Senate Seconds – 5/12/2008

1. **Ad Hoc Title 5 Changes Committee** – Edward Martinez reported that an open forum has been held on the various changes mandated by Title 5 revisions. The forum was held on 4/22; another is scheduled for 5/13. The Committee has produced first draft revisions to policies #3200 (Curriculum Development), #4500 (Grading, Course Repetition), and #4600 (Degrees, Certificates, etc.) A revision is still needed for #4700 (Probation and Dismissal). Policy revisions for 4500 and 4600 are currently under consideration by the Academic Senate Board. Policy 3200 is under review by the C&I Committee. Based on input from faculty, especially from the Counseling Division, a second draft of proposed changes to the AA degree will soon be available. First drafts of new proposed majors will be available as well.

2. **PCCFA** – Roger Marheine reported that elections are currently in process to elect new leadership for the union. All faculty who are members of the union should have received a ballot. Union leaders continue to research options for future negotiations including healthcare for part-timers and early retirement alternatives. The new independent union may face a lawsuit from the state CTA which claims that we owe them for their past services.

3. **Educational Policies Committee** – Jim Bickley reported that work continues on course overlap issues. At the present, PCC students are not permitted to register for any classes that overlap in time. Jim explained that per Title 5, overlap is permitted; the policy approved by the senate last fall restricted overlap to 1/8 of class time. Since verification from faculty is required that time has been made up by a student, a process for holding verification forms in case of audit is being discussed; division deans are being consulted.

4. **Career and Technical Education Committee** – Shelley Gaskin presented a report from the committee that indicated that progress has been made on 1. Standardizing the process for awarding a vocational certificate. 2. Establishing a tracking mechanism for student pursuing a certificate. 3. The first annual CTE Day was a great success. The Committee sought and received the Senate Board’s approval to continue work on this year’s goals and to approve next year’s CTE Day.

5. **Academic Senate Scholarship Committee** – Joanne Kim reported that the committee received 49 applications for scholarships. She indicated that a broader range of students have applied than in the past, including many students with hardships. Six students were chosen to receive Dean’s Honors- Edna Plummer Scholarships; six students have received Keith Miller Educational Scholarships. The Senate Board voted to award all recipients to the amount of $2000 each. Recipients will be recognized before the next Senate Board meeting on 6/2 at 2pm in C233. All faculty and staff are invited to this recognition event. Refreshments will be provided.

6. **Executive Committee Recommendations** – Request for Funds: Academic Senate Breakfast at $5,000, Scholarship Reception at $200, and Academic Senate Scholarships at $2,000 each. Appoint Bianca Richards as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Certificate Earners’ Participation in Graduation. Sent to Committee: recommended by-laws changes on creation of committees and senate expenditures. All were approved.

7. **Third Party Technology Assessment** – VP Kindred Murrillo and Carrie Blinn of Strata Information Group presented their plan to assess the state of technology on campus. Strata Information Group will be sending out a survey and conducting forums so that faculty and staff have the opportunity to provide input on the question “What do we want from technology?”

8. **Campus Sustainability** – Rick Van Pelt provided an extensive overview of the many efforts on campus to create a sustainable, “green” environment. A campus-wide committee is working to form a “green definition” for PCC and to report on progress and goals. Much work on sustainability has already been accomplished, including: a highly efficient energy management system, efficient light systems, efficient pool heating system, preparation for photovoltaic energy, new insulated windows on some buildings, efficient irrigation systems, intensive recycling efforts, and many others.

8. **Excellence in Academic Libraries Award** – Judy Ohye reminded faculty and staff that the PCC Library will be formally presented with this award on Tuesday, 5/13 at 12:15. An ice cream social will follow.

9. **Announcements:**