



Senate Nanoseconds

What Faculty Need to Know

A concise summary of Senate business conducted at a Senate Board meeting. Complete minutes available on the PCC Website.

May 17, 2010 Senate Board Meeting

Visit from Bryan Ha, Membership and Advocacy Director of FACCC: Mr. Ha gave the statewide perspective on research, analysis, myths and realities that face community college education in California. A review of the May Revised Budget showed few changes to community colleges, but drastic cuts to Health and Human Services. College areas substantially affected include categorical funded areas and hiring (“freeze” is the norm). Mr. Ha emphasized that FACCC, the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, is the CC faculty’s voice in state government. It is the only state lobbying organization devoted solely to the concerns of community colleges. Mr. Ha stressed that “The Strong are Heard; the Weak Forgotten.” He then encouraged faculty to join FACCC: full time instructor dues are \$18/month and part time faculty dues, \$5/month. Mr. Ha noted that a new benefit for part time faculty members would be access to a group health insurance plan.

Distance Education (DE) Committee: DE Committee brought three recommendations to the Senate Board today. Two recommendations, #109: Teacher Load and #111: Intellectual Property Rights and Copyright) were passed by the Senate Board. A new recommendation was presented, #112: Course Quality Rubric. The DE recommendations are an integral part of the college’s response to the Accreditation Commission recommendation that the college insure the quality and integrity of our Distance Education program. The college’s response must be ready by October 15, 2010.

Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Ethics (CAFPE): CAFPE reviewed the current draft policy proposal on Time, Place and Manner. The committee proposed minor suggestions for improving the document, and the Senate Board will vote on the matter at its next meeting: June 7.

BOT/ Senate Faculty Lecture Performances: 2010 Award winning faculty Richard Kuller (Adjunct) and Rebecca Morris (Full-time) gave very inspiring performances showcasing their special talents and commitment to excellence in education. Mr. Kuller demonstrated his extraordinary skills and knowledge, giving us an insider’s view into preparing students for musical theater productions. Ms. Morris shared some of her creative insights into the origins of art that come from everyday perceptions. Her very entertaining and instructive presentation was entitled “Abstraction in the Everyday”.

Ten Senate Scholarships Designated: The Senate Scholarship Committee worked hard screening 60 student applicants for Senate scholarships. The Senate Board agreed to fund 10 scholarships, at \$1000 each, to the 10 highest ranked student applicants. A reception for winners is scheduled as indicated below in announcements.

Senate Board Call to Action: a letter will be sent to all faculty encouraging greater faculty involvement and leadership in Senate activities, curriculum development and review, the assessment of SLOs and overall institutional effectiveness.

Announcements:

1. Academic Senate Scholarship Reception: Monday, June 7, 2010, 2:30pm in the President’s Conference Room, C233, prior to the June 7 Senate Board meeting.
2. Academic Senate Retirement and Awards Breakfast: Friday, June 18, 2010, 7:30am in Creveling Lounge. Tickets are available at the Student Bank, B203, for \$15 each.