

North Seattle College

College Council Meeting – Hybrid

10/09/2024 | 3:02PM – 4:45PM

Call to order: Meeting started at approximately 3:02PM Neal Parker started Meeting at 3:02PM, noted usage of RRO

Attendance: Neal Parker (Chair Pro-tem), Dr. Rachel Solemsaas (President – Non Voting Ex-Officio), Myele Johnson (Designated Staff Liaison), Melissa Allen, Casey Saunders, Noris Daniel, Jeff Eng, Thomas Fuglestad, Julie Lyderson-jackson, Zola Mumford, Emily Rodriguez, Meseret Tesfaye, Caleb Martin, Farideh Faraz, Nicole Hadisenjaya, Samantha Baneth, Mohamed Bin Nagi, Hoang Dao Nguyen, Christina Shrestha, Roberta Lord

Alice Melling (Guest), Kristen Burton (Guest), Peter Lortz (Guest), Toni Stankovic (Guest)

- A. Introductions | Council members introduced themselves and shared stories behind their names, including name origins, inspirations, and meanings, or a gift they possessed.
- B. 1st agenda item: Debrief on Roberts' Rules of Order to assembled council by Dr. Solemsaas and Myele. The purpose is to introduce and explain the rules of order that the College Council will follow as noted in the bylaws. Dr. Solemsaas outlined key terms and encouraged the team to become familiar with the rules, especially if serving as Chair or Co-Chair.
- C. 2nd agenda item: Dr. Solemsaas introduces proposed changes to the governing structure of College Council.

Dr. Solemsaas discussed the importance of collective decision-making and governance at North Seattle College, highlighting the decision-making structures, the function of College Council and membership ([see PPT link here](#)). Based on this, changes to the bylaws are proposed ([see Link here](#)) to:

- a. Clarify the role of the College Council in the decision making. This is noted in the preamble and the section of the bylaws for functions.
- b. Expand membership and voting from 16 to 20 voting members and from 1 ex officio non-voting member to 8 representing the President's Cabinet.
- c. Ensure decision by consensus and if not achieved, majority and dissenting opinions will be shared to the President for final decision.

Neal clarified that his role as Chair is temporary until the new By-laws are approved and elections can be held for a new Chair and Vice Chair, to allow for continuity as the Vice Chair assumes the Chair position for next year.

Due to time of the year and the need to accelerate the business of College Council, Neil proposed a **motion to hold a special College Council meeting in late October to vote on By-law changes. Motion was seconded (Farideh) and vote was held; vote passes with majority.**

Due to time constraints, **separate motion was proposed by Neil to table agenda items besides the 25' FY budget and to discuss them at next meeting. Motion seconded (Julie?) and vote was held; vote passes unanimously, and agenda items [discussion of Mission Fulfillment Taskforce, Core Themes, and KPI's + vote to approve Taskforce | discussion on Accreditation and vote to approve Taskforce] are tabled.**

- D. Dr. Solemsaas discussed the status of college's budget for FY 24 and its impact to FY 25. The [presentation is linked here](#). Thomas expressed concern about the potential impact of a state initiative related to education funding on the upcoming November ballot. Rachel acknowledged this concern and encouraged us to fulfill our duty to vote this November.
- a. Question was brought up concerning whether the budget situation would result in a hiring freeze? A: At this point, there will be no hiring freeze as we continue to evaluate the budget. Though attrition was considered a more optimal decision, we need to open to consider appropriate strategies to balance our budget.
 - b. Question was brought up whether previously approved budget items could be revoked due to deficit. A: Since a number of those approved new budget items are already hired or implemented, those that are still pending may be considered.
- E. Meeting adjourned at 4:45PM