



NOTES – AREA COUNCIL

November 12, 2019

Present: A. Ahmadpour, R. Galbavy, B. Giles, M. McMillan, A. Minasian, Z. Murdock, J. Rapoza, J. Shankweiler, D. Thompson

Guest: C. Martin

I. INFORMATION

Notes of April 23, 2019: Reviewed and approved as written.

II. DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Meta-majors & Guided Pathways: J. Shankweiler provided an update:

A handout of the meta-majors chart, similar to Flex Day, was reviewed. The Guided Pathways committee created a process for departments to appeal their placement in the meta-major structure. The five appeals presented and approved included: Economics, Art History, Administration of Justice, Fire Technology, and Communications. The color associations for the meta-major groups will be renamed and added to Program Mapper on the ECC website; see Bakersfield College website as an example. Business division is being used as a pilot this semester to determine if students are succeeding and will share their findings at a Summit in February.

J. Shankweiler clarified that meta-majors are similar to pre-majors and are designed to bring together commonalities within the first semester or year.

B. Reorganization:

J. Shankweiler opened up a discussion on whether ECC should reorganize the divisions to align with the meta-majors.

A. Ahmadpour: In favor of reorganization. Suggested having department chairs to assist deans, offer a survey, and hire a consultant for advice.

J. Shankweiler: A committee has been solicited through Academic Senate to include representatives from each division to discuss the topic of reorganization. In favor of some realignments in VP areas of Academic Affairs and Student Services that includes Special Resource Center, Health Center, Athletics, and competitive sports.

R. Galbavy: Physical space is not available in BSS to accommodate additional departments.

A. Minasian: Stated that opportunities for faculty collaboration is best for students.

D. Thompson: Suggested having breakout sessions at Spring Professional Development Day for open discussions.

M. McMillan: Suggested that we connect with other campuses to see what they are doing.

C. Accreditation:

Public forums taking place on each of the four Accreditation Standards. Drafts of the standards are posted on the Accreditation website; evidence links will take place at a later time. In March 2020, the entire document will be reviewed. Standard II includes academic programs, student support programs, and the Library. Any input is appreciated. Accreditation visit to take place on September 28, 2020.

D. Making Decisions Guide:

The Making Decisions Guide is being revised. J. Shankweiler explained that the Making Decisions Guide discusses how we make decisions on campus regarding annual planning, budgeting and consultation committees. Area Council is a consultation committee that was intended to serve as a conduit between the Division Council and the College Council. In order to strengthen Area Council, revisions may be needed that would include having more meetings throughout the year. J. Shankweiler encouraged the members to read the guide which can be found on the President's webpage or by typing "Making Decisions" in the search box. C. Escutia will email the document to the members.

E. Division Reports:

ASO Report: No report.

Behavioral & Social Sciences: R. Galbavy provided an update:

History professor, Daniel Walker, was invited as a guest speaker at the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Plenary Session. The Study Abroad program for Spanish and Ethnic Studies is going to Madrid in summer 2020. In final planning stages regarding trip to Ireland for an archeological dig in a friary. Psychology, Sociology and Human Development are planning two-year pathways for the upcoming adult school.

Business: B. Giles provided an update:

A Job Fair was held in October with over 600 participants attending. On 10/25 Cyber Day had 50 students attend along with guest speakers who spoke about cyber security, the Cyber Security program, and available jobs in the industry.

Classified: No report.

Fine Arts: A. Ahmadpour provided an update:

Several new courses approved for online delivery beginning in fall 2020: Data Storytelling, Individual Events (Forensics), and Acting for the Camera. Non-credit Adult Education Digital Arts Certificates and various new Certificates of Achievement in Acting, Film, Music and Dance are being developed.

Industry & Technology: No report.

Health Sciences & Athletics: J. Rapoza provided an update:

Student Health Services collaborated with Nursing and gave out over 400 flu shots. Special Resource Center has moved into the new Student Services Building and the new Educational Development Computer Lab is open. Rad Tech had a site visit in Fall 2019 and was found to be exemplary. Nursing will have their BRN accreditation visit in Fall 2020. The new Gymnasium is scheduled to open in December, which includes basketball, volleyball, yoga room, and offices. Cross Country finished second at the SCC Championships. Football is currently 6-2 and will most likely receive a bowl invitation. Soccer is ranked 7th in the state and will play against Cerritos for a conference championship. Men's water polo is 19-8 and will make the playoffs for the first time in over 15 years. Women's volleyball is 18-4 and co-champions.

Humanities: D. Thompson provided an update:

Writing Center is making changes that includes: updated posters and visuals to be more reflective of our student population; intake process changed to be more welcoming and friendly; and implementing a survey that students can take when leaving the Writing Center to find ways for improvement. The ECC newspaper, The Union, was recognized with a number of awards. The SITE team has been conducting workshops and brown bag meetings, attended the Strengthening Students Success Conference, and has been working with Student Equity and Professional Development.

Library Learning Resources: M. McMillan provided an update:

Physical updates and improvements have been ongoing in the Library. The Library Open House was successful, with over 300 students participating in the scavenger hunt. The migration to the new library system will take place in January.

Mathematical Sciences: A. Minasian provided an update:

Discussed plans to separate Differential Equations from Linear Algebra. Universities requiring that students choose one or the other course. Each course will be 5 units.

Natural Sciences: Z. Murdock provided an update:

Adding supplemental instruction sessions for the spring; Business 1A. Partnering with South Bay Workforce Industrial Board to participate in Bio-Flex, a pre-apprenticeship program for students to get experience in the local Bioscience industry.

III. Next Meeting:

April 28, 2020; 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.; Comm 109