



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.

October 11, 2010 Academic Senate Board Meeting

College President's greeting: President Mark Rocha shared the good news that the State and the Board of Trustees passed their budgets last week. Along with no layoffs and no furloughs, a 2% growth is included. Also, innovation funding for the Student Access and Success Initiative (SASI) was approved. Possible changes in SB 1440 which affects the 60-unit Associate degrees will come through the Academic Senate. We have to meet the requirements of the law, but also meet the needs of faculty, staff, and students.

Ad Hoc Title 5 Committee: For Policy No. 4062 on the Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree, a section was added to the proposed policy to include sustainability across the curriculum. President Martinez stated that faculty have purview in areas in matters related to sustainability curriculum, whereas the administration directs issues related to water usage, gas, recycling, etc.

PCCFA Report: Roger Marheine and Martha Bonilla said negotiations have resumed, and they are asking for part time faculty hire-back rights and office hours, and a proposal for early retirement. ESL instructors will meet with the College President to discuss the issue of class size limits. Also, reference was made that 35% of campus classes are taught by part-timers, while 50% in Basic Skills are taught by part-timers.

Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Policy No. 3200 on Curriculum Development Adoption and Review refers to C&I's responsibility and authority for approving curriculum changes. Revisions to the policy were approved by C&I last spring

Funding for Executive Committee's Plenary Conferences: Plenary conference attendance is a vital way to stay current on resolutions and other issues that come from the Statewide Academic Senate. Our funding for conference attendance has been cut significantly, and we may require other funding sources to help us attend these important bi-yearly meetings.

Strategic Plan 2010-2012: the Academic Senate discussed specific Senate objectives related to the College's Strategic plan.

Board of Trustees Report: Congratulations to new Board of Trustee member, Linda Wah, who took the oath of office as Area 5 Trustee on October 6, 2010. Also, Ling O'Connor was recognized for winning a Green Leadership Award for sustainability efforts and environmental awareness, and Coach Dennis Gossard was recognized for his longstanding service with the football team. Additionally, the Board reviewed and forwarded the Accreditation Progress Report #2 to ACCJC, which refers to the newly approved Institutional Effectiveness Committee and a revised planning process.

Distance Education (D.E.) Committee: Alicia Vargas discussed two recommendations, D.E. 115A on the Student Grievance Process, and D.E. 115B on a Student Course Feedback Survey.

Announcements:

1. Sabbatical Committee Workshop: Thursday, October 21, (12:15-1pm) in Room C233.