



ACADEMIC SENATE

Notes

September 19, 2011
Board Room 626
3:00 pm –5:00 pm

No official meeting was held. Discussion notes only.

1. Call to Order

President Watkins called the meeting to order at 3:11 pm

2. Roll Call:

Thomas Watkins, President

Nick Cittadino, Dale Crandall-Bear – *ex officio*, Joe Conrad – *ex officio*, Richard Kleeberg, Lou McDermott, Scott Parrish, Tracy Fields

Excused: Kim Becker, Abla Christiansen, Susanna Crawford, LaNae Jaimez

Guests: EVP Arturo Reyes; Melissa Reeve

Connie Adams, Interim Admin Assistant

3. Approval of Agenda – September 19, 2011

No quorum

4. Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2011

No quorum

5. Comments from the Public

None

6. President's Report

Dinner with the Board of Trustees: President Watkins reported that the October 5th Senate dinner with the Board of Trustees will be rescheduled after the Senate reorganization is implemented.

CERT Team: Ingeborg Bourdon, CERT Team leader, has scheduled a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) drill for Saturday, Oct 15, 8am-1pm. Solano College is hosting this event and Ms. Bourdon will be the on-site commander.

Faculty Professional Development: Full-time faculty members will receive \$200 each for professional development this academic year. The adjunct rate has not yet been decided. The funding will be assigned by faculty names, although plans can also be made within divisions regarding best use of the funds. Staff will be allocated \$100 each. Funds can be used for conferences and EVP Reyes will work with the Senate on a list of other options.

Title 5 Hiring Policy: At the last President's Cabinet meeting, Interim HR Director, Sandra Dillon, reported there are changes to the Title 5 Hiring Policy. She will bring a report to an Academic Senate meeting.

Consulting Services: Solano College will receive \$20,000 for providing consulting services to the City of Vallejo.

Bookstore Outsourcing: The Board of Trustees item on bookstore outsourcing was presented at FaBPAC last Wednesday. Barnes & Noble won the bid and will lease the College bookstore.

Benefits to the College:

- Current employees will be retained, paid by the College with full reimbursement from B&N
- \$200,000 signing bonus
- A guarantee of \$350,000 per year
- A percentage of the net sales
- Payment for existing inventory (the funds will be set aside in case of a decision to re-start a College-operated store after the 5-year B&N contract expires.)
- \$15,000 student scholarship fund through ASSC
- Faculty and staff 15% discount on merchandise
- Upgraded systems
- If sales exceed \$3.5 million, the College will receive \$400,000

Grade Submission: President Watkins was informed that a proposal was made at a recent ALG meeting that fall 2011 grades be submitted within three days after close of semester. He has requested confirmation on this item from Barbara Fountain.

Questions/Comments:

Senator McDermott expressed concern about proposed change of class hours and days at the College centers discussed at his last division meeting and requested clarification. President Watkins responded that the class hours can be rearranged by deans but not the workload. Compliance requires attention to number of hours rather than days. Senators discussed other concerns regarding no admissions or counseling staff availability for night class students at campuses.

7. Reports

7.1 Superintendent/President Report

EVP Reyes gave the following administrative report.

Accreditation Visit: EVP Reyes met with ACCJC Accreditation team members, Tom Jones and Jerry Patton. They worked on details for the October visit and submitted a list of meetings they want to attend and people they want to talk to. Jerry Patton has participated in over a dozen Accreditation visits. Both he and Tom Jones were very positive and noted they plan to reaffirm what is in the College report.

Educational Master Plan: EVP Reyes asked the Senate to meet with MIG consultants twice this semester and again in January. The process to revise the plan began with an environmental scan and proceeded with community forums which have been held in Vacaville and Benicia and are scheduled this Thursday in Dixon and Friday in Vallejo. MIG/Senate meetings will be either October 10th or 31st and on November 28th. Programs will be reviewed with the Academic Senate with an understanding to decide how programs are doing on campus and what the direction is going to be for the future of the College as written in the Educational Master Plan which will drive direction for the next 4-5 years. If the College pursues a bond, it will be based on that information. EVP Reyes stated that the Academic Senate should be the voice of the College rather than just one or two divisions that may be affected. The first meeting will bring together ideas from the community forums and the environmental scan; Senators will bring the information to constituents; the second meeting will incorporate input on what programs should look like, and plans for the direction of the College, and; the third meeting (in January) will deliver an MIG document compiled and created from collected input. The Facilities Master Plan will follow.

Senators should solicit representative attendance from their schools. EVP Reyes assured the support of the deans and Senators can request substitutes for classes if needed.

7.2 Sub-Committee Reports

7.2.1 Basic Skills

Basic Skills has continued the Math/English specific projects described during the Fall FLEX Senate meeting. In addition, the English and Math BSI coordinators have met with EVP Reyes and have begun the process of getting the new BSI coordinator position posted. They are also collecting mini-grant applications, and the deadline is September 20th. Any member of the Senate is more than welcome to contact either Corrine or Josh with any questions or concerns.

7.2.2 Curriculum – Joe Conrad

The Technical Review Committee is in beginning stages with plans to have a good process in place by the end of the semester. The Committee is currently reviewing the handbook which should be reviewed every 2-3 years. Committee reorganization has been discussed and a proposal will be brought to an Academic Senate meeting once it is approved by the Committee. There may be two representatives per school with everything else remaining the same. Further discussion will decide if a DE rep will be included in the numbers or as an ad hoc as needed.

Guidelines for the Title 5 prerequisite changes should be ready this fall. A Governing Board district policy change will be needed to enact new prerequisite content. There will be a choice of establishing changes, retaining current policy, or utilizing both. Once a good model board policy statement is ready, it will need to be approved by the Curriculum Committee, the Senate and the Board and could be in place next fall.

7.2.3 Distance Ed – Dale Crandall-Bear

DE Chair Crandall-Bear distributed three papers: Draft (9.12.11) of Proposed Reorganization of the Distance Education Committee; Proposed Timeline for LMS Decision, and; Email sent to Online Instructors (9.15.11). *Reorganization:* Chair Crandall-Bear reported on the final draft for the DE Committee reorganization. He noted that CTE requested additional representation as they have proportionally more online instructors. The Committee agreed to increase the representation to three.

LMS Review: The DE Committee reengaged in a budget driven LMS Review last year. Three platform presentations are scheduled. Online DE Committee and faculty are experimenting with demo platforms. October 24th will be a key DE meeting with a full discussion after listening to and reviewing presentations. If a decision is made on October 24th, the discussion will be brought to the Academic Senate on November 7th and voted on December 5th. There will be a lot of work to transition in spring. A 50% cost savings next year is in order per administration. Far more innovative systems than eCollege have been found at nearly half the price. The process is moving fast and Senators and DE faculty are invited to the presentations, which will demo both faculty and student use, and provide for input. The Committee would like to hear from instructors who are using other platforms at other colleges. The eCollege contract runs through summer and transition would be in the fall. Faculty would be transitioned over to comparable training through other systems. The company chosen will take over transition or faculty should be compensated to transfer their courses.

7.2.4 Election and Constitution Committee – Richard Kleeberg and LaNae Jaimez

8. Action Items

9. Information/Discussion Items

9.1 Senate Representation Reorganization

9.2 Flex Cal

Educational Master Plan (see Item 7.1)

Faculty Professional Development (see Item 6)

9.3 Fall Plenary Attendance

9.4 Extra Senate Meetings

An Academic Senate meeting will be scheduled on September 26 to cover open items from this agenda.

10. Action Reminders

11. Announcements

Louis McDermott, SCC Academic Senator and History Professor was published in High Flight – History of the U.S. Air Force Academy. The article he authored, and lead chapter, is titled Prelude to Excellence: A New Academy. The book was edited by Edward A. Kaplan and published by Imprint Publications 2011.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm