

Academic Senate
MINUTES
October 10, 2007
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. BC214

Members Present: Ignacio Alarcon (Chair), Armando Arias, Barbara Bell, Susan Broderick, Cathie Carroll, Tom Fitzgerald, Jack Friedlander, Tom Garey, David Gilbert, Kelly Lake, Ray Launier, Linda Lowell, Kathy Molloy, Kim Monda, Marcy Moore, Mimi Muraoka, Dean Nevins, Kathy O'Connor, Dan Wrentmore, Ana Maria Ygualt, Oscar Zavala

Members Excused: Jan Schultz

Guest(s): Diane Rodriguez-Kiino, John Romo

1.0 Call to Order

1.1 Approval of Minutes – September 26, 2007.

M/S/C To approve the meeting Minutes of September 26, 2007 as amended (Nevins/Launier)
Unanimous

1.2 Approval of Agenda. So approved.

2.0 Information

2.1 Faculty Professional Development Committee has extended deadline for grant proposals to October 19.

2.2 Special BOT Study Session October 22 – single issue: local bond.

In addition to the regular Study Session to be held October 11, there will potentially be a special Study Session on October 22, with only the local bond as its focus.

2.3 Suggested Resolution of Commendation For Beverly Schwamm and Agnes Kalisher.

To acknowledge their efforts it was recommended that at the next Academic Senate meeting a resolution of commendation would be given to these two deserving individuals.

2.4 Other.

2.4.1 Liberal Studies degree

Oscar Zavala wanted to know how to go about replacing the Liberal Studies Transfer degree that can no longer be offered. Should the Academic Senate consider another degree that would meet the needs of many of our students? He believes there is a high value in the Liberal Studies degree and that its loss is significant.

Kathy O'Connor added the new guidelines would allow for a degree with 18 units in an area of emphasis. The Curriculum Advisory Committee would be the place where this discussion should occur, and in consultation with counselors.

3.0 Hearing/Discussion

3.1 Diane Rodriguez-Kiino, Director of Campus Diversity Office – program update.
(handout)

Dr. Rodriguez-Kiino, gave a brief overview of the new Campus Diversity Director position and noted some of the immediate priorities and current initiatives that are underway, e.g. an HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution) Education Grant. In closing, she outlined some of the 'next steps' plans that she intends to develop.

3.2 Process for replacement positions.

As of last Friday there are five replacement positions, two vacated late last year from the PE/Athletics department, Reggie Bolton and Keith Kephart, plus Mike Masson (Biology), Klaus Wills (Chemistry), and Greg Armstrong (Mathematics). If there are no objections, the EVP would like to inform deans/departments chairs so the job announcements can go out as soon as possible.

In addition to these five replacements there are three new full-time positions for which the senate will be hearing and ranking proposals.

Note: Depending on how many requests there may be an additional meeting on October 31.

M/S/C Move to recommend exempting the five replacement positions from the hearings (Garey/Molloy)

M/S/C Move to Action (O'Connor/Bell)

Motion Carried

3.3 Updated presidential search brochure presented to BOT w/Senate recommendations. (pgs. 9-12)

Ignacio Alarcon reported that Jim Walker wanted to express his thanks to the Senate for their contribution to the search brochure. Attached is the final copy of the brochure. Please address any final comments or communications to Kelly Lake and/or Ignacio Alarcon.

3.4 Process of developing questions for presidential candidate interviews.

Suggestion: Kathy Molloy suggested that senators take this to their Divisions and then possibly form a sub group of the senate to decide which questions to send forward to the presidential interview committee. All questions are due by the November 14 Senate meeting, before the search committee meeting on December 7, when interview questions will be finalized.

3.5 Resolution on possible bond measure. (pg. 13)

“To recommend that the Trustees go forward with planning for a possible bond issue in fall, 2008 and in consultation with the Academic Senate as well as other constituencies to finalize the priorities for the use of such funds.”

M/S/C Move the resolution on the possible bond measure to action (Molloy/O'Connor)

Unanimous

M/S/C To approve, as amended, the resolution on the possible bond measure (Molloy/Garey)

Unanimous

3.6 Process for allocating new Basic Skills funding.

For those who are new to the Senate, Kathy Molloy began with some background: The Senate provided the leadership for the Partnership for Student Success. To begin, the Senate established a task force with representation from all areas to examine obstacles to student success. Proposals for increasing student success were solicited from across the campus, and the task force reviewed the proposals and made recommendations to the Senate. The Senate evaluated the

recommendations and proposed a Student Success Initiative. The approved Initiative became the basis for the Partnership for Student Success. A PSS Steering Committee was formed with members from the task force and leaders responsible for the various PSS areas. This group presented Year Two Funding Requests to the Senate last spring, and the Senate approved these requests pending release of state Basic Skills monies. State Basic Skills funding will be approved shortly, and we expect that the funds will exceed the funding requests. Therefore, we are proposing a process for soliciting new proposals.

Recommendation: That we expand the PSS Steering Committee to review new student success proposals if and when the funds are available. The PSS Steering Committee will discuss/review proposals for new initiatives and, without prioritizing, bring these recommended proposals forward to the Senate for action.

This is being brought forward now so that a process is in place when money becomes available. By using the existing structure, we make sure that new initiatives are integrated with the PSS.

The group has good representation: In addition to Jerry Pike, Sheila Wiley, Pam Guenther, Marsha Wright, Paula Congleton, Alice Scharper, and Tina Kistler, we would like to add Matt Lorenzen, Student Success counselor, and an ESL representative.

Comment: It's smart to support a structure that has worked well. How about someone from the vocational sector?

Response: Kelly Lake served on the original task force and would be a welcome addition if he is willing to serve.

Question: Could a student be included?

Response: Students played an important role in the original task force, and we would welcome a student on the Committee. If AS President Tom Fitzgerald is willing, we would like to have him join the Committee.

Question: Could we have this recommendation in writing so that we can share it with our divisions?

Response: A written draft of the recommendation will be forwarded to the Senate for review before the next meeting.

3.7 Institutional Student Learning Outcomes w/Senate subgroup updates. (handout)
Ignacio Alarcon explained the subgroup incorporated suggestions from the last Senate meeting with one of their overriding principles being "less is more". The EVP added that an important consideration was to view ISLOs as the knowledge someone would have acquired resulting from their GE classes and not from their major classes.

Comment: would like to vote on the ISLOs separate from the competencies and also to take it back to their Divisions.

Recommendation: To look at the ISLOs and competencies for the common student that does not have any specialties and not what we as English teachers and science majors would want.

Reminder: This is a fluid document. If it is a fluid document when would we revisit it for changes? We may revisit the document in April/May, before the catalog is printed and potentially annually after that. Cohort 1 will be testing this document for the first time this semester, and by spring 08 we should have more information about how our ISLOs work in practice.

All course SLOs do not have to map to ISLOs. Currently, the expectation is that course SLOs could map up to four ISLOs. A course that meets GE requirements will be expected to map to one of the ISLOs.

M/S/ To approve ISLOs as amended (O'Connor/Molloy)

3.8 Draft of Academic Year 2008-2009 Calendar/Intersession. (handout)

This includes intersession dates. The intersession is adequate for 1 unit courses mainly PE, PD, and refresher courses (e.g. English Skills and math.) For the offering taking place in January 2008, the intersession is planned for two weeks, typically 8 sessions @ 2 hrs each, between January 7 and January 18.

Recommendation. It was suggested that the end of the period could be extended to January 23, since the Spring semester begins on January 28, with inservice taking place January 24 and 25.

Question: What is the maximum number of units for intersession courses? No one has proposed more than one unit courses. Terminology used should be hours.

TLUs are treated as a summer session. Faculty load will not count towards spring load, and may not be banked. Faculty's contract requires to teach during the two primary terms.

Comment: have support staff and maintenance issues been considered? The offerings are slim as of now, and they will occur when the campus is supposed to be open, with staff present.

Comment: No action needs to be taken on the default calendar - only on the intersessions.

3.9 President John Romo gave an overview on the following topics:

- 07 – 08 General Fund Allocations and College Planning Council ranked items: they are all very important items and he has been getting inquiries as to where things stand relative to that process. He has not made a recommendation to the BOT because of some uncertainty from Sacramento, especially mid-year revisions which could be sizable. Also, we still do not have

the 06-07 closing budget. Although figures are not yet finalized, every indication is that the college is in good financial shape. One reason for the delay in the finalizing of the 06-07 closing budget is the uncertainty associated with the cost of the implementation of Banner.

- Basic Skills funding: the Governor is expected to sign legislation on Basic Skills funding before October 15. This funding will allow to fund year 3 of the Partnership for Student Success.
- Differential funding for the second year adult education career tech program course offerings: this is another item pending on the Governor's agenda, with new funding for certain areas that focus on career tech preparation or transition to the credit program.
- Possible midterm adjustment in FTES allocation rates: one way the state budget has been balanced and voted on is to estimate on the revenue side: property tax, state income tax, sales tax. The conditions in the housing market have made estimates much higher than previously thought, and a mid-year adjustment is anticipated.

Because of all this uncertainty, President Romo has not felt appropriate to ask to the Board for approval to fund the ranked items on the CPC list.

- Enrollment cap: it is expected we will be on target.
- Proposition 92, the "California Community College Initiative": President Romo wants to raise awareness of the issue and the beneficial monetary implications that it would have:

Facts:

- Proposition 92 does not raise taxes
- Proposition 92 does not restructure Prop 98
- Proposition 92 only changes the way Proposition 98 funds are distributed

It was brought up that many faculty are willing to be more active on this issue, and that publicity materials are needed.

- Bond Measure: President Romo will recommend to the Board of Trustees that they hire a consultant to poll the community regarding their support of a possible bond. The survey will assess which capital projects better resonate with the voters.

Note: Agenda item 3.5 is a very timely resolution that may encourage the Board to go forward/continue with the planning process in consideration of a bond issue. The resolution recommends that they continue to plan knowing there is some faculty support. The bond measure would allow the college to capitalize on available matching state money and to keep our structures functioning.

4.0 Reports

4.1 President's Report.

4.2 CPC Report.

Tom Garey reported: There will be an attempt to tie the bond issue in with the college centennial celebration 2008-2009. There will be a lot of questions about the content of the bond, the priorities on the bond and what the money will be used for. The Board needs to know that faculty are in agreement with the bond measure and consider it favorably, while welcoming consultation process to finalize priorities.

4.3 Liaison Reports.

Kathy O'Connor reported: COI is working on a review of distance education/online classes, load issues, class sizes, etc., to be forwarded to the Senate.

Linda Lowell: through a SOMA grant a college wide license for ASSIS which is Adobe connect enterprise systems (webinar system) a powerful interface much like CCC confer except you can add video, chat component, PowerPoint and a video link, people can call in. Training information is being put together and will be announced.

Note: Kathy Molloy commended Ignacio Alarcon for a meeting well run, ending before 5:00 pm.

4.4 EVP Report.

No report.

5.0 Adjourn