

Academic Senate Minutes

October 2, 2012

Unless noted otherwise, all page numbers refer to the packet used during the meeting, not the current packet you are reading now.

The second meeting of the Academic Senate was called to order by Chris Wells (CW) at 12:37pm on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 without a quorum. A quorum was reached at approximately 12:40pm. Academic Senate President Chris Gold was on medical leave. The meeting was held in the Alondra Room.

Approval of Minutes

[See pp.5-11 of packet] for minutes of the September 18th meeting. Only three corrections were noted for the minutes. On page 9 under Curriculum Committee Report, Jenny Simon reported that there were only three exceptions and not four allowed for students wishing to repeat an activity course since the use of abcd course numbering is no longer allowed. The one to be removed was fitness courses specific for athletes. C. Wells also added the word “forensics” after the now 3rd exception to read “Intercollegiate academic competition like journalism or debates/forensics.” L. Widman noted that on page 11 the presentation by the Torrance League of Women’s Voters will discuss all propositions on the ballot and not just 30 and 32.

Announcements

C. Wells stated that the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office had announced the hiring of the new chancellor. He is Dr. Brice Harris who had previously come from the Los Rios Community College District. It was reported that he was supportive of the Student Success Initiative. He becomes the 15th chancellor of the 112 community college system.

L. Widman announced that the Torrance League of Women’s Voters would be holding an informational meeting on all the upcoming propositions on the November ballot on Tuesday, October 23, 2012 from 12pm-1:45pm in the Haag Recital Hall. For instructors who will be giving their students extra credit for attending the event, there will be signup sheets available. The League will have a publication for handout on all the pros and cons of each proposition.

M. Ichinaga passed around an envelope for anyone wanting to contribute to a bouquet of flowers to be sent to C. Gold who recently had surgery.

C. Wells announced that someone from the Torrance Campus will be asked to serve on the hiring committee for the new CEO of the Compton Center. No information was available as to when the position would close and the committee would convene.

Academic Senate President’s report – Christina Gold (henceforth CG)

No report since Ms. Gold was on medical leave.

Unfinished Business – CSULB Resolution – Chris Wells (CW)

Pg. 21 Elimination of CSU Service Areas. There were slight grammatical changes to the original resolution dated 3/9/2011 in the packet and replaced with the corrected handout dated 10/1/2012. As this was the second reading of the resolution, P. Marcoux made the motion to accept the

changes, L. Widman seconded and the vote was unanimous to accept the changes. Discussion ensued regarding the resolution. L. Widman asked in regards to resolve number one, who would make the complaint to the Office of Civil Rights within the United States Department of Education. CW said it is as easy as going on-line and filling out the needed information regarding the complaint. P. Marcoux asked if there would be any legal ramifications for doing this and whether or not we should seek legal counsel. CW said that would not be necessary since all we were looking for is a legal opinion from the Feds. He stated that the State-wide Academic Senate has already complained, but nothing has been done as far as he knew. J. Nishime noted that CSULB has changed to priority for local high schools instead of local community colleges and C. Jeffries conferred that this was the case and because of this change, it didn't seem to affect students as badly any longer. C.J also pointed out that the majors that were the most impacted were those students going into the science, math and engineering fields and those concerns have been addressed with a new TAG agreement for those students. CJ will ask the counselors and the new transfer center director, Rene Lozano, whether this was discussed at the CSU Counselors Conference that many of the counselors were attending that day. A discussion began whether or not to even continue with the resolution in light of the recent changes made by CSULB. F. Arce suggested we update the data since the data reported was almost two years old. CW said he will put together a packet of data that he had collected before and bring that pack to the Senate. P. Marcoux recommended bringing the resolution to the State-wide Academic Senate and letting them be the lead. It was decided to table the resolution for now until more data and information could be collected.

VP - Compton Educational Plan report – Michael Odanaka (MW)

MO was absent from the meeting, so there was no report; however, E. Pratt did reiterate that a new CEO would be hired for the Center.

Curriculum Committee Report – Jenny Simon (JS)

No report.

VP - Educational Policies Committee – Merriel Winfree (MW)

MW announced that some upcoming policies and procedures that will be coming forward to the Senate are the Program Discontinuance procedure, prerequisites, and the philosophy for the AA/AS degrees and general education.

CO-VPs – Faculty Development – Moon Ichinaga and Claudia Striepe(MI and CS)

Nominations are being taken for the Outstanding Adjunct Award and they are due in by Friday, October 12th. The process is more streamlined now for those doing the nominating and one should review the procedures in the email that was sent out to all faculty.

A new initiative was being brought forward called Reading Apprenticeship and is being sponsored by a state grant. It involves concrete strategies for community college instructors outside the English discipline to help improve reading comprehension for their students. There will be a seminar held from 9am-4pm on Friday, November 9th and then there would be another follow-up meeting for a half day on Friday, November 30th to review the implementation of these strategies. Flex credit will be earned.

The Faculty Book Club is currently reading the book titled “Say this, not that,” and encourages faculty to stimulate conversation about our students. It meets on three Fridays and faculty can earn 4.5 hours of flex credit.

VP - Finance – Lance Widman (LW)

No report. A. Martinez had a question about L.W’s last report from the previous meeting which was only a written report since there was not time to do a verbal one. A. Martinez wanted to know how the decision to go out for another bond was decided upon. LW said the Board of Trustees approved it. AM asked if there was any faculty input into that decision and LW said it come thru the Facilities Master Plan.

VP – Academic Technology – Pete Marcoux (PM)

A Student Technology Survey will be going out asking students how they use technology, what kind of technology are they using, and where they are using technology.

We will be holding a Technology Conference in the spring on Friday, March 29th. Vendors that will help the entire campus are being invited; i.e. Etudes. It is being sponsored by the non-profit organization called 20 Million Minds that is headed by Dean Flores who was a former state senator. The goal is to work with scholars to publish “open source” textbooks that will be on-line and free to students or entail a small fee to print non-copyrighted material. The governor has also signed a bill which included \$50 million to develop these “open source” materials. M. Ichinaga asked if anyone at ECC is being asked to develop these and it was reported that Bruce Peppard was creating material for English B and A.

ECC is finalizing a contract with a new Wi-Fi company that will start in the new building and then move throughout campus.

M. Ichinaga was wondering why we were having so many problems with the network being down so frequently. PM said they are in the process of moving all the servers and we must be patient until this project is completed. The final move is scheduled to occur the week after Thanksgiving and at that time the entire Colleague system will be shut down for the first time, so that should be interesting. It was noted that faculty do appreciate the improved communication with ITS regarding these shutdowns.

VP Instructional Effectiveness – Vacant (Christina Gold reporting)

No report.

Associated Students Organization – Simone Montague-Jackson

No report.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm

CJ/ECCFall2012

