

# MINUTES

## United Faculty of Ohlone Executive Board Meeting

13 February 2023

Held via Zoom

4:45 p.m.

### Executive Board Members present:

Jeffrey S. Dean	Secretary
Dawn Harris	Part-time Representative
Rose-Margaret Itua	Vice President
Heather J. McCarty	Full-time Representative
Long Nguyen	Treasurer
Jeff O'Connell	President
Shelley Spratt	CEER Representative

### Executive Board Member absent:

Emmanuel Garcia	Negotiations Chair
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O'Connell called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m.

O'Connell relayed two pieces of information as his President's Update.

The first item related to the evolving status of the Covid vaccine mandate. It was noted that there are three categories of persons that the District considers in the discussions and regulations regarding the vaccine mandate: visitors, students, and employees. For visitors, the decision about lifting the mandate is quickly evolving and moving in the direction of being lifted. The student category involves, O'Connell indicated, the current need for students to upload their vaccine information before they are permitted to enroll in classes which meet in person. A move to lift the mandate for students, which would potentially align with where the state of California's mandate is moving is expected. The category of employees, which would include faculty of course, is also under discussion. O'Connell wanted faculty to be aware that these decisions are forthcoming and to keep themselves informed when announcements are made via email. McCarty asked whether or not it would be valuable to survey faculty regarding their views about potential changes to the current requirements, noting that a survey might provide a window into current faculty perspectives,

which could be shared with those who will ultimately make the decisions. McCarty noted that work with Harris, as Part-Time Representative, would begin.

The second item O'Connell brought to the attention of the Executive Board was that information was just announced regarding an offer for an early retirement incentive for this academic year. Garcia, as Chief Negotiator, was likewise informed and would be getting and providing more information about this as it develops. It was O'Connell's initial understanding that the offer would be a stipend in the region of \$8,000. Itua asked about this program, including whether or not such incentives were regularly offered, and McCarty reported that an early retirement program was offered in a pre-pandemic year, but a faculty option for that was not negotiated. O'Connell further answered Itua's question by noting that early retirement incentives are often offered in years when it's determined by a District that it would be monetarily advantageous for Districts to have the generally higher-earning faculty retire.

Minutes from the December meeting were sent to the Executive Board in advance of the meeting. There were no suggested corrections. McCarty moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Nguyen seconded the motion. The minutes were adopted with Dean, Harris, Itua, Nguyen, McCarty, and O'Connell voting to approve. Spratt, having not been present at the December meeting, abstained.

Nguyen provided an update as Treasurer. As announced to the general faculty at the UFO session on January 20, 2023, at the end of Learning College Week, the Franklin Templeton account held by the UFO was closed and the funds were deposited into the UFO's Bank of America checking account. Nguyen had previously indicated that it would make sense to move some of the money from the checking account into a new Certificate of Deposit with Bank of America and the Executive Board concurred with this.

The last item before moving into closed session was a brief discussion about the meeting time of the Executive Board meetings, with it being noted that the original time had been determined, in part, for a reason that is no longer a factor. O'Connell indicated that he would send out a Doodle poll to the Executive Board members to determine if there is a enough reason to change the meeting time.

The Executive Board went into closed session at 5:03 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. The closed session concluded at 5:09 p.m.

The meeting emerged from closed session and O'Connell made a final announcement, in the spirit of encouraging faculty to share notable things they are involved in, indicating that a BBC Radio 4 program on the topic of imaginary numbers would feature none other than

Professor Jeff O'Connell of Ohlone College. The Executive Board congratulated O'Connell on this.

O'Connell adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m., and wished the Executive Board a very Happy Valentine's Day.

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Respectfully submitted by  
Jeffrey S. Dean, comYC  
Professor of English  
Secretary of the United Faculty of Ohlone

on 13 February 2023