

Program Viability Committee Summary

September 29, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Zoom

Members present: Garrett Rieck (Noncredit Faculty), Tricia George (Humanities/Interim Curriculum Committee Chair), Jason Burgdorfer (MSHP-MSE), Jesse Vera (Adjunct Counselor & AMSA Faculty Co-Advisor), Julie Hovden (Counseling), Dr. Omar Torres (CIO), Jennifer Paris (SBS), Dr. Rebecca Eikey (MSHP-MSE), Rebecca Eikey (MSHP-MSE)

Guests: Marilyn Jimenez (Academic Senate Administrative Assistant), Harriet Happel (Dean of Career Ed and Integrative Learning, CTE), Dr. Kathy Bakhit (Dean, HPPS), Carl DeCarlo (Director, Fire Academy Programs), David Martinez (MSHP-MSE), David Michaels (MSHP-MSE), Daylene Meuschke (Dean, Inst. Research, Planning & Effectiveness), Erik Polanco (ASG, Student Trustee), Jeff Gregor (Associate VP, Instruction),

I. Routine Matters

1. Call to order: 10:02 am
2. Approval of the 9/15/2022 meeting minutes
 - a. Motion to approve the meeting minutes by Dr. Omar Torres, seconded by Julie Hovden. Dr. Rebecca Eikey absent. Approved.
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. There is a relationship between Program Viability and the Academic Senate in terms of approving and splitting of depts. PV can approve the splitting of depts if there are no new programs or courses being proposed with the split. However, if there are new programs being proposed with new depts or the splitting or merging of new department then this goes to Academic Senate. PV recently approved the Sonography however, this will need go to the Senate. The Occupational Therapy program will also need to go to Senate. The PV Committee will no longer vote on a new department along with the proposal. The PV Committee will only vote on splitting of depts. There was a request to send a follow up email to Dr. Kathy Bakhit so this process is clarified as some of the new proposals fall within her area. There is larger conversation between how PV, Senate and ASC can work better.
 - b. Motion to approve the agenda by Jesse Vera, seconded by Dr. Rebecca Eikey. Unanimous. Approved.

II. Discussion

1. Proposal to split the Physics and Engineering Department – David Michaels and David Martinez
 - a. **Proposal Summary:** There was agreement to have this proposal go to PV. David Martinez has been serving as the co-chair of the Engineering Dept. and David Michaels as the chair of the Physics Dept. The proposal is to split the Engineering and the Physics Dept. The main idea behind the proposal is to ensure that all faculty meet the MQ's within their depts. In addition, that both chairs have an academic understanding of the needs of the students, equipment, instructional demands, faculty, lab requirements and software. Currently the depts are operating separately as there is no sharing of adjuncts and lab techs. There are also two separate program reviews and each depts will have more than 1 FTF member. It was clarified this is not a personality conflict.
 - b. **EFMP Proposal:** Two separate proposal have been submitted with two separate scheduled meeting. The idea is to lay down the grand work for any

future Dept chair to be responsible for chairing a dept. they are not qualified for.

- c. **Department Sizes:** Physics will be #29 and Engineering #51. This is out of the total of 51 depts for the entire college. This puts the departments at an average dept size.
- d. **Approval from Office of Instruction & Senate:** Approval was received from the office of Instruction, Academic Senate and the Academic Senate senators which represent MSHP-MSE.
- e. **Faculty Release Time:** This proposal makes no mention of release time at all as this is not about appropriate compensation for either dept. chair. David Michael is now serving as the official new Dept Chair for Physics/Engineering, but David Martinez is serving as the co-Dept Chair for Engineering. David Martinez is now sharing his release time. David Michaels has served as the pervious Curriculum Coordinator.
- f. **Possible Issues/Concerns:** There is concern with needlessly creating additional single member academic departments. A meeting was held with Dr. Torres, David Michaels, David Martinez, and Jeff Gregor. Dr. Torres had some concerns about the splitting of both depts have worked well together for many years.
- g. **Dept. Background History:** These two depts where to separate depts in 2006 and they were merged without having a FT Physics Instructor represent the merger. This should be considered in this proposal. Another issue is with having a faculty chair that are not experts on or qualified for is not unique.
- h. **Department Set up at other CCC's & CSU/UC's:** At other CCC's or 4-year school the Engineering/Physics departments are not merged. This is unusual as it was done many years ago due to this being an orphan program. Many students must take Physics if they are majoring in Engineering.
- i. **Dept. Split Impact on Students:** The impact of the split will not be noticed by students, and it will be a benefit.
- j. **Physics Department Growth:** The Physics Dept. has grown substantially as opposed to the Engineering Dept. The focus now is on growing the Engineering Dept. and from the student perspective this makes sense. Much of the material is the same and this is true for many depts, such as the labs, programs, employment connections, industry and outreach as seen in other programs. In terms of functionality, it is two separate programs due to the natural expertise.
- k. **Shared Lab Space for the Physics Dept:**
 - 1. **CCC Don Takeda Sci. Center Lab Space:** The physics dept has tripled in size due to the new Don Take Sci Center at CCC as there is a new Physics lab which shares joint use with the Chemistry Dept, Physical Science and other disciplines. The goal is to try to make sure depts. have the support they need. When there is one FTF per dept. this goes contrary to trying to instill holistic support and when there is more than one FTF there is a backup. The two Faculty members have been in this dept. for a while and these two disciplines due work well together as they are both lectures based, and this is a gray area. In terms of distribution of sections there has not been a growth in the Engineering Dept. and the faculty focus could be used.
 - 2. **Valencia Campus Science Lab Space:** At the Valencia campus the Physics Dept. shares lab space in Aliso lab 111, 112 and 113. From

operational perspective there needs to be dialogue about shared space implications. It is important to make sure labs are successfully being scheduled to maximize the space to meet needs of both disciplines.

- i. **Currently Merged Depts:** There are other sciences that have more than one program review with more complicated labs such as Biology which is different than Environmental Sciences. The Astronomy Dept. has separate lab requirements and is different than Physical Sciences. Geology has its separate lab requirements. The most important is the timing in terms of the change. A question was proposed as to make the change after 16 years, why now after appointing a new Dept. Chair? Why would physics and astronomy be aligned, and physical sciences and astronomy be shared?
 3. **Example of Physics & Astronomy merging:** The merging of the Physics and Astronomy depts does require the by-in of depts that want to be merged. There is a planetary science class (Astronomy 102) and nothing is happening. This has always been offered as one section and is only filled when students cannot add other classes. To grow this course, which has an understanding in new planets and the new filed in astronomy this needs to have a strong connect to Geology.
 4. **Example of Physics and Earth Science:** This is unrelated. These programs are combined at some CCC's due the hiring of faculty that are qualified to each in both. However, at the state level, such as CSU's and UC's these are separated.
 5. **Example of Chemistry and Applied Physics:** Why are these not combined? Both programs' server the same student populations and the same science majors such as the pre-med, per-vet and physics. Any programs can be connected in a variety of ways.
- m. **Reasoning for Proposing the Dept Split:** David Michaels stepping into this role now must assume many Engineering Dept. responsibilities. Perhaps this proposal should have been initiated years ago. However, David Michaels never felt there was a benefit and didn't want to take on this role and process for a variety of reasons. Now that the Physics Dept has expanded to CCC, there are now two dept lab techs, it is now time for the Physics Dept. to step up and be a fully functioning dept. The predecessor was a math instructor and there were very few equipment and experiments. The students felt this was not helping and it took years to hire a lab tech. In returning to campus after COVID, without a lab tech and having the new CCC lab it became apparent that the dept cannot continue to function in this manner. Those are the practical issues, and these two programs need to be spearheaded separately.
- n. **Two Student Populations:** There are two separate student target audiences.
 6. **Physics Students:** In Physics it is almost entirely majors, such as engineering, life-science, pre-med, pre-vet, architecture. physical therapy and general science students. Astronomy is for GE, students outside of the sciences, outreach and teacher certificates and the populations are different. This dept does not share lab space, storage space, rooms. In astronomy most have places have an astronomical telescope and there are field trips.
 7. **Astronomy Students:** In Astronomy the idea is not to bring in Astronomy instructors as they will teach with an applied math focus. This is more of a planetary personality who wants to reach out to the general population. For ESS such as geography and oceanography these serve to

do outreach, field trips, excursions and being outside in the environment and this is not via the means of Physics. The building of observational parts goes into ESS.

- o. **ASG Student Trustee Input:** There is no action needed at this time by ASG for this committee. Students would not be impacted. The Impact on students will be positive as faculty will meet MQ's to teach courses and this will be a benefit to students.
 - p. Typically, how univ are set up there is a shared methodology of how to connect research. The thinking of Physics and Engineering are different and there is not much overlap. The Engineering Dept is broad and there are many different areas, such as Mechanical, Chemical and Aerospace Engineering. It may be overwhelming to have just one person in the Engineering Dept trying to keep track of all of these areas. If dept is split off it would be a great way of developing the program with those different interest with students.
 - q. Curriculum: The engineering articulation agreement is different for 4 years school and however is keeping track of these
 - r. PV is responsible to make recommendation to the Academic Senate on whether the committee agreed on the split. This summary will go to Senate as consent item and can be pulled for discussion as needed. If this program is approved to be split, it will enter pilot status and the authors of the proposal will go to PV once a year for three years to give an update. At the end of year 3 this will be voted to make a permanent split. As per the AP 4023 the report goes to Senate and not to PV, this will be clarified with David Andrus. This official split will start in fall of the next year as pilot status and become a permanent split at year 3 either here or at Senate. Year zero will start in the fall, the first report will be in fall 2024, 2nd report will be for year 2025 and the vote will take place in the fall of 2026.
 - s. Motion to approve the splitting of the Physics and Engineering Department by Dr. Omar, seconded by Rebecca Eikey. Unanimous. Approved.
2. Program Initiation: Paramedic – SB Tucker and Harriet Happel
- a. It was clarified that this program initiation is for EMS and not EMT.
 - b. SB tucker was not able to attend as she was at the 50-year anniversary. The EMT program was one of the first foundational programs for COC. At the time it was only COC and Cerritos as this was when EMT was coming to fruition and when the TV Show Emergency was popular. Over 5,000 students have graduated, and many students have gone into public safety, fire service, criminal justice and health care. Patti Haley also attended the EMT program. SB is a faculty champion, and Chief De Carlo is the faculty Academy Director and the Fire Academy Program, and the Paramedic Program will be closely related. A presentation was shared behalf of SB tucker. The success of the program is due to her hard work in building a foundation.
 - c. **What is a paramedic:** This is a practitioner that provides patient care outside of a hospital setting at an advance level. This is the lowest level first responder certifications. Most entities prefer the EMTB, and the Paramedic program would be a stackable certificate on top of EMTB. EMS encompasses practitioners such as EMT, Basic EMT, paramedic, and in some states, there is now a specialty certification and critical care in paramedic and hospital registry nurse. This profession continues to evolve as there are now elements of the paramedic profession and functioning in both public safety, health and

social services. The paramedic functions with advance skills such as IV therapy and airway control such as a manual cardiac, monitoring and defibrillation. These skills are accomplished under the direct control of a medical physician in a hospital space. A paramedic may nor may not be an emergency service. An aspect of public health, where they function might be inner facility or transport from one facility to another. The emergency medical services have evolved into its own profession. The US. Fire Administration now provides a professional development model focused strictly on EMS. All the major organizations in public safety have components within them that address the emergency Medical Services component, such as the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the International Association of firefighters. The paramedics may or may not be transporting patients to clinics such as fire dept and paramedics. EMS has involved into its own profession, and this now provides a professional model, and all have components in EMS. There is pathways for certification and training. THE EMT is the base load but is also congruent with an AA degree. There are now institutions that are offering BA in Emergency services and many hospitals have emergency community response departments.

- d. **Facilities and Equipment:** The training facilities such as at Del Valle are impressive. The program is growing and needs to expand classroom setting and realistic training and there is the capacity to increase in enrollment. There will need to be some purchases with to support the paramedic program SWF and some sharing with Nursing program such a mannikins common with RNs.
- e. **Accreditation/Licensure/Certification:** This can be very complicated process due to COAEMSP. They work with CAAHEP to make sure all are certified. EMS started in the dept of transportation and still falls within the federal government in the office of medical services and this was also due to the trauma of the new highways. The national US. Dept of Transportation under falls under the National Highway Traffic Safety administration. There a report is a vision 2050, which is a report to the future, and speaks to EMS as an element to the community. All partitioners need to be license. The national registry of emergency medical technicians is the NREMT.
- f. **Employment Opportunities:** The Dept of Labor segregates these positions into separate roles. There are single role paramedics. In the program packet there is the COE report for the South-Central region. The source is EMZ and looks backwards in terms of positions posted such as in Indeed.com. Many jobs are posted via their agency or the county. Between 2018-2028 there is a projected 11% increase. There are many retirements, and this has been accelerated with mandatory Covid vaccinations. The number of retirements is going beyond what was predicted and due to vaccination status, this caused many people in this field to see early retirement. This is a very viable pathway.
- g. **Wages:** In local wages the SCV zip code put COC in the LA Country Fire Country District and within our district the going wage is under \$40,000 and the median wage is over \$50,000 and later the highest being \$100,000. This is a stand-alone paramedic wage and not a paramedic and firefighter or those who work in a hospital setting. This is a great way for social and economic mobility. The salaries for EMT are less.
- h. **Allied Public Safety Disciplines:** In focusing on growing enrollment the EMS is the next evolution at COC. The American Association of CCC's and the CCC's are the top leaders. As the role of COC grows this will include policy academics

and emergency management as the first responders is an expanding field in building and fire codes. It is important to know that paramedics who do not enter into the Fire Service can then work as PA's, RNA's and work in hospital and doctors' offices and this has a many livable wages.

- i. **Demand for Paramedics:** There is a shortage of paramedics. there are many fire tech students and students are more higherable if they have the paramedics and fire tech certification. Even in starring EMS the wages are higher, and this will benefit COC, students and the community.
- j. **The EMS Program at other CCC'S:** Are the programs at Moorpark have different curriculum and the Ventura area is under EMS authority. COC is under the LA county authority. All students will sit for the national authority. The country dictates how a college presents the program. The Certification is a national certification. The state of CA is similar to other states and breaks down into regions in terms of emergency response. Some country has multiple entities within an area. The minimum standards come from the US. Dept of Administration. With national registry many states accept this as standards. The national registry is desirable such as in Texas. This is the best practice.
- k. **Initiation proposal:** The proposal shows an AA however what is being discussed is a paramedic certificate, will the certificate also be an associate degree. Initially it this proposal will be for a certificate and the group will return to present a proposal for an AA degree for transfer. EMS is becoming a desirable degree for a variety venue in terms of career paths for students. We can do this as an AA for a transfer but not in the immediate future this would be an EMTP (Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic).
- l. **Program Director needed?** Will a program director need to be hired? The department has not met with LA County, and this has not been confirmed. There are many programs coming through in CE and using SWF and Perkins and this is not a limitless source of funding. How is this shaping up with programs coming through. Many are being approved this semester, will these be started in the fall of 2023, or will they need to wait until FA25? The curriculum has to be written first and when working with accreditation this is not a fast-track process. Looking at SWF, Perkins and scalability one project being worked is to look for more virtualization labs that could be shared between programs like nursing, EMT and EMTP to expand the capacity. There are specific things unique to the program and the college is continuously looking for grants to help fund this. With how quickly technology is changing if the college waits until the money is there then the college loses the opportunity so the idea is to work in a parallel process and work smart with resources and how we can share.
- m. **Program Viability AP:** The AP for PV states that if a program is approved withing the first weeks this takes priority over some of these proposals. This will require a director to be hired and not have all programs come in fall 23. MLS took three years and some take 2-4 years to when the curriculum is drafted.
- n. **EMS MQ's:** Are there separate MQ's for EMT and paramedics and existing adjunct teach in both or do MQs need to be separated? There are not separate MQ's. Having an EMPT along with necessary AA will quality them. If the EMTP is already a certified paramedic the instructor would have the ability and but not the capacity to teach. Given the faculty challenge across CE, this

will need to continue to be worked one. There are two 2 FTF in EMT basic that can teach in the paramedic program. EMTP is a pre-req for paramedic. This is a traditionally a yearlong program. This covers the basic and the time but this would be dependent on SB and her staff.

- o. **Physical Resources:** An ambulance needs to be driven by someone, is there training for someone to drive the ambulance. The ambulance is a separate certificate, and this is done via Del Valle and there is more potential to do this as there are driving simulators. The driver training, if this is offered, this would be as continuous education for fire departments for example in Michigan you can see the ambulance travel to different training facilities.
- p. Hours are dictated by the accreditation and the department of transportation. the academic freedom is the right of the faculty to decide.
- q. **How are in service fire fighters completing training?** The college can partner with LA County for closed section where fire fighters are being services on the job. These classes would be Monday to Friday. The Fire Academy is part of the paramedic program and this is held two nights a week.
- r. Will vote to approve a cert for paramedic and will be a return visit to build AA. If it's a local AA then it is just our local GE. If it's a local degree couldn't it just to curriculum and not go to PV. For an ADT it will be more complicated.
- s. Motion to approve the creation of a new cert and local AA for the EMTP by Rebecca Eikey, seconded by Jesse Vera. U.A.

III. **Adjournment:** 11:32 am.