



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.

September 12, 2011 Academic Senate Board Meeting

Public Comment—Jo Buczko announced the formation of a new committee on campus, C-PART, to deal with crisis prevention and intervention. Chris Fennessy, Associated Student, will be the AS representative to the Senate and announced a new A.S. website: as.pasadena.edu.

Enrollment Update—V.P. Bob Miller explained as PCC was over cap for FTEs, section offerings this semester were reallocated between Divisions with a net loss of seventeen sections this semester from fall 2010 course offerings. He also announced the reconvening of the Enrollment Management Committee (B. Miller and E. Martinez co-chairs) to deal with several important issues: to reallocate sections to develop and emphasize AA/AS degrees aligned with SB 1440 along with Pathways and Basic Skills courses that support the completion of these degrees; to examine student/Instructor ratios to determine where the greatest need for sections lies; to re-examine enrollment priority in managing the budgetary restrictions.

Budget Update—V.P. Rick van Pelt reviewed the projected budget for 2011-12 that he described as “austere” with a projected shortfall of 2.142 million due to a possible reduction to state revenues. This shortfall will trigger automatically a ten-dollar increase per unit beginning Summer 2012. His projected budget will be posted online September 13th. Concern was voiced over the use of end of year surpluses, recorded for the past few years, and the millions of dollars saved by early retirements.

Executive Committee Recommendations—Matthew Jordon was ratified as chairperson of C&I; Krista Walter was appointed as faculty co-chair of the Calendar Committee; Martha Bonilla was appointed as Chairperson to the Shared Governance Committee; Janis Dwyer & Michelle Ireland-Galman were appointed as the new co-chairs of the Ralph Story & Unsung Hero Awards Committee.

Senate President's Report—Two PCC majors (Psychology and Sociology), aligned with SB 1440, have been approved with several more majors to follow. Joe Futtner is now the interim Dean of VAMS. The E&T Division is in the process of reorganizing itself. The hiring process begun last year has been completed with all first choice candidates for faculty positions approved.

Senate V.P. Report—Board of Trustees outlined ten goals for the year: realignment of college units and administration, technology, alignment of class schedule with AA degrees in majors, Basic Skills revision, CTE program development, enrollment for in-district students, sustainability, revenue enhancement, compliance, professional development for faculty & staff. Increasing sections availability is also a high priority for the Board.

Announcements—In October, Marine Biology students will provide tours of the campus aquariums; Lynn Wright will lead a “Syllabus Redesign” workshop at El Camino College. Academic Rank applications will be out soon. Beverly Tate led a successful new faculty orientation and Faculty Mentors are needed. PCC art gallery is presently exhibiting work by faculty. PCCFA will have a members meeting this Thursday at noon in C-333 with contract reopeners and budget on the agenda.