MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 4:03


GUESTS: Degroot, D.; Harmon, J.; Presher, N. (student); Walthers, K.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. K. Walthers presented G. Owen with a cap and coffee cup from the Petroleum Education Council.


Minutes for the Feb. 11, 2014, meeting will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

3. ACTION LIST REVIEW: G. Owen reminded senators that the updated list was posted on the senate group site.

4. PRESIDENT’S REMARKS:

Highlights from Accreditation Institute: Owen stressed the importance of accreditation and encouraged senators to take an active role. The Institutional Effectiveness Council is developing guidelines and processes for the writing of the self-study and the upcoming 2016 visit. Many community colleges have had problems including Cuesta, which only recently was removed from all sanctions and had its accreditation reaffirmed.

Update on AP & P Request for Reassigned Time: Dr. Walthers suggested the possibility of stipends in lieu of reassigned time. He is concerned that reassigned time counts against the 50% law. If no resolution is reached, and with no additional compensation, the quantity of work the committee does will have to change.

Mythbusters: Owen reported that this would be a new category on the College Council agenda for rumor control. The most recent rumor to be addressed is that only a Mathematics instructor would be hired, and that the other two faculty positions (Library, Auto Technology) would not. According to Dr. Walthers, all three hires are proceeding.

Academic Senate Elections: There are two open positions on Senate Exec. G. Bierly and H. Alvarez have been nominated for re-election.
**Free Speech Policy Work Group.** G. Owen and M. Allegre attended a meeting earlier in the day to discuss issues associated with the proposed free speech board policy, which has been brought forward by the administration several times. The Education Code requires a policy to protect students' right to free speech, but there are concerns about proposed “free speech zones,” which have been challenged as unconstitutional at other colleges including Modesto. In addition, the proposed policy includes employees, which is not required and is opposed by senate and other employee groups. The goal is to find some acceptable resolution to take to College Council.

**PEC Contract:** Senate Exec met with K. Treur on contract education and the PEC contract. Our concern is with faculty hiring and curriculum issues and any impact on programs, such as, in this case, Environmental Technology.

**Academic Senate Spring Plenary:** Four members of Exec will be attending in April as well as D. Degroot.

**Educational Master Plan:** The plan will be presented in March to the board and is anticipated to be approximately 24 pages plus appendices.

**Evaluation of the President:** Exec met with Dr. Walthers and discussed performing an SGID on his position. Two years ago, senate approved a process to evaluate the president along with an instrument based on the job description. We should consult with members of the ad hoc committee that developed that process, which included D. Maceri and A. Caballero de Cordero. We need to move quickly, however, since it is already halfway through the semester.

5. **EQUIPMENT PRIORITIZATION:** No feedback was provided since discussion at the last meeting. M Word, S Passage to communicate to Vice President L. Sanchez senate’s concurrence with the prioritization as presented. **AYES:** Allegre, M.; Auten, D.; Caddell, A.; Caminada, S.; Derry, J.; Diaz, C.; Elliott, H.; Estrada, P.; McGuire, P.; Miyahara, L.; Morris, J.; Nelson, M.; Passage, D.; Patrick, F.; Read, J.; Roepke, T.; Scarffe, J.; Teniente, Y.; Treur, K.; Ward, N.; Wise, A. **ABSTENTIONS:** Royce, G.

6. **PROPOSED NEPOTISM BOARD POLICY:** A draft board policy on nepotism was forwarded for constituent input from the Human Resources Council. The same policy came to senate a year ago, and senate opposed the policy, which is not legally required, as too restrictive and unnecessary. M. Allegre had the previous version of the policy and noted that most of the areas of concern had remained virtually unchanged. H. Elliott suggested that we ask someone from the HR Council to come to the next meeting and discuss why we need such a policy.

7. **ACADEMIC SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES:** At the last meeting, descriptions of the Professional Standards Committee, Faculty Hiring Committee, Senate Elections Committee, and Professional Development Committee were distributed for review. The descriptions were approved as written. **(M Auten, S Mesri) AYES:** Allegre, M.; Alvarez, H.; Austen, D.; Caminada, S.; Derry, J.; Diaz, C.; Elliott, H.; Estrada, P.; McGuire, P.;

8. **DISCONTINUANCE POLICY:** A workgroup is being convened to review this board policy and suggest modifications to the process. Faculty in programs that have undergone discontinuance review might have particularly relevant knowledge about how the process can be improved. D. Passage and K. Treur volunteered to serve. A. P & P. has made some recommendations; S. Ramirez-Gelpi and someone in a certificate program would be good candidates. One issue that needs clarification in current policy is what can occur during the probationary period; technical theatre is under probation and is proposing new courses. ESL may be interested in participating.

9. **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT POLICY:** A workgroup to review this board policy and recommend modifications is needed. D. Degroot and S. Ramirez-Gelpi will participate.

10. **ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEES, PART 2.** Descriptions for the Senate Library Advisory Committee, Academic Integrity Committee, and AP&P Committee will be available for review and approval at the next meeting.

11. **CURRICUNET CURRICULUM PROPOSAL PROCESS:** AP&P developed and approved this process and has forwarded it to senate for review and approval. D. Degroot has used the electronic workflow-based system and said it looks fine but we may need to fine tune it once it is implemented. In theory, curriculum proposals can be tracked throughout the approval process. Faculty who want to propose curriculum for fall must be trained. H. Elliott suggested an evaluation of the effectiveness of the process at the end of the first year. **The CurricUNET curriculum proposal process was approved as recommended.** *(M: Scarffe, S: Derry) AYES:* Allegre, M.; Alvarez, H.; Auten, D.; Caddell, A.; Caminada, S.; Derry, J.; Diaz, C.; Elliott, H.; McGuire, P.; Miyahara, L.; Morris, J.; Nelson, M.; Passage, D.; Patrick, F.; Read, J.; Roepke, T.; Royce, G.; Scarffe, J.; Teniente, Y.; Treur, K.; Ward, N.; Wise, A. **ABSTENTIONS:** Estrada, P.

12. **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:** D. Degroot reviewed the proposed changes, including forms for certification of equivalency in disciplines requiring the master’s and in disciplines not requiring the master’s. Language was crafted to require a BA in a related discipline plus six years of experience or teaching in the discipline in disciplines requiring a master’s. The committee is recommending that for petitions for equivalency under eminence, candidates be required to demonstrate equivalence to GE (as defined by Title 5) by either coursework or experience or a combination. A candidate could be granted a provisional equivalency for one year to enable him to remedy any deficiencies. Though the provisional equivalency is currently only one semester, there was some concern that one year would not be long enough for candidates who work in the industry or teach high school to find time to complete coursework. It was suggested that if an SEP was in place a longer timeline might be acceptable. Degroot indicated he was willing to attend department meetings to answer any questions. **Senators should take back to departments to discuss and come prepared to vote at the next meeting.**

13. **STATUS OF STREAMLINING AP & P:** G. Bierly was absent; the report was postponed.
14. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

*Web Services Committee (G. Owen):* The committee was very receptive to feedback from faculty and took the list of 10-12 concerns about myHancock provided by J. Scarffe as the agenda for its meeting.

*Budget Council (G. Bierly):* G. Bierly was absent, but G. Owen noted that the budget was still in flux and the COLA and 3% growth funding still uncertain.

*Institutional Effectiveness Council (H. Elliott):* The council is working on accrediting processes and roles as well as reviewing the forms that councils and committees use to make their annual reports.

*Student Learning Council (M. Allegre)* The council will be meeting tomorrow and discussing plans for the upcoming Student Success Summit on March 28 as well as the recent audit of positive attendance classes, resulting in the loss of 30 to 40 FTES due to incorrect and inadequate records.

*Student Services Council (H. Alvarez and J. Harmon):* The council is making sure we are in line with mandates regarding 3SP and student equity. On March 14 from 8:30 to 2:30 there is a student equity workshop in Oakland; three people from AHC can attend. J. Harmon is going and will email G. Owen the information.

15. OTHER: It was noted that students serving on councils and committees may feel intimidated by serving with a group of faculty and that co-chairs and other members should make an effort to make students feel at ease.

ADJOURNED 5:37