Discussion of Recommendations:

a) Withdrawal Policy (Including AUC Memo) – FY23-04:

AUC Leader, Chris Atwater discussed that historically the process of withdrawal was initiated by faculty and the proposal from Academic Affairs of giving the ownership to students led to lengthily but beneficial discussions with the Academic planning committee. This led to implementation discussion, agreeing on training for both students and faculty, which should include communication and collaboration points. VP Thuot gave kudos to AUC for moving this recommendation along, noting that this is a significant policy change in the direction of student centered decisions. AUC Leader, Chris Atwater reiterated the process used, noting that the Academic Planning committee did the work and brought to the AUC for a vote of consensus, and providing an open conversation for other recommendations.

Dr. Cook reminded MCCC and AFSCME Leader, if they foresee any issues along the lines of contract. MCCC Leader, Dr. Gorman noted that the only concern may be that it may affect classroom management, referring to Academic freedom. VP Thuot agreed, this is worth a conversation at MACER regarding contractual implications. Dr. Cook noted that this provides an example of how policies come upon, noting that there were MCCC members who were part of the AUC consensus. AFSCME Leader, Kim Noel asked, "Does the policy need to be created now? Is the policy written or does it need to be

amended?” The question led to a discussion about adding clarity, written in policy language. AUC Leader, Prof. Atwater noted that page 5 of the proposal is essentially the policy change, indicating that the implementation date of Fall 23 needs to be edited. MCCC & AUC Leaders reiterated the importance of communications explaining the process and interpretation of the policy, including training such as step-by-step process/scenarios/Advisement. VP Darcey added showing tools available for different scenarios. Atwater also reiterated the attention to proposals by the unions before bringing these to the AUC/committees noting that the members do not want to do the work if there are contractual issues.

Dr. Cook followed with next steps noting that this is an example on how we (SGC) will continue to work. This recommendation will be shared with Trustees, most likely in March but will not require a vote of Trustees since it is an operational policy. Regarding the communication/implementation discussion Dr. Cook suggested separating implementation from policy. Example – Faculty has the right to withdraw a student for frequent absences – this will be deleted. MCCC Leader, Dr. Gorman, reiterated that we need to be clear across the schools (under one policy) – although the conversations may vary by schools, the interpretation varies. Dr. Cook commented on implementation – an all faculty discussion may not be a conversation for PD day.

#### b) Smoke/Tobacco-Free Campus Policy – FY24-01

The AUC, having discussed a smoke-free campus throughout a number of years, has passed a vote, vetted in front of AUC for a tobacco free (not smoke free). Dr. Cook asked, what’s the difference between tobacco and smoke free campus? It was clarified that smoke free includes vape, electronic, chewing tobacco. The MCCC Leader, Dr. Gorman reminded that this policy will be impacted bargained. Agreeing that there needs to be implementation/enforcement language, in case of a violation? Any violation language has to be in accordance to the impacted bargaining. Dr. Cook provided an example of implementation: Andrea, though facilities, will work on signage, and will work with HR for enforcement. Suggested also looking at sister community colleges for disciplinary actions.

VP Nathanson asked a question regarding the process language, in terms of tweaking things, do we make edits (example, adding the word smoke)? Per AUC Leader, Prof. Atwater, editing should be fine as long as the edits are included in the minutes, with a sort of consensus. Adding the term Smoke to the title of the recommendation was agreed upon. The recommendation will be shared with Trustees at the March meeting. Will follow up if trustees come back with comments. To conclude, AUC Leader, Prof. Atwater noted that at the last trustee meeting, it was assumed that the policy might not come through – the comment had a tone of misunderstanding. It would be good that Trustees acknowledge the work done by AUC.



### c) Potential Spanish/Language Resources Translation Policy (TBD)

This proposal has not been properly shared with SGC. For context, HAHE came forward to ask how to bring a proposal. Noted by AUC Leader, Prof. Atwater, HAHE put together the proposal it will be moved to the AUC/DEI committee. Proposals are sent to the AUC, then it goes to committee. If the proposal was not reviewed by key staff, it should not come to SGC. VP Kemp, noted that the voice of the proposal is good but not complete because it was not discussed with key staff. The proposal will be further worked on before submission to SGC. This proposal came upon a request to VP Darcey Kemp for permission to translate documents. Darcey noted that she does not have the authority and address the group to go to the AUC and follow the process. Darcey is happy to attend the DEI meeting.

### Tenure /Informational

Dr. Cook spoke about the Tenure process, as a specific example of governance. Tenure recommendations will be forwarded to Trustees in March.

### Next Steps

No other meeting scheduled, however if a proposal is submitted, we can meet as needed.  
Meeting ended at 1:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Nanette Flores