

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS

Minutes

11 a.m., Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Zoom

Call to Order: 11:05 a.m.

Quorum Met: Yes

Facilitator: Chad Greene

Members Present:

Sherryl Carter, ACCME – Adult Education
Michelle Kim, Liberal Arts
Phuong Nguyen, Science, Engineering, and Mathematics
Paula Pereira, Library
Rossi Petrova, Technology
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
Anne Contreras, Health Occupations
Berenice Gallardo, Counseling
Kari Hemmerling, Kinesiology
Dahlene Holliness, Student Accessibility Services
Renee Le Fevrier, ASCC
Peter Moloney, Business Education
Sarah Pirtle, CSEA – Media Services

1. Approving: Minutes from April 15 Professional Relations Committee Meeting

a. Michelle Kim made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Rossi Petrova. The minutes were approved.

2. Reminding: All Committee Members to Complete the Shared Governance Self-Evaluation Survey by May 23

a. Chad Greene reminded all those present that the college was asking all who were serving on shared governance committees – such as the Professional Relations Committee – to complete an annual self-evaluation survey by Friday, May 23.
b. Greene pointed out that one of the questions the members would be asked when they took the survey was whether we accomplished our set goal(s) for this year. He reminded the members that, at their committee meeting in September, they voted to set one primary goal for the 2024-2025 academic year: “To recognize and reward faculty excellence at Cerritos College through the presentation of the Outstanding Faculty Awards at a ceremony at the end of spring semester.” Thanks to all their respective contributions to

our committee's work this year, they did just that at the Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony on April 24.

c. Greene provided a link to the Shared Governance Committee Self-Evaluation Survey: https://cerritosierp.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9uI6vgVullfOOvs

d. Greene reminded members they could also find the link to the survey in the emails he sent to all the committee members on April 14 and on May 15.

3. Reflecting: On the 2025 Outstanding Faculty Awards Ceremony

a. The committee hosted its Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 in the Student Center. This year, Monique Valencia in the CTX replaced Monica Acuna in HR as the primary staff for the ceremony. Culinary Arts once again provided the food and drinks. The Most Outstanding Faculty Award winner, Chef Michael Pierini, created a special menu for the event. The president of Cerritos College, Jose Fierro, and the president of the Faculty Senate, Terrance Mullins, both participated in the ceremony. Greene and Valencia estimated that about 225 people attended the event this year. (There were 25 tables with eight chairs each in the main event space, and there were additional attendees standing on the sides and in the back.)

b. After the ceremony, a few of the Professional Relations Committee members helped “break down” – collected items left on the tables, put tables back on carts, etc. Greene thanked all of them.

c. Greene solicited feedback from the committee on the Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony, asking “What went well? What could have been better? What might we want to change for next year’s ceremony?” The feedback from the committee was positive. For example, both Sherryl Carter and Paula Pereira stated that the placement of the tribute to the two faculty who had died during the academic year was well placed at the end of the ceremony. No significant changes were suggested for the 2026 ceremony.

4. Compiling: List of Topics for the Committee to Discuss in Fall 2025

a. In addition to any changes to next year’s Outstanding Faculty Awards ceremony, Greene asked what additional topics the committee would like to discuss when it resumes meeting in the fall.

b. Potential topics that were suggested included:

- Revisiting the policy about Professional Relations Committee members’ eligibility to win Outstanding Faculty Awards
- Instituting a policy on repeat winners
- Creating a separate “legacy award” for faculty who have won within the past five years
- Adding a “team award” category for faculty who work together

5. Announcing: There Will, Indeed, Be an Opening for a New Chair of the Committee in the Fall

a. This was Greene’s last year serving as the chair of the Professional Relations Committee. He was elected to serve as the communications chair on the Executive Board of the Cerritos College Faculty Federation, and the Public Executive Board meetings are at the exact same time as the Professional Relations Committee meetings: 11 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.

- b.** According to the Shared Governance Handbook, the chair of the Professional Relations Committee serves a two-year term that ends on June 30. This was Greene's second year as chair, and he promised the committee to complete his term – through the end of June.
- c.** Greene let the rest of the committee know that the chair position would, indeed, be available. He asked if any members of the committee were interested in taking it on the role of chair, or co-chair. None of the committee members present expressed an interest in serving as chair for the 2025-2026 academic year.

6. Soliciting: Items from the Floor

- a.** There were no items from the floor.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50 a.m.