



## Student Success Committee (SSC) Minutes

February 27, 2019 @ 2-3:30 pm in Campus Center Conference Room (CCCR)

**Charge:** *The Student Success Committee (SSC) is the participatory governance committee responsible for student success and related initiatives. The SSC integrates and aligns student success efforts into a cohesive strategy through on-going evaluation of data. SSC makes recommendations to close achievement gaps and continuously improve student success outcomes in accordance with State guidelines and the Ventura College Master Plan.*

Agenda Items	Discussion Notes	Action	Date	Who
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 2:02pm			
2. Public Comments	<p>B. Herrera hands out typed public comment statement and reads statement aloud to the committee. Statement attached <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>P. Munoz reads statement regarding the Men of Color workshop previously scheduled for August. P. Munoz raises the concern regarding the funding of Diversity and Culture festival and not funding the Men of Color workshop. Statement is passed out to committee members and has been attached <a href="#">here</a>.</p>			
3. Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1/23/19</li> </ul>	B. Herrera moves to approve Minutes, second by V. Allen Yes: All	<b>Vote</b>		
4. Discuss Equity Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dreamers</li> <li>-Foster Youth</li> <li>-Low-Income</li> <li>-Veterans</li> </ul>	<p>Presenters present to discuss these Equity groups.</p> <p>Homeless - Annette Hernandez from Financial Aid presents a PowerPoint presentation on data they were able to pull up from incoming students identifying in person in the FA office or on their CCC apply application. Annette goes over PowerPoint to discuss services and resources currently offered, financial aid available for homeless students, and current needs. Presentation will be attached to meeting minutes. B. Herrera states during a discussion with the Mayor he stated they are interested in a partnership with VC and are looking at VC as a site.</p> <p>Dreamers - Wendy Lopez presents PowerPoint on our Dreamer DACA student population. PowerPoint will be attached to meeting minutes. Wendy presents slides to the committee and goes over data listed on each slide, also resources and services currently offered and the needs for these students. B. Herrera states how one finding is that AB540 students don't always like to identify themselves or draw attention to themselves as a singled out group.</p>	<p><b>Discussion (30 min)</b></p> <p><b>Questions (30 min)</b></p>		

	<p>Veterans – Jordana Ybarra-Telias, new Program Coordinator in VRC attends to discuss the Veteran student population. Discussion raised about the coordination amongst divisions to help prevent some of these pitfalls our veteran students are facing such as being advised to take courses that aren't needed for their degree or educational plans.</p> <p>828 registered veteran students, 413 of that are veteran dependents, 336 veterans, 53 active duty, 11 national guard, 15 reserves. About 50/50 male and female. Outreach work has been happening to help get these students off academic probation. She has seen lots of insecurities our veterans are facing such as housing, food, mental health challenges, and healthcare. Jordana stresses the importance of the crisis some of our students are facing and how the disconnect on campus is causing a challenge in linking these resources together to help make actual change for these students. Suggestions; linking and consolidate resources on our website while still providing a personal aspect, mentorship type program to help guide some of these students who are teetering on the verge of quitting school or sticking through it and would benefit from a big-brother or mentor to help them along their journey here at VC.</p> <p>Jordana will be bringing many mansions onto campus to present on their new veteran and low income housing facilities and would like those who want to attend to reach out to her to attend.</p> <p>P. Munoz asks if Alma would be presenting on low-income as she believes Alma would have the data. Alma would like help from those who work with these students to find out why they aren't completing, etc. Financial Aid cannot do it all and reach all students alone. There is a common misconception on campus with students about not being eligible for financial aid if you plan to use it for a 4 year university. Vanessa Luis notes that a lot of students aren't even able to access canvas to do their work or even how to access work let alone some of the other websites for our divisions. Discussion regarding some of the challenges the campus is facing right now as far as getting students what they need to succeed.</p>			
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	<p>Vanessa asks committee if in-person training or workshops can be accessible to students here on campus. T. Lawler makes comment that most of us here as staff don't have log-ins for canvas or training on it to be able to walk students through or help them with. R. Fernandez notes the same is thought from professionals on the other end who have trouble accessing some of the features. Members suggest revising our website and looking at processes to determine efficiency and accessibility.</p>			
<p><b>5. SEA Budget</b></p>	<p>Will be discussed at Campus Budget Workshop on April 4<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm-2:30pm</p> <p>D. Bell says tri-chair model has been working as meetings are regularly occurring to evaluate the needs and revolve the goals around the committee charge and not to detour off of the movement we have been putting forth with these presenters and looking at closing achievement gaps. Discussion regarding how "budget" definition is being used amongst some committee members. R. Johnson defends claims made falsely against her and her position as a tri-chair which has not been portrayed accurately. R. Johnson simply wanted rationale for why the budget was being asked to put on this exact agenda instead of being addressed at a later time once we got through these presenters. R. Fernandez suggests presenting a budget where we are now and not finalized budget. B. Gilbertson states these meetings are becoming uncomfortable again when some speak over each other and cut people off, just as occurred in the previous year, as stated in the committee evaluation. L. Morales states budget cannot be off the table for fear of tense conversations and suggests going back to 2 meetings per month. D. Bell clarifies that the charge revised in the first meeting was to close achievement gaps and formulate student success initiatives, which can be done without money on the table ready to spend.</p> <p>D. Bell decides to dissipate budget at next meeting. Committee decides to go back to 2 meetings per month in order to hear presenters and finish work that has been started.</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>		

<b>6. Campus Compass</b>		<b>Discussion</b>		
<b>7. Future Agenda Items:</b> a) Taskforce Workgroups AB705/AB1805				
<b>8. Open Comments/Announcements</b>				
<b>9. Adjournment</b>	Meeting adjourned 3:31pm.			

## VC Student Success Committee Meeting of February 27, 2019

[Public Comments made by Bea Herrera, SSC member and she requests it is included in today's meeting minutes, as it was distributed in writing to the whole SSC.]

Dear Colleagues,

As of Fall 2018, the revised charge of the SSC is:

*"...is [to be] the participatory governance committee responsible for student success and related initiatives. The SSC integrates and aligns student success efforts into a cohesive strategy through on-going evaluation of data. SSC makes recommendations to close achievement gaps and continuously improve student success outcomes in accordance with State guidelines and the Ventura College Master Plan."*

I voted to accept this charge and strongly support the SSC in performing its responsibilities to fulfill this charge; its the only way to ensure we are integrating and aligning student success efforts into a cohesive strategy through on-going evaluation of the funded initiatives and to evaluate if in fact they are closing achievement gaps for the identified targeted groups.

In my view, one data element of this evaluation of data is how the SEA funding (SEA budget) is being allocated to any student success effort on campus and if such funding is adequate (or not) to accomplish the intended purpose of such effort. I know the SSC no longer is involved in "distributing funds/allocating funds" and that is not my interest, but it still in our shared governance purview to review the SEA budget in accordance with our revised charge. How will we know if we are leveraging our resources? How will we know if it is a "cohesive strategy"? How will we know if there are initiatives that can be consolidated? How will we know if there is duplication of efforts? How will we know how these tax-payer dollars are being used?

As a SSC member, I have been requesting that the SEA budget be placed on the agenda for review for months. It's been on the items for future agendas since November and each time, I also requested it from one or more of the TriChairs while at the meeting. My request has gone ignored since November. Last week or so, I was requested it again via email and Dr. Bell and Rachel Johnson stated to me they will not be distributing the SEA budget to the SSC for review. Dr Bell stated that because only Paula and I requested, they would not share with the SSC group and if I wanted to see it, I can attend the April 4<sup>th</sup> Campus Forum to review it. Rachel Johnson, the Faculty Co-Chair of the SSC, stated that I had to give a reason/rationale--- a good rationale---before she could support adding it to the agenda, as there were other more important agenda items to discuss first.

**I am extremely concerned on two levels---**

- a. **The outright refusal by Dr. Bell and Rachel Johnson to place something on the meeting agenda of a shared governance committee member.**
- b. **The lack of transparency on the SEA budget (funding of revenue and expenditures) are being spent at VC. It's millions of tax-payer funds being used and no one on campus, except management, knows how these funds are being used and for what purposes.**

Now that you are aware of my experience, I hope you are also concerned and that you join me in requesting that the detailed VC SEA budget (revenue and expenditures) be shared with the SSC immediately.

SSC Public Comments February 27, 2019

Paula Muñoz

My comments are in relation to the SEA budget and Equity. Lydia Mathews just sent out a Teaching MOC save the date for August 15, 2019. The approval for this workshop is in question. The Teaching Men of Color workshop was scheduled for this 18-19 academic year. The Teaching Men of Color workshops were an Equity initiative and proposal written by faculty, vetted and approved by the Equity committee and the Student Success Committee last year. It was the highest ranked proposal. The last workshop of the three was scheduled for this academic year, January 4, 2019.

It appears that an administrative decision was made to cancel or postpone this January workshop. To my knowledge, no other faculty initiatives or faculty professional development workshops have ever been interfered with by administration. A reason given was that there had been little or no equity or diversity activities or conversations around these issues this last semester, so why have the MOC come out to provide a workshop. The Professional Development Tri Chairs, Dan Kumpf, Sharon Beynon and Chez Harper inserted themselves and assumed ownership of this MOC equity initiative without consultation of the faculty leads. They instead communicated directly with the MOC presenters. The MOC communicated to the faculty leads that this PD communication seemed disconnected and the original organizing faculty were not on the call.

The organizing faculty asked the MOC to come out instead to VC on August 12, 2019 since claims were made by the PD and administration that the MOC would be better received since the PD would make sure that equity and diversity activities would take place this Spring 2019. The MOC agreed to come back to VC in August 2019. To this date, I have not seen such activities, unless the Diversity in Culture Festival is supposed to do this. Is this festival being funded by SEA this year? And if so, how does it close any achievement gap?

I see that the PD committee again inserted itself in an initiative that is not theirs, by attempting to invite the MOC back to VC for April 12, and there is no response from the MOC.

So, I have to ask why is an approved initiative that went through all of the required channels being shut down by the VC administration? Why is one of the few initiatives that is addressing equity being dismissed? Why is the faculty of color who did the work for this initiative being sidestepped?