

# Los Rios Ethnic Studies Faculty Council

## Minutes

**Tuesday, November 30, 2021**

**Time: 2:00-4:00pm**

**ConferZoom: <https://lrccd.zoom.us/j/92493717468>**

### Preliminaries

- Call to Order – 2:00pm
- Attendance – Council Members Present in Bold

**Ricardo Caton, ARC**

**Walter Kawamoto, ARC**

**Nyenbeku George, CRC**

**Alex Peshkoff, CRC**

**Tami Cheshire, FLC**

**Victoire Chochezi, FLC**

**Keith Heningburg, SCC**

**Surangi Frazier, SCC**

**Malika Hollinside, SCC**

**Juana Esty, CRC AO Representative**

**Renee Medina, SCC Curriculum Chair Representative**

### Guests

**Julie Oliver – CRC Professor Biology, District Academic Senate President**

**Jamey Nye – Deputy Chancellor**

**Mario Rodriguez – Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration**

- Approval of Agenda  
**Alex Peshkoff** - Motion, **Ricardo Caton** - Second; All approved
- Approval of Minutes  
**Ricardo Caton** - Motion, **Tami Cheshire** - Second; All approved

**Consent to vote to meet online for the next thirty days. All approve**

- Public Comment  
None
- **Invited Guests Discussion – see summarized notes at the end of minutes**

## Announcements

- None

## Chair's Report (Approximately 60 minutes)

- How to support new and existing Ethnic Studies faculty
  - Role of the Council
    - Each college should decide what to do at the local level. We will discuss this issue again at the next meeting.
  - FTE – Discuss with VPI's and consider inviting them to next Council meeting
    - Julie indicated that conversations at the local level should happen before an invitation to the council.
  - Council members as Mentors
    - Julie said she could recommend that Council members be listed as mentors
  - Professional development/Our own version of New Faculty Academy
    - We can create a cohort to help them with day-to-day questions.
    - Please reach out to the New Faculty Academy Coordinators at your colleges.
    - We do not want to overwhelm new faculty with additional meetings or responsibilities.
    - Being a part of the council may be a lot of work for the new hires in their first semester.
  - Welcome with gifts from each campus, determine who from the Council will be obtaining these, reimbursement Venmo/Zelle, and how will we get gifts to the new faculty?
    - Surangi will send an email out to the council with details of how to contribute.
    - Union is able to contribute union swag.
    - Please reach out to the Public Information Office and Foundation for possible donations.

## Discussion Items (45 minutes)

Note: Items that the committee is unable to get to can be tabled until the next meeting.

1. Continued discussion on FTE (20 minutes)
2. Hiring Committees Updates from each college – general information on process (5 minutes)
3. Department and/or Local Advisory Groups Updates (5 minutes)
  - ARC (Ricardo Caton) – Name will be submitted to Board
  - CRC (Alex Peshkoff) – Name will be submitted to Board
  - FLC (Tami Cheshire) – no report
  - SCC (Surangi Frazier) – Name will be submitted to Board

4. Ethnic Studies courses, programs, and degrees (Standing Agenda Item) (10 minutes)
  - Updates on existing Ethnic Studies Curriculum & revisions
    - ETHNS 300, 320, 330, 340 & 350 check in
    - Curriculum deadlines with your Curriculum Committees
      - Sept. 1, Oct. 22, Dec. 1
      - Are we prepared to make changes and resubmit in the spring semester if we are denied Area F approval?
  - Update on Newly Proposed Ethnic Studies Curriculum- Work group ideas
  - Proposals for Ethnic Studies Programs, Certificates, Degrees - Work group progress
5. Meeting dates – discussion to keep the same or change them (5 minutes)
  - Renee – Based on the role of the committee, this will be my last meeting. I am the math department chair and I also have other responsibilities. I feel my job here is done with regard to curriculum. There are some mixed messages about curriculum, so that has been something to watch.

## Decision Items (Council Members Vote in Chat When Called to Vote)

Note: Decisions should be discussed at one meeting and voted on in a subsequent meeting. Decision items must be made public 72 hours before a vote can be made per Brown Act.

- None

## Future Items

- FTE
- Meet new Ethnic Studies faculty
- Requests for full-time positions in Ethnic Studies
- Department and/or Local Advisory group reports - Ethnic Studies courses, programs, and degrees (Standing Agenda Item)
  - Update on existing Ethnic Studies Curriculum & **revisions**
  - Proposals for Ethnic Studies Programs, Certificates, Degrees
  - Ethnic Studies Department Formation updates
- AB928 & AB111 impact on curriculum
- Curriculum changes - district wide name change request for all courses 'Introduction to' (and number changes AB111); and consider curriculum committee requests
- Curriculum Ethnic/Multicultural Requirement Policy Change
- Dual Enrollment in High Schools
- Flex Update
- Media Project & Video Update

Adjournment: 4:04pm

**Future Council Meeting Dates: Please respond to Surangi's email about meeting dates/times. At this time the current proposed dates/times are as follows:**

Tuesday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm (?) First day of the Semester

Tuesday Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday Apr. 20<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm

Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2-4pm

### **Summarized notes from guest discussion**

Jamey Nye – Thank you to the entire group. We are leading the way on hiring folks and doing good work prior to the mandate from the state. There is a lot of interest in our district already. I know there are a lot of questions about FTE. I want to make sure I am meeting the needs of this group. Both myself and Mario are here to help. I know there are questions about enrollment decline and FTE in general.

Jamey shared, that total enrollments and FTES are down across the board. Recent downward pressure is impacting the entire district. We anticipated a decline in our budget, but we did not anticipate the decline in enrollment. We have every reason to believe that Ethnic Studies will grow and fill classes. These are schedule B classes, these are the ones that help fill another full time faculty position. When there is strong demand, new requirements, there is a priority to make these hires.

We do not have an FTE problem but rather an enrollment issue within each college. We have an interest to grow where we can. Your VPIs have FTE to support Ethnic Studies at your colleges.

Nym – Our dean has told us that the FTE is coming only from our division, not the whole college. We need assistance from the district to work out these issues at CRC. I have taught and had full classes. We are confident that enrollment will be met. We want a commitment from district to grow FTE.

Jamey – District gives FTE to the colleges to manage among themselves. District can hold back FTE and then designate it for a program. We may need have conversations with VPIs about how classes are scheduled.

Mario – There is not really any issue with FTE.

Jamey – There are many classes that have extremely low enrollment. I will have a conversation with the VPIs about the scheduling and FTE. There is plenty to grow Ethnic Studies. It is a program I want to see grown. I can direct VPI's to support Ethnic Studies FTE.

Julie – We can call the folks that didn't make it through the full time hiring, about putting them in the part time pool. We may have current faculty who may already meet min quals for Ethnic Studies.

Nym – The Ethnic Studies courses have sailed through the pandemic. We had excellent enrollment. But the two professors who teach Ethnic Studies at CRC right now will no longer be able to teach Ethnic Studies at CRC because of 'perceived' restricted FTE and this is a problem.

Jamey – We set goals but don't necessarily micromanage at the college level. I am happy to have those conversations with the VPI. The VPI can change the allocation to another division at any time. For example, we had public speaking online at FLC only. We took FTE off the top of the allocation and gave it to FLC for those specific classes. In this case, we would not micromanage in that way. Again, I would be happy to have that conversation to support Ethnic Studies.

The VPIs work with Deans to divide it up. There is often leftover FTE as well.

Alex – My concern and the council's concern is who going to be supported with growth and be properly supported. So, it came as a shock that people at CRC is not supporting Ethnic Studies.

Mario – The FTE is there, we just have to make sure it's getting to the right people.

Ricardo – ARC is experiencing the same thing as CRC. We have not received any communication from anyone from the District and the College Administration. District has supported the hiring off the top, but there has not been any communication about our FTE or our Ethnic Studies Department.

Julie – The state gave us money for hiring, not FTE. CSU took requirements away from area D to create area F. There is going to be movement of FTE.

Jamey – There will be no new unit requirements, so it will come out of another area. Our commitment in Los Rios is to have Ethnic Studies Departments.

Nym – Could you indicate how much FTE will be held when you have those conversations with the CRC VPI.

Julie – All the colleges have a plan for their faculty. ARC has an issue because of courses that haven't been fully approved. Once all the courses receive Area F approval, things will grow.

Nym – We would like a hold back of 1 FTE for CRC. This is not about protecting an overload. We want the new hire to be supported.

Julie – FTE is always moved around.

Tami – Will classes be cut for Ethnic Studies? My admin has said that they will cut low enrollment classes.

Julie – They have to let these classes fly, within reason. Please celebrate these victories that you have already achieved. Please invite the new faculty to be part of this council as well.

Ricardo -- What compensation can the district provide this council?

Julie – This can be college service work. I don't have an answer for that right now. I have been advocating. I am also thinking about a stipend as a possibility for the past year of work that you've already done.