

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

September 25th, 2012

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 4:00

MEMBERS PRESENT: Auten, D.; Baker R.; Bierly G.; Brannon T.; Caddell A.; Caminada S.; Elliott H.; English, B.; Estrada, P.; Gonzalez, V.; McNeil, D.; Nelson, M.; Nichols, B.; Owen, G.; Passage, D.; Patrick, F.; Read, J.; Royce, G.; Senior, R.; Treur, K.; Wise, A.; Yavari, M.

GUESTS: DeGroot, D.; Shigenaka, M.; Teniente, Y.; Tillery, M.; Underwood, K.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from April 24th, 2012, were approved (19 yes/0 no/2 abstentions).
2. PROGRAM REVIEW MODIFICATIONS: Gary Bierly distributed and reviewed the Six Year Program Review Plan of Action. He asked that senators take the plan back to departments for additional input. A vote will be held at the next senate meeting.
3. SENATE RESOLUTION: There was consensus among senators that departments supported the resolution, though some senators suggested minor changes. Gary took note of the suggested changes and once noted, orally reviewed the revised resolution. One senator asked why we needed the resolution. Gary maintained that there are three major concerns:
 - Process must be followed
 - Shared governance needs to be honored
 - Faculty are unhappy with summer decisions without consultation

One senator asked about next steps with the resolution. Gary responded that the Senate Executive Committee would discuss the process, but he felt that the committee would probably share the final resolution draft with Dr. Miller before it goes to the Board. Gary also encouraged senators to attend, and perhaps even speak, at the appropriate Board meeting.

Some senators expressed concerns that the senate remain committed to the spirit of the resolution.

A motion to adopt the resolution was made and seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH: Gary informed senators that the Senate Executive Committee has committed to regularly scheduled meetings with Dr. Miller throughout the fall semester. The first such meeting took place on September 18th. At that meeting, Dr. Miller shared the process by which the college would begin its search for a new president. She noted that the search lies with the human resources department; no consulting firm will be used. One senator maintained that faculty should be involved with the process.

5. PLANNING RETREAT: Gary noted that the planning retreat has been scheduled for Thursday, November 28th and Friday November 30th at the Souza Center. More information to follow.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS:

Student Services Council, Blake English: updated members on the roles and responsibilities. Reviewed board policies 8925.1 and 8300. Reviewed new student services brochure.

Budget Council, Glenn Owen: met and decided to maintain the same functions, membership, goals, and guiding principles as the prior year. Critical to next year's budget development will be the success or failure of propositions 30 and 38. Proposition 30 (sponsored by Governor Brown) raises the state's sales tax rate by .025% and raises the marginal personal income tax rates on tax payers earning more than \$250,000. 89% of the revenues raised will go to K-12 and 11% to community colleges. The funds received are restricted and cannot be used for administrative costs (we don't know what that means exactly). Proposition 38 (Sponsored by Munger) increases the marginal personal income tax rates on virtually all taxpayers in a progressive manner. None of those funds will go to community colleges. So far, the Council has identified over a \$3,000,000 short fall for the 2013-14 budget unless one time savings such as our hiring freeze last year are reinstated.

LOAC, Glenn Owen: Later this week, LOAC will be distributing an up-to-date report on the status of departments in assessing their course SLOs. Congratulations to Health Sciences, which have assessed 91% of their courses. Some other departments are at 0%.

Also a new tool (checklist) will be distributed from LOAC that will assist faculty in understanding where they are in the outcomes development and assessment areas. This will be a tool, not a required form.

Facilities Council, Bob Nichols: the committee has met twice so far. The next scheduled meeting is September 27th. Initial discussions have centered around goals and operating procedures for 2012-13. Future topics include the college's scheduled maintenance priorities development for the November report to the state and preparation of the plan to disseminate the spring 2012 Sustainability Task Force Report to the college community.

Distance Learning Council, Herb Elliott: The gap between overall student success rate and online student success rate widened from 9% in 2009 to 14% in 2010. One of the factors affecting this differential is the number of "F's" online students are receiving by not withdrawing. The Distance Learning Committee is encouraging faculty to clearly state, remind students of, and implement their drop policy.

In an attempt to save \$16,000 over three semesters, the District has discontinued the student help desk for technical support for Blackboard/Banner assistance. Faculty no longer has a person to redirect students to for Blackboard/Banner related issues. The Distance Learning Committee is concerned about the impact this will have on distance learning students.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:15