

Academic Senate Minutes  
February 27th, 2012

Meeting Called to Order: 2:02 p.m.

Members present: Carolyn Holcroft (Vice-President/CCC Chair), Robert Cormia (Secretary/Treasurer), Katherine Schaefer (Adjunct Faculty), Teresa Ong (ADL), Eta Lin (BSS), Sam Connell (BSS), Tobias Nava (CNSL), Fatima Jinnah (CNSL), Bruce McLeod (FA), Kate Jordahl (FA), Richard Moraschi (LA), Pam Wilkes (LRC), Don MacNeil (PE), Patrick Morriss (PSME), Debbie Lee (PSME), Meredith Heiser (FA Liaison)

Members Absent: (see attendance) Davison, Hueg, Peter, Macias, Gilani, Wong

Guests: Todd Leicht, Brenda Visas-Davis

Agenda Approval: By consensus

Announcements: Meredith Heiser briefly described the new health care benefits plan. There will be a meeting on Wednesday from 12-2 p.m. in the Toyon Room at Foothill, and Thursday from 3-5 pm in Conference room A at De Anza. A ratification vote will occur within two weeks on March 6 – 7 in the Administration building next to the mailroom. Anne Paye and Lisa (Markus) are the FA experts in healthcare. Kaiser doesn't change in benefits, but the other plans are more expensive. The District funding will be changing from 90:10 (employee pays 10 percent) to 80:20 (employee pays 20%). Part-time benefits will be a percentage of what you work. We are leaving United Health Care and joining CalPERS, which is bigger and has more buying power. Please encourage constituents to attend these meetings.

ASCC - spring plenary is coming up. The Statewide Academic Senate will have a drawing for a scholarship for one part time faculty member. Every college may nominate one faculty. Please forward any names to Dolores within three days (tight timeline).

Sam Connell urged faculty members to document problems that they are having with the new test accommodation procedures. He stated that one of his students was actually given the wrong exam.

Bob Cormia reported that the smoking policy went to the CAC. Each college will determine their designated smoking areas. There will be an open meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup> in the early afternoon. You should attend if you have any concerns about the smoking policy and/or have opinions about where these designated smoking areas should be.

Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2012: Minutes - Debbie Lee had forwarded a P/T faculty name to Dolores for the facilities, not for the final schedule meeting.

No consent calendar for this meeting.

Item 1: Brenda Visas Davis from facilities and Todd Leicht from Gilbane Construction presented an overview of construction projects this summer and extending into fall. In the inner campus – there will be work in the courtyards, with 9 total areas to be renovated. Many of the pathways on campus are not ‘legally’ accessible (not ADA compliant). Lighting needs to be upgraded and new irrigation system will be installed to minimize water consumption. The French drains around a number of the buildings don't work properly and flood in heavy rains. A weather station will be installed on campus to ensure that campus greens are watered well. The contractor will set up fencing around the inner area (campus green) which won't be traversable during construction. There will be a number of paths for students to take getting into campus, and signage for ‘way-finding’ will be provided. During the first six weeks of summer, everything will be assessable. In the second six weeks, when the contractor comes in, there will be no access to these classrooms. Many of the concrete and hardscape on the campus will be under construction but working when academics begin in fall. Two new handicap ramps in the 4000 and 5000 buildings will be added. Many of the trees on campus are dead, dying, or have at most 5 years of life left. The majority of trees will be replaced with newer trees. Areas around buildings where the ivy is, the ivy will be removed, fill added, and then bring plants and groundcover back.

In the outer campus there are areas including parking lots 1 and 6 that are scheduled for the following summer (2013). Lot one will get a signal light in summer of 2013. In summer 2012 we will widen the road up to PE. The pathway from lot 2 (down to lot 1?) isn't code compliant, and will also be widened. In parking lots 2 and 3 there will be added landscape, and a bioswale installed. During the 2nd 6 weeks of summer, the parking lot at the PSEC threshold will be completed. Road work adjacent to PSEC will be done in latter summer when fewer people are on campus, including the bus stop construction that will continue down into fall. Need a connection from PSEC into the rest of campus.

In the northern threshold (hill sloping up from lots 2/3) the path from the parking lot up to campus will be redirected and new thresholds will be created. Construction fences will keep separation between construction and students (for safety). Parking lot 3b (adjacent to the media center) will become a pedestrian plaza. The bus stop area will be enlarged as the current one is unsafe. There will be an impact to the native garden. Many elms will be replaced by elms. Chinese elms were part of the original architecture. The fire road (which lot?) will be widened to 14 feet, which is less than normal code, but we have been given an exception.

Traffic engineers have been on site counting cars coming and developing a plan, using simulations suggest the changes to the roundabout that should make things a little better. The future multiuse path in lots 2 and 3 could be used by bicycles.

The big message to take back to faculty is that there will be a lot of construction going on this summer and into fall, and the campus will make every effort to keep people up to date with potential. It is going to be noisy and dusty during summer. There will be maps to help people

get around.

Item 2: Carolyn Holcroft – The SLO coordinators have developed a document to outline where we are with SLOs, focused on using Student learning Outcomes to improve our teaching and learning, but also to help us with our accreditation report. While we have done a good job with SLOs at a course level, we need to work on program level SLOs. We need to have completed at least one cycle of assessment and reflection for 100% of our programs by October 2012 or we will be sanctioned. All the planning that faculty conducted in spring 11 and fall 11 needs to be implemented this academic year. Trac-dat can be used to issue a report to make sure that each program has done this.

There were questions about how classes taught by many faculty can have coordination about SLOs. How students are doing, is not the measure of an SLO; it's the opportunity to use SLOs as a method of assessment integral to pedagogy. SLO issue for accreditation is about compliance not quality.

There was a comment from the FA rep - evaluations are negotiated. At most it might be a 'box' that says that a faculty participated in SLOs or not. There may be political pressure for SLOs to be part of a faculty evaluation. The other big emphasis in the document is addressing the general education SLOs (GELOs). When we adopted our GELOs we did not really make this as thoughtful an effort compared to what we can do in the future. GE is breadth across curriculum - access GE learning outcomes by area. An alternative approach is the CSU Leap initiative. This was proposed in the document as a start to a process. Need to demonstrate assessment at a general education level (like critical thinking). Right now the GE learning outcomes are the same as our ILOs. Would this work? Most GE courses have this in their work, but we need to remind faculty to reflect on them.

Question - how do we know what our programs are? From ACCJC perspective, everything that is a degree, or certificate, is a program. Administrators have proposed that venues like IP&B or PaRC might be a good place to define what our programs are. Senators expressed strong opposition to this, particularly regarding academic/instructional programs and agreed that this discussion/definition needs to come from academic senate.

A senator expressed some fatigue with the entire process and that the document from the SLO coordinators was too long and onerous to read. Another senator commented that she appreciated the detail and information that curriculum brings to this process. Holcroft clarified that every single program faculty would receive an email explaining exactly what they needed to do for their own program.

There was a comment about exit points in some subject areas, for example statistics and math, is this course SLO, a program PLO, and a general education (GELO)? Another faculty commented that this is a process as well as a series of tasks. The accreditation review (board) mostly cares that we are doing this, and not that it is perfect. There were comments that faculty are working to understand what a program is, and not have administration decide that for us. Faculty are

learning how SLOs work, and in all aspects of curriculum. There was a suggestion that senate might draft a resolution to show support for faculty that are using SLOs to improve their teaching and learning. That would help us in our evidence to show the external accreditation teams that we are really doing this.

The college has been asking for compliance for over four years. California in general chose to 'ignore' the SLO mandate until relatively recently and now the Federal government is saying that we must do this because we are out of compliance.

Item 3: Report out CAC Cormia reported that the campus smoking enforcement policy will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval at the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Much of the CAC meeting focused on the State budget and further cuts to community colleges, health benefits, enrollment, and potential impacts to the FHDA College District. There will be a series of budget town halls that faculty are encouraged to attend. Meeting Maker is going away and ETS is looking into a new system to pilot in early July. It was suggested that Fred Sherman should be invited to the Senate meeting to address some of the upcoming changes.

Item 4: OPC => Pam Wilkes reported on resource allocation documents. Shirley may come to Senate for the resource allocation requests => the flow chart is important, OPC has been working for 4 years on this process (flowchart) shows what's different this year compared with previous years. Department requests were going to division and then to PaRC. VPs will now take division requests forward and identify bands of priorities. There was a question/comment that VPs may decide resource requests rather than the process described in the OPC process/flow chart. One of the long standing principles is that the OPC process (changed from 3 to 1) adding the VP layer - as long as the VP prioritization might be a vote that changes or overrules other process.

Summer A and Summer B session were briefly discussed. There could be a challenge hiring P/T faculty at the last minute.

Academic Integrity meeting this week (everyone is invited) March 8th at 2 p.m. ISC, and Friday the 16th at president's conference room 2 p.m. (with speakers – e.g., Pat Hyland - and forum).

Item 5: Report out on COOL – they did not have any feedback on the TBA/hybrid guidelines. There are different ways for faculty to do hybrid hours. They would like to make the guidelines an action item at the next meeting. The committee is continuing work on the evaluations. COOL meets on Wednesday at 12:15 once a month.

For the Good of the Order:

Meeting Adjourned: 4:04 p.m.