Title 5 Changes – Edward Martinez presented a summary of Title 5 changes that involve issues of curriculum, degree and certificate requirements, and grading policies. These are issues under the purview of the Academic Senate. The Senate will begin to address changes in policy through the C&I Committee.

College Coordinating Council – Jim Bickley reported that Stuart Wilcox presented an update on “collegiality and integrity” on campus. This is in response to needs identified by the last accreditation visit. Jim also reported that at the CCC, the Classified Senate spoke in favor of a mentoring process for classified employees.

Educational Strategic Plan – Kay Dabelow announced that the Plan was now available.

Treasury Issues – Ahni Armstrong presented information on the status of the Senate’s financial status: $9091 is available in the general fund; $253,743 is available in the scholarship fund. Ahni shared information on last year’s end of year retiree’s breakfast. 140 individuals attended. Total receipts were $1395; total expenses were $4529, with a resulting cost to the Senate General Fund of $3134.

Union Report – Roger Marheine and Richard Beyer presented a brief report on the recent election to determine a bargaining unit for faculty. The Pasadena City College Faculty Association won. CTA and PFA are now in the process of transitioning from one organization to the other. PFA has chosen an interim board, adopted a constitution, informed the IRS of its non-profit status, etc. No elections are likely to take place until the spring semester. Contrary to a report in the Courier, there is no plan to affiliate with AFT.

Ed. Policies & Academic Freedom and Professional Ethics Committees- Jim Bickley reported that the following items are in discussion: Class Overlap policy – this is to examine, pedagogically and within the context of the new Title 5 regulations, PCC’s procedures for dealing with students who petition to overlap classes. Distance Education – some faculty have raised questions about inequities in regard to office hours, assignments, student contacts, etc., when a course is offered in a distance education mode. The Program Discontinuance policy may be modified to address some concerns raised by Career and Technical Education. The proposed Time, Place, and Manner Policy and the proposed Electronic Resources Policy both continue in discussion. Dr. Perfumo has indicated that she may look to see if the California Community College League has any guidelines as to how we should proceed on these issues.

Executive Committee Recommendations - Approval of Jeff Rudisill to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee representing Communication and Performing Arts, Sharokh Bastani to the Faculty Technology Committee, Eric Hanson and Tom Neiderer to the Faculty Technology Committee, and Naomi Garcia to Standard IIIA and Paul Martin to Standard IIIC Accreditation Writing Group. All were approved.

What to Do – Richard Beyer of the Psychological Services Office presented a new short publication, a “Guide for Faculty.” The brochure addresses issues of student conduct, as well as information on the rights and limitations of students with disabilities, including hidden disabilities like psychological problems; how to deal with students that present abnormal behaviors; and how to work with the resources of the psych services office. Richard asked the Senate to review the brochure before it is printed and circulated to faculty and staff. He also presented a model syllabus with wording on disability issues that individual faculty members might want to incorporate into their own syllabi.

Fundraising Events - The Academic Senate voted to cosponsor a Halloween party with the Classified Senate on 10/31 from 12 noon to 3pm in the tent located in the commons area. All faculty and staff are invited. The Academic Senate is also sponsoring a Dessert and Ceramics Workshop – with Jim Gonzalez on 11/16 from 6 pm to 8 in Z100, $35. Everyone will get dessert, coffee, and the chance to produce a ceramic object d’art.

SB832 – the Senate Board voted to support this legislation that requires publishers to clearly disclose their textbook prices and to inform faculty of the changes that occur from one edition to another. A fax will be sent to Governor Schwarzenegger asking him to sign this bill that is currently on his desk.

College Budget – Vice President Kindred Murillo gave an in-depth and clearly delineated overview of the PCC budget recently adopted by the Board of Trustees. Copies of the presentation are available in the Senate office. V.P. Murillo also indicated that the Resource Allocation Committee will play a greater role than in the past in budget matters.