****

**Pasadena Area Community College District**

**President’s Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Committee**

**Minutes - March 13, 2021**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Zoom Meeting**

*Present*: Peter Wong, Dr. Erika Endrijonas, Carrie Afuso, Kari Bolen, Vivian Chan, Joseph Chang, Becky Cheng, Dr. Sally Chou, Michelle Freridge, Roger Huang, Dr. Ketmani Kouanchou, Frank Kwan, Sandra Chen Lau, Dona Mitoma, Shelley Ryan, Dr. Reiko Sakata, Jeanne Shamim, Susanna Shamim, Dr. Minh-Hoa Ta, Bryan Takeda, Dr. Tooktook Thongthiraj, Linda Wah, Cathy Wei.

I. **Welcome by Chair (Peter Wong)**

Meeting opened 9:33A.M.

II. **Approval of the Minutes – December 12, 2020**

Moved, Linda Wah; second, Michelle Freridge; carried.

III. **President’s Report (Dr. Erika Endrijonas)**

* Introduction of Dr. Laura Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent Vice President of Instruction. Dr. Ramirez previously worked at East Los Angeles College and Rio Hondo College.
* President Biden signed the $1.9 trillion American Recovery Plan Act of 2021 (HEERF3), which includes funding for community colleges; PCC will receive $52 million to spend by September 30, 2023. At least half of the funds will be used for direct financial relief for students.
* Although some classes are being held in-person, such as health sciences and welding, the question remains on how much of the schedule can be offered face-to-face. An announcement will be made on Friday regarding the summer schedule.
* Due to various factors, student enrollment has been declining across the State. A taskforce has been established to come up with ideas and methods for re-engaging and bringing students back.
* The ACCJC comprehensive visit concluded on March 11th by the visiting team chair, Dr. Edward Bush. There is one potential area of recommendation regarding disaggregating student learning outcome data, which was already identified as an area of improvement by the college. Pasadena City College (PCC) received three proposed commendations in the following areas:
  + An all-around equity-minded culture at the college.
  + Professional development for adjunct faculty.
  + FYE program expansion scaled up to include all students.
* Dr. Thongthiraj and Taleen Seropian are leading the Partnership Resource Team (“PRT”) visit focusing on improving campus collegiality, which was one of the topics identified in the Quality Focus Essay. The college will receive $200,000 to implement the team’s recommendations.

**IV. API Symposium Update**

* Dr. Thongthiraj provided an update on the event last Saturday, which covered financial aid, admissions, and counseling event. There was a total of 42 guests and 18 staff members to help. The planning for the December event will start in September and attendance is expected to be around 300-400 people, which PAAPI will help to publicize.
* A mention was made that a La Canada parent said PCC was not engaging in dialog – a more comprehensive approach might be considered to engage La Canada.

**V. Membership (Dr. Sally Chou)**

* Dr. Chou has received the correct information, and reviewed the 2012 bylaws sections, PAAPI members and terms. A suggestion was made to reach out to members to discuss their continued interest.

**VI. Fundraising**

* Roger Huang reported that more than $10,000 was raised; there will be ten $500 grants awarded in the Spring and 10 in the Fall. Thanks to Sally, Linda, and Peter for their assistance. There were 36 applicants and some funds remain. CAPE still has scholarships available.

**VII. Committees**

* No further reports.

**VIII. New Business**

* No new business.

**IX. Announcements**

* The subject of anti-Asian sentiment was raised and followed by a discussion.
* The campus climate was responsive in ways to address the issue via community space. The County’s 211 has materials and resources available for the community. There was a video with concerned students who represented PCC.
* A suggestion was made about considering an Asian American study curriculum with many socio-economic factors involved. A body of research literature exists, with many students who face discrimination. These students can feel ashamed and don’t speak out. We should see if we can help students who feel insecure since incidents are subtle. API often feel invisible, and organizations such as Bar Associations are also taking note. A Town Hall can bring together faculty and staff to share experiences, and look at the role that stereotyping plays. AB1040 is a step in requiring ethnic studies, but only for transfer to Cal State.

**X. Next meeting – June 12, 2021**

Moved to adjourn by Linda Wah; seconded by Michelle Freridge; passed.

Adjourned at 11:04 A.M.

Submitted by Frank Kwan

Secretary