

# PVCC Faculty Senate News

## December 2013

### PVCC Faculty Senate Update

Your faculty senate met on Thursday, December 5th. However we did not have a quorum so we could not act on any business. Paul Dale and Mary Lou Mosley gave updates on HLC and Maricopa Priorities.

### FEC News

**Meet & Confer:** PVCC's Brian Quarles of the Business/IT Division was appointed to the Meet & Confer team as the occupational representative. Brian will serve a two-year term beginning July 2014. Congratulations Brian! Amy MacPhearson from South Mountain was appointed to represent service faculty.

**Faculty Association Representation:** As reported last month, representatives at each college are determined by the percent of association faculty to the total faculty association membership. This is in conflict with the Faculty Association Constitution which states each college will have one representative and the remaining 12 positions will be allocated based on the percent of membership. This mostly affects the larger colleges. The Faculty Executive Council charged the Constitution Committee to draft language to align the Constitution with current practice. I personally believe we should follow the current Constitution because it reduced the possibility of larger colleges dominating the FEC. I will keep you informed of any developments.

**Term of President:** At present, it appears there will be no change in the term of the Association President.

**Prorated Membership Dues:** A change in the Faculty Association Bylaws allows for new faculty hired after the October membership cut-off date to pay a prorated dues amount rather than a full-year's amount. It also had a provision for faculty who retire at mid-year and have paid a full-year's membership amount to receive a 50% dues reduction.

**Common Pages:** A change to the Common Pages has been proposed clarifying the timeline for handling incompletes from 7 months to "an approved time period". This proposed change gives faculty more control on the time period for incompletes and does not imply students have a full 7 months to satisfy an incomplete.

**PAR/PARC Forums:** The team who is working on the implementation of the probationary peer review process will be presenting an initial information and feedback session at the FEC on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The presentation will then be held at PVCC either during learning week or the

first week of classes. The date and time will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. They will be discussing the process and documents that will need to be prepared for this process and will be taking comments, suggestions, and feedback. Final process and documents will be distributed later on in the semester. The new process will begin on July 1, 2014 for all probationary faculty. All faculty are encouraged to attend the PVCC session as this process affects both probationary faculty, and appointive faculty who may serve as mentors and committee members.

## College and Faculty News

Just a reminder our first day of accountability is January 3, 2014. Convocation will be held in KSC1008 (Patayan Room) with breakfast starting at 8:45am and the program at 9:30-11:00am.

The College Plan was updated to clarify who could hold and vote for Division Chairs/Program Directors. 31 Faculty responded to the e-mail vote and the change was unanimously approved. It was then submitted to and approved by Paul Dale. Your Senate will vote to ratify the change at the first Senate meeting in Spring 2014.

## Meet Your Faculty

### Sonia Valle-Gette – Dance Faculty



Sonia Valle-Gette was born and raised in Rosarito Baja California, Mexico. She began her studies in dance in 1987 at San Diego State University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in International Business, and a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Dance. She has been a member of numerous modern dance companies in the San Diego and the Phoenix metropolitan area. As a choreographer Sonia has received great dance reviews for her work in the San Diego Union Tribune and has been invited as guest choreographer both nationally and internationally. She has been a presenter and teacher at the American College Dance Festival, teaching Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art form incorporating dance, music and song. Sonia graduated with a Masters in Fine Arts in Dance from Arizona State University, where she received numerous awards including the Outstanding Choreographer Award by Friends of Dance and the ASU Department of Dance. This is Sonia's tenth year as program director at PVCC. In those ten years the Dance program has grown tremendously, presenting two dance productions per year, offering an Associates in Fine Arts in Dance Degree, Study Abroad opportunities and multiple dance class offerings throughout the academic year. Sonia is also one of the founders and artistic directors of Via Corpo Dance Research a dance company dedicated to explore the future of dance, always pushing the boundaries by introducing a new approach to dance making. Sonia has received nine MCLI grants in the past ten years focusing on providing learning opportunities for PVCC dance students. In 2008 she was awarded the

Woman of Distinction Award by the Women's Leadership Group at PVCC. She was also recognized for her continued work in promoting diversity through fine arts programming at PVCC. In her spare time Sonia loves to explore the outdoors, gardening, Argentine Tango and taking peaceful walks with her husband and five year old dog Lassie.

## Jennifer Henderson – Math Faculty



Jennifer Henderson taught seven years of high school math at Shadow Mountain and seven years of adjunct math at PVCC before joining as a full time faculty member in 2011. She teaches the broad spectrum of math courses; both face to face and online. She enjoys teaching developmental math courses such as MAT092 as well as teaching Calculus (Calc I and II). Jennifer loves to be involved with faculty, students, and administration on our campus. She is a member of HLC Criterion 3 Team, partner to new CSPP faculty members, course coordinator for Calculus I, member of the online learning committee, new member of TCT (Technology Coordinating Team) and serves on the hiring committee for new faculty in mathematics.

Jennifer has been piloting a few things in math, including using the iPad in the classroom. This allows Jennifer to be mobile while she teaches in the classroom, which in turn allows for a more engaging and interactive classroom where students are actively learning. The other benefit to this technology use is the ability to annotate and archive notes for students to download as a resource while studying or completing homework. Jennifer also utilizes self-authored videos using the iPad to help her students understand certain concepts. Additionally she utilizes thousands of quality royalty free videos to aid in student knowledge retention.

Jennifer has attended education conferences to study technology integration, and presented at e-Learn this past October on using the iPad in the classroom. In March, she will also present with Dr. Mike Hamm and Mr. Paul Golisch on developmental math strategies (Turning Roadblocks into Roadways) at NADE in Dallas, TX.

Jennifer was born and raised in a suburb outside of Chicago and eventually moved to Phoenix to attend Arizona State University (Go Devils!). Jennifer loves both playing and watching sports. She is married and has two young boys, ages 3 and 4. She loves spending time with her family, playing outside, and watching them grow. They inspire her every day with their wisdom, and she loves seeing life through their young eyes.

## Brian Quarles – Business Faculty (Business Law)

I joined PVCC as a full-time professor at the beginning of the fall 2012 semester, and my primary teaching area is business law. I have earned BA, MBA, and JD degrees. Prior to joining PVCC, I was a trial attorney for the United States Department of Justice. My professional career also includes teaching law and other graduate business courses at universities throughout the United States and in Latin America.

I am an avid football fan and former player. In fact during my younger years, I ran the 40-yard dash in 4.3 seconds. For you Arizona Cardinals fans, that's Patrick Peterson fast! Although I never played in the National Football League, my friends often refer to me by the nickname of C.H.P.O.S.- Could Have Played On Sunday.

## Marianne Roccaforte – Counseling and Personal Development Faculty



Marianne Roccaforte is a residential faculty member in the Division of Counseling & Personal Development. An educator and counselor for more than 25 years, she specializes in working with young-adult artists across disciplines on issues of identity development, career decision-making, educational and life planning, and interpersonal communication. A native of Chicago's southwest side, Marianne earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Saint Xavier University, a Master of Counseling degree from ASU, and a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Union Institute & University. Prior to coming to the Maricopa District, she helped first-generation and low-income college students to achieve a higher education through the ASU Upward Bound Program as a counselor and program administrator. Since coming to PVCC in 1999, she has taught many sections of Career Exploration, designed and each semester teaches a special section of Career Exploration titled "The Creative Mind," and developed and coordinates the Peer Mentor Program. A musician since the age of 10, Marianne has played the mandolin with numerous ensembles, including classical, rock/folk, and worship bands. She also is the author of the book *Bridges in the Mind: An Artist's Handbook for Everyday Living* (Benu Press, 2010). For Marianne, the most gratifying aspect of working with students is the joy that comes with helping them to discover their passion and gain the confidence and skills to achieve their dreams.

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I hope everyone is having a good semester. If there is anything I can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me.



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