

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS

Minutes

11 a.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Zoom

Call to Order: 11:05 a.m.

Quorum Met: Yes

Facilitator: Chad Greene

Members Present:

Sherryl Carter, ACCME – Adult Education
Anne Contreras, Health Occupations
Kari Hemmerling, Kinesiology
Michelle Kim, Liberal Arts
Phuong Nguyen, Science, Engineering, and Mathematics
Paula Pereira, Library
Rossi Petrova, Technology
Sarah Pirtle, CSEA – Media Services
Veronica Sanchez, Humanities and Social Sciences
Pamela Sepulveda, ACCME – Falcon’s Nest
Wendy Thomas, Confidential – President’s Office

Members Absent:

Robert Campolo, Fine Arts and Communications
Berenice Gallardo, Counseling
Dahlene Holliness, Student Accessibility Services
Renee Le Fevrier, ASCC
Peter Moloney, Business Education

1. Approving: Minutes from February 25 Professional Relations Committee Meeting

a. Rossi Petrova made a motion to approve the minutes from the committee’s meeting on February 25, which was seconded by Sherryl Carter. The minutes were approved.

2. Updating: Notifications of Winners of 2024-2025 Outstanding Faculty Awards

a. After the Professional Development Committee’s meeting on February 25, chair Chad Greene presented the information on the 2024-2025 Outstanding Faculty Award winners to Faculty Senate President Terrance Mullins.

b. Mullins notified all twenty winners of Outstanding Faculty Awards by the end of the week before spring break.

c. During the week of spring break, Greene asked the winners to write brief bios and their deans to write blurbs about them to be included in the program for the awards ceremony on April 24.

3. Discussing: One of Our Winners Has Declined His Award; Should We Select a Replacement?

- a.** After Steven Hirohama was notified that he had been selected as a winner of an Outstanding Faculty Award, he emailed Mullins and Greene to “respectfully decline.” Hirohama asked that the committee please consider giving it to another faculty member, instead.
- b.** Greene asked the committee if, at this stage, they would like to consider presenting its twentieth Outstanding Faculty Award to another full-time faculty member. Veronica Sanchez made a motion to present the twentieth Outstanding Faculty Award to Walter Fernandez, who had finished next in the voting in February. The motion, which was seconded by Paula Pereira, passed.

4. Sharing: Details About the Outstanding Faculty Awards Ceremony

- a.** Greene reported that, with the assistance of Monica Acuña and Monique Valencia, the Student Center had been booked for the Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 24. Acuña had also booked Culinary Arts to provide food and drinks for the event and arranged for the linens for the tables. Acuña and Valencia had suggested that a few Professional Relations Committee members could help “break down” after the ceremony – collect items left on the tables, etc.
- b.** Greene had shared the names of the award winners with Acuña and Valencia. They were taking care of ordering their plaques and medals as well as arranging for a check from the Cerritos College Foundation for our Most Outstanding Faculty Award winner, Michael Pierini.
- c.** Greene shared that Professional Relations Committee member Sarah Pirtle would be creating the program for the ceremony. Greene had asked for the award winners to send their brief bios and for their deans to send their blurbs by the end of the week of March 24. Pirtle would be working with the winners to arrange for photos of them to be included in the program.
- d.** Greene also reported that David Rincon would be creating the video to honor our Most Outstanding Faculty Award winner, Michael Pierini.

5. Asking: For Suggestions About the Ceremony

- a.** Greene invited the members of the committee to share any suggestions that they had about the Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony, as there was more than a month left to plan for it.
- b.** Paula Pereira and Pamela Sepulveda asked questions and made suggestions about the moment of silence for faculty who have passed away within the past year, which will be a new element of this year’s ceremony. Sarah Pirtle asked questions about the organization of a PowerPoint presentation. Veronica Sanchez asked if there would be a vegetarian option on the menu at the ceremony.
- c.** Greene proposed putting together a draft of the “script” for the Outstanding Faculty Awards for the committee members to review at their meeting on Tuesday, April 15.

6. Soliciting: Items from the Floor

Meeting Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.