

Minutes - Miramar College Academic Senate

Location: L-309 May 19, 2015 3:30-5:00pm

Senators Present: Buran Haidar, Marie McMahon, Joan Thompson, Gina Bochicchio, Carmen Jay, Frederica Carr, Daphne Figueroa, Dan Igou, Josh Alley, Clara Blenis, Rebecca Bowers-Gentry, Lisa Brewster, Rick Cassar, Otto Dobre, Isabella Feldman, Cynthia Gilley, Rich Halliday, Mary Hart, Jennifer Leaver, Andrew Lowe, Laura Murphy, Wai-Ling Rubic, Shayne Vargo, M. Patricia Beller, Sharai Forbes, Thong Nguyen, Wendy Wilson

Absent: Sean Bowers, Ann Gloag (proxy: S. Vargo), Naomi Grisham (proxy: R. Cassar), Mark Hertica (proxy: J. Alley), Mary Kjartanson, Wheeler North, Dan Willkie, Shawn Hurley, Valri Nesbit

Other Attendees: Mara Sanft, Duane Short, Patricia Hsieh, Gerald Ramsey, Lou Ascione, Kurt Hill, Daniel Miramontez, Juli Bartolomei

Meeting called to order at 3:35pm, after recognition of faculty members who were promoted to full professor last year (Rebecca Bowers-Gentry, Physical Science; Dawn DiMarzo, Child Development; Laura Gonzales, Anthropology; Julia Gordon, Mathematics; Buran Haidar, Biology; Darren Hall, Fire Technology; Dan Igou, History; Ryan Monroe, Automotive Technology; Erica Murrietta, Counseling; John Salinsky, EMT; Namphol Sinkaset, Chemistry) and this year (Sean Bowers, Exercise Science; MaryAnn Guevarra, Counseling; Rex Heftmann, Graphic Arts; Mark Hertica, Music; Andrew Lowe, Biology; Mark Manasse, English; Cheryl Reed, English), as well as professor emeriti (Clara Blenis, English; Bob Fritsch, Fine Art; Steve Lickiss, Administration of Justice; Eric Mosier, Library Science). She also thanked Duane Short, Gina Bochicchio and Buran Haidar for their service to the Academic Senate.

A. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent after a reordering to move item D2 [2015-16 BSI Action Plan (First Reading)] to immediately follow the approval of the agenda and to combine items E3 and 6 [ASCCC Spring 2015 Plenary and Important Resolutions, ASCCC Leadership Professional Development College (2014/15 Inaugural Module)] into one report—with the caveat that Buran be given a chance to introduce item E6—since they were related and Marie McMahon was presenting both.

After a lengthy discussion about requested changes to the previous minutes, a motion was made and passed by unanimous consent to table the approval of the minutes until the next meeting, after discussions between the particular parties are worked out. Buran will send the edited draft by the end of the week.

B. Special Reports

1. College Administration ~ Patricia Hsieh thanked faculty for their contributions to student success and the commencement ceremony. She also mentioned that, in the Governor's May Revise, there is \$75 million statewide support for hiring of new faculty. She was not sure how much of that will be allocated to the District and our campus.

C. Old Business

1. 2015-16 Planning Calendar and Accreditation Timeline (modified) ~ Buran reported the modification from CEC. The September draft no longer exists and the first is now due in October. Draft #4 will be due in May. The accreditation visit will be in Spring 2017. Daniel Miramontez explained that the Self-Evaluation Report will be due in Fall 2016 and does not appear on this Planning Calendar because it only goes through Spring 2016; it will be on the 2016-17 Calendar. There was a motion to approve the Planning Calendar and it passed by unanimous consent. Buran noted that the Faculty Editor position ends in Spring 2016 and brought up the issue of the possibility of the Faculty Editor not being involved in the final evaluation report.
2. Information Technology Issues (update) ~ Buran presented information from the DGC meeting, including the major subsystems supported by the Office of Information Technology, as well as the list of issues based on our Senate discussions. Executive Vice Chancellor of Business, Bonnie Dowd, offered to hold an initial conversation with all incoming and outgoing Academic Senate presidents on June 3rd. Kurt Hill recommended that the list of issues be sent to the Technology Committee.
3. Course Waivers Policy (update) ~ Duane Short recapped the difference between credit by exam, where the grade on the exam is the grade that will appear on the transcript, and waivers, where the student satisfies the requirement for the course via outside experience but no grade appears on the transcript. The District stopped allowing waivers, so they have been working on ways to deal with the issues that have arisen from that. One prong on the approach is to create a policy and procedure at the District level to allow that course clearance; that draft is currently being worked on. The second is a letter that was sent to the lawyer at the State Chancellor's Office asking about legality issues. The office is understaffed, so the policy is going to take a long time. In the meantime, students have been asked to get credit by paid exam, but this is a problem for some students due to a cap of 12 units, and those students are in limbo.

D. New Business

1. 2015-16 Academic Senate Meetings Calendar ~ Marie McMahon presented the proposed calendar for the 2015-16 Academic Senate meetings and explained that it followed the same format as previous years, with the regular AS meetings being held on the first and third Tuesdays and Exec being held on the last Tuesday of each month. The calendar was approved by unanimous consent.

2. 2015-16 BSI Action Plan (First Reading) ~ Sheryl Gobble was not present, so Sharai Forbes presented the BSI Action Plan and highlighted the differences from the old Plan. It's pretty similar, where a lot of things just say "continue to." They merged some categories together and deleted anything that they had completed already. Carmen Jay, Honors Coordinator, asked about the final section regarding exploring pre-honors for Basic Skills students and recommended coordinating with Honors coordinators on that. She requested that they be added to the list of people responsible and to have the words "in consultation with" added to the Plan of Action. Rich Halliday requested that the word "support" on page 13 be changed to "explore" and that the Plan of Action wording say "in consultation with and decision-making by contract English and Math faculty." This was a first reading and will go back to Basic Skills in the Fall and then come back for a second reading. In the meantime, senators were asked to send edit requests to Sheryl Gobble.

E. Committee Reports/Information

1. FLEX Report ~ Dan Igou presented the annual FLEX update. He said that there were 95 FLEX activities last year and 151 this year, not including department and Academic Senate meetings, as contract faculty do not get FLEX credit for those. In the fall, 23 adjuncts were docked pay for not completing their FLEX obligation; that number dropped to four in the spring. Some ideas that came out of the survey he conducted included creating a FAQ handout for adjuncts, having an online FLEX tutorial, holding some activities in the evening—both during FLEX week and extending into the school year—to give adjuncts more options, and building support for the activities so people would be compelled to keep having them. Contract faculty can start getting credit on July 1st, but he is not sure about the start date for adjuncts.
2. Distance Education ~ Rechelle Mojica was not present, so Buran mentioned that there has been encouragement for faculty to be offering more hybrid classes.
3. ASCCC Spring 2015 Plenary and Important Resolutions ~ Marie McMahon discussed some of the information that really interested her at the State Academic Senate's Spring Plenary. She talked about the panel discussion regarding the impact of the Taskforce on Workshop Job Creation (the Workshop Task Force—"WTF") and how it was about how vocational education is actually all of us. There was recognition that community colleges fill the niche for mid-range skills. There was also a recommendation that there be a more regionalized approach, due to differences in the regions. She and Daphne went to the Online Education Initiative. She pointed out that the pilot programs were awarded to schools holding certifications for people wanting to teach online. Buran discussed some of the most relevant resolutions. She said that they also worked on a paper for the Local Senates Handbook. One very important topic was faculty recognition; it's important to celebrate each other's accomplishments. There was also an important resolution about expanding dual-enrollment for highschool students and another on exploring the funding model. All resolutions can be found on the ASCCC website.
4. Faculty Committee Service ~ Buran received responses from people wanting to change committees. She will send updated information out to everyone before Friday.
5. Academic Senate Travel and Conference Budget ~ Buran showed the senators the detailed file on where the \$6200 in travel and conferences funding was used this year, with Marie's upcoming attendance at the Faculty Leadership Institute zeroing out the account.
6. ASCCC Leadership Professional Development College (2014/15 Inaugural Module) ~ Buran informed the Senate about the ASCCC Leadership PDC, a pilot program providing apportionment from the State Academic Senate for training new Academic Senate presidents, to which she recommended Marie McMahon. Marie expressed gratitude for the opportunity. She presented a list of the events she attended at various academic organizations to satisfy the Faculty Leadership Institute requirements for graduation from the program, as well as the mentoring she has received from Kale Braden. She mentioned that one thing she is going to recommend is more mentoring directly, with pairing up of people. She then presented her leadership plan, stressing the importance of both conscience (thinking – emotions – actions) and leadership (transparency – accountability – performance), in alignment with the truth.

F. Senate Reports

1. Treasurer – Joan Thompson reported a balance of \$528.69.
2. President's Report – Buran Haidar used her report time to discuss the Academic Support timeline. Time was called on her report and there was no motion to extend. Quorum was also lost, so the meeting was adjourned and Buran finished her report off-the-record to those who chose to remain.
3. President-Elect – Marie McMahon had no report.

G. Announcements

1. UC San Diego PhD Career Conference: Saturday, May 16, 2015, 2:40pm

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54pm. The next meeting will be on Sept 1st. Please submit agenda items to both Marie McMahon and Juli Bartolomei.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Bochicchio and Juli Bartolomei