



## ACADEMIC SENATE

### Adopted Minutes

October 18, 2010

Board Room 626

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**1. Call to Order**

President Watkins called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm

**2. Roll Call:**

Thomas Watkins, President

Darryl Allen, Kim Becker, Abba Christiansen, Nick Cittadino, Susanna Crawford, LaNae Jaimez, Lou McDermott, John Nagle, Karen Wanek

Absent: Dale Crandall-Bear – *ex officio*, Erin Duane – *ex officio*, Alena Hairston, Richard Kleeberg

Guests: S/P Jowel Laguerre, EVP Arturo Reyes, APU rep - John Hough

Connie Adams, Interim Admin Assistant

**3. Approval of Agenda – October 18, 2010**

Motion to Approve Agenda as amended - Senator Crawford; Seconded – Senator Allen; Unanimous  
APUS presentation 8.1 moved up after Item 3; Per Senator Kleeberg's emergency absence, Item 8.2 was moved to the next agenda

**4. Approval of Minutes – October 4, 2010**

Motion to Approve Minutes – Senator McDermott; Seconded – Senator Cittadino; Unanimous

**5. Comments from the Public**

None

**6. President's Report**

*Commencement:*

Commencement Committee members, Karen McCord, Matt Borchert, and Patricia Itaya, met on October 11 to address changing commencement from an evening to daytime event. Times suggested were 10 am, 10:30 am, noon, or 1 pm. EVP Reyes is working with the Calendar Committee to adjust the scheduling of finals to accommodate students. There may be a rehearsal the day before commencement. The next meeting will be held on November 21.

*65<sup>th</sup> Solano College Anniversary Celebration:* Day and evening plans are being considered for this celebration.

*Accreditation Steering Committee:* The Accreditation Special Report was mailed two days early (extra points for timing) on Wednesday, October 13. John Nixon, PhD, will again be half of the Accreditation team. They plan to visit Solano College on November 10. Printed copies of the Special Report will be available around campus and it is posted on the intranet: <http://techlr.pbworks.com/Accreditation+Special+Report+10-10>. Everyone should be familiar with the Mission Statement, the IPP and its three step process: evaluating, planning, and budgeting. The Mission Statement will now be on the back of all business cards printed here. The IPP link is: [http://www.solano.edu/institutional\\_research/ipp](http://www.solano.edu/institutional_research/ipp).

The Standard IIA Instructional Programs Committee is looking for more success stories to include in the current Accreditation Self-Study. Forward your instructional success stories from the last 3-4 years to Erin Farmer.

*Faculty Hiring Timeline:*

President Watkins shared the following timeline:

November 10 - The Academic Affairs Leadership Team will meet to bring forward for discussion their hiring proposals by division.

November 15 - The Executive Vice President will call a joint meeting of the Academic Senate/Division Deans to present and discuss recommendations for hiring. The combined group may accept the Executive Vice President's recommendations in total or in part, or it may develop its own list after examination and discussion of the data.

November 16 - If agreement is reached at the joint meeting, the Executive Vice President will present the recommendations to the Superintendent/President for consideration and final discussion/approval.

President Watkins will forward the timeline and other information that was sent to the deans. Once this current process is completed, the College will be back on the normal track for faculty hiring beginning with the Academic Senate and Educational Administrators joint meeting in January to discuss hiring for August 2011.

**7. Reports**

7.1 Curriculum – Erin Duane

No report

7.2 Superintendent/President Jowel Laguerre

S/P Laguerre introduced John Hough, representative from APUS, to present Item 8.1

7.3 Basic Skills – Susanna Crawford

Senator Crawford reported:

- Proposals for mini-grants were submitted and a review committee is being formed with plans to meet next week. The Committee will report back to proposal originators as soon as possible after they meet.
- A Center for Academic Success (CAS) Coordinator position was approved last spring. Current plans are to have a hiring committee identified before Thanksgiving, the position filled by the end of this semester, and to have that person active by the beginning of next semester. This position is not subject or division specific and any faculty can apply. While not certain that the Governing Board will approve, it looks very positive, and Senator Crawford would like to have all the pieces of the process together soon. Let Senator Crawford know of potential candidates for this position. She will forward the job description. Funding has been approved through Basic Skills and the new coordinator would help make plans for IPP, CAS, and workshops. This will be a faculty release position.
- Senator Crawford will attend a November 8 meeting in Dixon, with administrators and other faculty, to regroup and possibly start a program at Dixon High School. The meeting purpose will be to find out what Dixon administrators and faculty are currently interested in pursuing with Solano College, which could be Basic Skills or advanced placement. Solano College offered upper level courses there in the past, followed by an interest in ESL and Basic Skills courses.
- Senator Crawford, Diane White, and Jay Robinson are working to: gather Basic Skills data from three years back; look at desegregated data from Basic Skills sequences for ESL, reading, English and math; take cohort from three years ago; look at the lowest level, and; find the percentage of students completing the Solano series. She will report back to Senate with the results.
- Senator Crawford and Senator Kleeberg are working on plans to offer Flex-Cal Basic Skills instructional improvement activities next fall. President Watkins noted he had spoken with S/P Laguerre, who is very supportive. Senator Crawford will forward a video link to a lecture given at Harvard by an instructor who works with students in East Oakland. She would like input from Senators, if this is the kind of speaker they'd like at Flex-Cal.
- Senator Crawford will forward a calendar of events offering CEUs, which range from no cost to \$8 for lunch.

## 8. Information/Discussion Items

### 8.1 American Public University System (APUS) – Articulation/Transfer – John Hough

EVP Arturo Reyes introduced APUS Associate Provost John Hough to continue a previous Senate discussion regarding the potential MOU, which could offer a less expensive and more viable transfer option for some Solano College students. S/P Laguerre explained that Dee Alercon, one of most prominent educators in the county and very supportive of education in general, strongly suggested that S/P Laguerre contact John Hough at APUS. Ms. Alercon, Solano County Superintendent of Schools, met Mr. Hough in Washington D.C., where they both serve on the National Executive Council for Education Services. S/P Laguerre also expressed appreciation to Barbara Pavao for encouraging him to be proactive in knowing and sharing with counselors and faculty programs and opportunities available, before students inform us.

Mr. Hough gave a synopsis of his 37-year educational background, including K-12 through higher education, serving in many administrative positions, and the last 2 years as Associate Provost at APUS. He shared his interest in leading community college outreach stems from his strong background in community college education and the concern that APUS wasn't giving much attention to bringing in graduates with AAs. He stated that around 22% of the approximately 40% of students who plan to secure a bachelor's degree actually complete the process. Reasons include students place/time boundaries, financial limits, and many universities don't have friendly transfer policies. Mr. Hough created a friendly APUS block transfer policy to recognize entire specific degrees. Other points he presented were:

- APUS builds relationship and supports student transfers through: communication; personal attention; small class size; available advisors on-site and online to explain transfer policies; lower costs, and; follow-up with students and colleges.
- Though online universities are perceived as invisible, APUS faculty are listed by departments on their website.
- MOUs are based on core 100/200 60 credit hour courses and offer block transfers for specific AA and AS degrees. Many California community college students do not graduate with an AA or AS degrees or they transfer before that; therefore, APUS policy or procedure shouldn't interfere with students getting their community college associate degree and community college expectations should be covered.
- Block transfer students would enter APUS at junior status and continue with 300/400 courses.
- APUS will not market level 100/200 courses to students at colleges with their MOU.
- APUS will build an SCC landing page with information about block transfers, listing degrees, contact information, process, and procedures.
- For degrees not on the APUS list, students would go through traditional transfer course-by-course evaluation. Students with an AA or AS which includes extra classes beyond the APUS requirements would also follow course-by-course evaluation.
- APUS would have no other expectations other than the opportunity to offer time with advisors and students.
- Solano College would have no obligations to APUS.
- APUS is fully accredited through North Central.
- Solano College AA and AS degrees would be fully reviewed to make sure they contain everything needed to transfer to APUS.

### Comments/Questions:

A lively discussion ensued as senators expressed concerns and questions including: how to advise students since degree programs and transfer courses are not the same thing and many students are not clear on how they want to proceed; confusion over varying CSU/UCs/APUS/other transfer requirements; request for clarity regarding item #6 on APUS handout; cheating, and; how will AB1440 affect student transfer options. S/P Laguerre opined that, because not every student is going to go to SCU/UC, the option for lower cost degrees and choice of where/how

they wish to attend will benefit the students, and student transfer tracking would be available to follow student progress and success. He asked Senators to forward any other provision they'd like to see addressed in an MOU to EVP Reyes. Senator Cittadino and Senator Nagle expressed appreciation for a viable option for many of their students who work full-time and/or are raising families and could benefit from the online access and lower costs. Senator Nagle asked Senators to look for what is right while reviewing and dissecting option and remember the most important point: can it benefit Solano College students? He acknowledged that while everyone's connection with their students varies, his work connects him closely with his students, their families and situations, and he views this as a very viable option for many of them. In closing the discussion, S/P Laguerre shared on a personal level the difficulty a family member had in attempting a traditional transfer and the online transfer option to a good program overcame impossibly long waiting lists and higher costs.

8.2 Constitution / By Laws Revision  
Moved to the next agenda

**9. Action Items**

**10. Action Reminders**

Flex Cal Research and Proposal ideas

**11. Announcements**

**12. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn - Senator Crawford; Seconded – Senator Jaimez; Unanimous  
Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm