June 1, 2009 Senate Board Meeting

Budget Update/Concerns: The Board of Trustees asked administration to come up with budget scenarios of how to reduce 5%, 10%, etc. PCC has significant reserves, and may fare better than other colleges, but be prepared for significant belt tightening across the campus. Budget workshops are being planned and should be presented before the end of the school year.

Senate Ad Hoc SLO Committee: PCC’s Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) may soon be called “General Education Outcomes”. An effort is underway to revise the ILOs and their underlying competencies. The competencies clarify the meaning of the ILOs and provide language that will make it easier to assess the ILOs. See all faculty e-mail for more details. Please give us your feedback.

Faculty Technology Committee: The committee reported to the Senate Board the committee’s support for the creation of a new Chief Technology Officer (CTO) on campus. However, before the committee could support a process for moving forward on this matter, they asked the Senate to request from the administration a full report from Strata Information Group. The Committee felt the campus could not proceed in an effective and informed manner without access to the report and further discussion & evaluation of the report’s contents.

College Calendar Committee: The Senate Board agreed to accept two flex days for the 2010-2011 school calendar, with the provision that if ensuing flex days do not get the support of the shared governance groups, that one flex day could be rescinded by majority vote of the shared governance groups.

Faculty Sustainability Committee: One goal of the committee is to graduate students who are ecologically literate. Discussion has started in terms of incorporating sustainability “across the curriculum” at PCC.

Ad Hoc Title 5 Committee: Feedback from the Chancellor’s Office has created more work for the committee. Many majors will become “areas of emphasis”. There have been modest changes in the language of the various descriptions of the areas of emphasis, including more precise information on what such a course of study may mean in terms of transferability and future job options.

Campus No-Smoking Policy: The Senate Board supported moving the campus towards a no-smoking campus core, while providing specific designated smoking areas on the periphery.

Creating a College-Going Culture: A PCC/PUSD Retreat with this theme was held on Friday May 22 at All Saints Church. Discussion centered on how collaborations between the two school districts, with support from significant community groups, could help Pasadena create such a culture and positively impact college-going aspirations of a high percentage of students. We may have to start young to reach the students.

Student Activity Fee: The Board of Trustees is entertaining the possibility of a $6 activities fee for students. The fee would be paid by all students at registration, but it could be refunded at the student’s request. Some colleges already have fees in place ranging from $6-$18.

Announcements:
- Friday, June 19, 2009, 7:30-am to 9:30 am: Senate Retirement Breakfast, CEC, Jack Scott Multi-purpose room. Tickets: $15 at the Student Bank.
- Tuesday, June 23, 2009: Spring semester grades are due.