



ACADEMIC SENATE

APPROVED MINUTES

September 28, 2006

DIVISION SENATORS: BUSINESS DIVISION, Jesse Saldana;  
COUSELING DIVISION, Deidre Porter;  
FINE ARTS DIVISION, Rob Johnson;  
HEALTH SCIENCE DIVISION, Kathy Boettger;  
LANGUAGE ARTS DIVISION, Kathy Llanos;  
PHYSICAL EDUCATION DIVISION, Bill Pinkham;  
SCIENCE/ENGINEERING/MATH DIVISION, Craig Tomooka;  
SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION, Will Heusser;  
VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL DIVISION, Dan Snook;

SENATORS-AT-LARGE: Michael Brydges, Nancy Deutsch, Cherie Dickey, Michael Flores,  
Michael Frey, Pat Ganer, Ian Holmes, Beth Piburn, Karen Watson.

ADJUNCT SENATOR: Catherine Whitsett.

LIAISONS: ASSOCIATED STUDENTS: Samantha Tinsay;  
CAMPUS DIVERSITY:  
CAMPUS TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: Rob Johnson;  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE: Peggy Austin;  
FOUNDATION: Beth Piburn;  
IQA COMMITTEE:  
SITE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE: Mark Majarian;  
STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Nancy Deutsch;  
UNITED FACULTY:

ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT: Steve Gold  
ACADEMIC SENATE PAST-PRESIDENT: Fola Odebunmi  
*Senators and Officers Absent: Ian Holmes, Fola Odebunmi*  
Liaisons in Attendance: Samantha Tinsay, Beth Piburn, Nancy Deutsch  
Guests:

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Gold at 3:05 p.m.

- I. M/S/U (Piburn/Llanos) to approve the minutes as corrected of the September 14, 2006, meeting.

- II. Public Commentary: (Public commentary is time made available for issues to be brought before the Senate. No action will be taken at the time of the commentary and statements do not reflect the Senate position absent any action.)

Steve Gold asked for a discussion about the effectiveness of this agenda item, which was introduced on a trial basis. Following the format used at Board of Trustees meetings, Public Commentary allows visitors to state a position, but there is no discussion on the topic. Some Senators expressed concerns with the limitations of the format, which does not allow discussion of the topic presented during Public Commentary. Discussion centered on the best way to invite faculty participation and be responsive to faculty needs and concerns. It was noted that Senate is not allowed to take official action on anything that is not on the published agenda. After discussion, Senate decided to keep the Public Commentary agenda item, since it provides an opportunity for faculty to visit and state their concerns at the beginning of the meeting. All faculty are also welcome to respond to the "Call for Agenda Items" and have their issues placed on the agenda ahead of time, or to attend and present them during the "Other" item under "Faculty Issues."

- III. President's Report *Steve Gold*

A. Senate Meeting Dates

Steve noted that, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, Senate will not have a meeting on the fourth Thursday in November. Since November has five Thursdays this year, we would have a five-week gap between meetings. Due to the large number of pressing issues Senate this semester, it was agreed that Senate would hold a meeting on the fifth Thursday of the month, November 30, 2006.

B. Statewide Meeting of the Academic Senate

The statewide meeting of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges is being held at the Fairmont Newport Beach, October 26-28. Meetings and sessions are held on Thursday and Friday, and Saturday is occupied with voting on resolutions. The cost is \$295 for 3 days, \$195 for Thursday only, and \$160 for Friday only. There is Senate money available to send up to six Senators. It was agreed that Steve Gold, Cherie Dickey, Beth Piburn, and Michael Flores would attend. Other interested Senators should contact Steve ASAP to take advantage of the registration fees mentioned above. It would be important for those who might want to be officers in the future to attend. The Plenary Sessions are held twice a year (generally in southern California in the fall and in northern California in the spring), and are a good opportunity for faculty to understand what is happening at the state level.

C. Area D Meeting

The Area D meeting is October 14<sup>th</sup>, at Palomar College. Discussions will include some of the topics that will be coming up at the statewide meeting. Steve Gold, Cherie Dickey, and Beth Piburn will attend.

#### D. Meetings with Board Members

As Senate President and Senate President-Elect, Steve Gold and Cherie Dickey are meeting with each of the members of the Board of Trustees to further relationships and open the lines of communication.

#### E. Meetings with Dr. Lewis

Steve is also holding regular meetings with Dr. Lewis. One of the concerns he has shared is the faculty perception that too often administration goes to faculty through the deans rather than directly to faculty. Another topic has been that of shared governance: PAC has assumed the role of being the main shared governance organization on campus, but the Senate believes that greater inclusion in the decision-making process is necessary. During discussion, senators shared the concern that administration seeks “faculty input” but then does not involve faculty in the decision-making. Senators cited the recent example of the decision on how to spend the state Basic Skills money: faculty in the affected departments were consulted but not asked to be part of the decision-making committee.

#### F. President’s Advisory Cabinet and District Planning Council Meetings

Steve reported that PAC discussed guidelines for clubs and recruiters that set up booths on campus. They also approved bronze medals for EOPS students to wear at graduation. (EOPS funds will be used to purchase the medals, which are inexpensive.) Elizabeth Douglas, in the Staff Development Office, has been given the task of compiling a list of shared governance committees.

Steve reported that DPC is now working on determining strategies and performance indicators for the District Strategic Plan.

#### G. Planning and Budget Committee

A One-Time Funding report pilot questionnaire was sent to all departments that received more than \$20K.

To meet increased demand, Administration has proposed that more chemistry and biology classes be offered. In support of this request, Planning and Budget and PAC approved hiring an additional lab tech and agreed to cover extra expenses and additional supplies.

#### H. Committee Appointments

Faculty have been appointed to serve on the following committees, and were confirmed by Senate:

- Bill Pinkham to Shirley Smith Evaluation Committee
- Beth Piburn to Raul Alvarez Evaluation Committee

#### IV. Faculty Issues

##### A. IQA Chair

Kathy Alvarez (Dental Hygiene) has agreed to be the new IQA chair. Administration did not increase the reassigned time (from the current basis of 3 units), but they have offered clerical support for the position.

##### B. New Strategic Plan

Steve Gold had asked all Senators to review the new Action Plans prior to the meeting. Concern was expressed that gender issues were singled out for an action plan when other diversity groups were not. Steve reported that the rationale was that other groups have been given support in the past, and, due to concerns about possible discrimination on campus in the past, a specific action was listed to address it.

Concern was also expressed that the role of the Direction Committees has been reduced to the one-time funding priority process, and it seems that the Direction Committees are no longer involved in the planning stage. Nancy Byrnes had indicated to Steve that, in determining any new strategies and action plans, they were looking for input from the Direction Committees, but did not receive it. Senate members on some of the Direction Committees indicated that they met and wrote reports on existing goals and action plans but were not contacted for input on new ones.

In looking over the new actions, concern was expressed that often the approach is to introduce new programs rather than to fully fund existing programs and/or reinstate effective programs that were cut during the last budget crisis.

While noting the concerns stated previously, Senate agreed to approve the new action plans and strategies.

##### C. Academic Freedom Policy

Steve Gold distributed a copy of a new Academic Freedom Policy draft statement (on file) that the SCE, Fullerton and Cypress College Academic Senate Presidents have agreed on and that they feel will be acceptable to the District with minimal changes. He reported that the discussion with Fullerton College has centered on faculty wanting a clear statement that the District supports the American Association of University Professors statement on Academic Freedom. In the past, the District has responded with drafts that limit the scope of the AAUP statement. Senate discussed the purpose of the Academic Freedom Policy and the concerns with past draft versions. During discussion, it was noted that the original goal of academic freedom was to protect academics from interference in the search for and presentation of truth. M/S/3 abstentions (Dickey/Piburn) to approve, with the last sentence of 3.0 amended to read: "There shall be no curtailment of presentation of material relating to pertinent points of view." It was clarified that the original

language or other similar language is acceptable if preferred by the other two senates.

D. State Awards – Deferred due to time constraints

E. Technology Issues -- Accessibility of Web pages/Ethical Use of Mass Media/Junk E-mail     *Michael Brydges*

Michael Brydges, along with numerous other Senators, expressed concern that the new Cypress College homepage does not meet the general accessibility requirements for all college and faculty-generated webpages. Deborah Michelle mentioned the importance of the accessibility standards in meeting the needs of DSPS students. Senators also voiced their dissatisfaction with the style, format, and flashing icons. Rob Johnson (Senate liaison with the Campus Technology Committee) reported that during the summer, the 5% More Committee wanted to quickly do something that would increase enrollment for fall. The current version of the Cypress College website was designed with a one-time, quick change approach. Due to the nature of the contract involved, the redesign did not have to go out to bid. The Campus Technology Committee was not consulted. This fall and spring, the CTC will address the full redesign of the website and will be working to hire an outside firm to do the work. A subcommittee has been set up to begin research, get RFPs, etc.

Any email from a faculty member with “.cc.ca.us” in the “from” address should be treated with caution since it is probably phony and it could contain viruses.

F. Condensed Calendar – 16-week semester     *Will Heusser*

This issue will be a topic of discussion at the Joint Senates/Unions meeting in January 2007. In preparation, Fullerton Faculty Senate plans to hold at least one informational session for their faculty this semester and will bring in faculty from other colleges to report on their experiences with the shorter semester.

At the last Senate meeting, Steve Gold asked Senators to talk with other faculty to determine the level of interest in holding similar meetings on the Cypress College campus. Several senators indicated a willingness to wait until the joint meeting. Will Heusser and Michael Flores will investigate the reactions at neighboring community colleges (e.g., OCC and Golden West) that are currently using the 16-week format, and will report to Senate on their findings. Craig Tomooka reported that the SEM Division was strongly against the compressed schedule, particularly in the Math Department. Jesse Saldana reported that most of the Business Division was in favor of the compressed schedule. Steve reminded everyone that when UF conducted a survey several years ago, the for/against split was even, but the number of responses was very low.

Division Senators were instructed to informally poll their divisions about interest in exploring the issue and to email their responses to Will Heusser. Concern was expressed that this is a potentially divisive issue. It was also noted that shorter-length courses can already be offered and many division are already offering them.

- G. Educational Master Plan – No further discussion
- H. Reassigned Time – Deferred due to time constraints
- I. Process for Prioritization of Full-Time Faculty Hiring

Steve Gold reported that the Deans will meet tomorrow to begin the process of prioritizing full-time faculty hiring. Administration has offered to give Senate the information that the Deans will have and then Senate would have the option of going through the materials and presenting a separate recommendation to Dr. Lewis. Many senators felt strongly that any level of participation is an improvement over the current process. On the other hand, concern was expressed that faculty should resist this approach and continue to press for the desired goal of a single committee, composed of both deans and faculty members. Dr. Lewis has indicated that if Senate wants the single committee approach, it will have to get Board Policy changed.

For now, Senate agreed to look at the documentation given to the Deans, but Steve plans to present to DPC our recommendation as a change to Board Policy. Current Board Policy stipulates that the Deans will make a recommendation to the College President. Dr. Lewis then asks PAC for their approval.

- J. Election of Adjunct Senator

No other adjunct faculty expressed an interest in the Adjunct Senator position, so Steve asked Catherine Whitsett to continue in this position, although she will not be available second semester.

- V. Special Reports:

- A. Campus Technology Committee: *Rob Johnson*

Refer to IV. Faculty Issues, Item E. “Accessibility of Web pages,” above.

- B. Staff Development: *Nancy Deutsch*

CC Leads starts tomorrow. Learning Community speakers will be on campus next Thursday, October 05, from 3-5pm and Friday, October 6, from 9:00 – 2:30 p.m., and flex credit is available for participation.

- VI. Resolutions

- VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment of the meeting at 5:25 p.m. M/S/U (Piburn/Saldana).

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Watson, Secretary