

DVC
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE
321 Golf Club Road
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

**FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2015
APPROVED**

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and SB 751, minutes of the DVC Faculty Senate Council record the votes of all committee members as follows: Members in attendance will have their votes recorded including names of members voting in the minority or abstaining is recorded.

PRESENT: Beth McBrien (President), John Freytag (Vice President), Peter Churchill (Corresponding Secretary), Cheryl Carter (Counseling), Patrick Moe (Applied and Fine Arts), Carolyn Seefer (Business), Theresa Flores-Lowery (Kinesiology), Buzz Holt (Social Sciences), Marva DeLoach (Library), Barbara Hewitt (Biology/ Health Sciences), David Vela (English), James Magee (Math/Computer Science), Joe Krivicich (Physical Sciences), René Sporer (SRC), Valerie Colber (Part-time Faculty), Muhammed Gheith (Part-time Faculty)

ABSENT: Katrina Keating (Rep-at-large)

GUESTS: Becky Opsata, Rick Robison, Rachel Westlake

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 10, 2015 AND THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2015.

It was MSC to approve the agenda of November 10, 2015 as revised. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Keating, Churchill, Holt, Flores-Lowry, Carter, Seefer, DeLoach, Hewitt, Vela, Magee, Moe, Krivicich, Sporer, Colber, and Gheith. No nays. No abstentions. Approved.

The minutes of October 27, 2015 were not ready for review.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. COUNCIL COMMENT

Holt thanked Seefer for researching and pulling together a lot of information about the Canvas LMS.

Holt reminded Council they need to be careful about discussing senate business via emails per the Brown Act. He said if information is sent out from a Council member, it needs to go to all faculty.

Seefer read several statements from members of her division about safety concerns on campus:

Skateboards/Bikes

- Skateboarding and smoking on campus are two issues that have been a BIG concern of mine! I have been very close to getting hit by skateboarders and glad to see this being addressed. It is very scary and after my shoulder surgery, the last thing I need is to fall again
- I have noticed the increase in skateboard and bike traffic too – and had to jump out of the way a couple of times, especially on Broadway.
- I have also noticed skateboarders on campus and very recently one was repeatedly jumping down the stairs by the cafeteria.
- Not a problem if they are courteous and safe. Campus police should cite and \$ fine those that are reckless or unsafe in the operation of either. Confiscate the item until they pay the fine. Student government can be a body to handle appeals.

Smoking

- The smoking in front of BFL is a nightmare and certainly not the image the college wants to project. I have guest speakers entering campus and they have to go through the smokers, even for my 8 a.m. classes. Very unhealthy situation for all.
- LMC has designated smoking areas in locations that are not directly in front of college entrances. With the day care in close proximity to the BFL entrance off Lot 7, perhaps move the smoking area over toward the path leading down to Lot 8, closer to the handicap parking.
- As to the cigarettes and other trash that adorn the entrance ways to the campus - particularly in front of BFL, BFL CCC, and Humanities - I suggest the college buy large hand-held vacuums (not blowers) to start sucking-up the junk. Two to four should do nicely. Buildings and Grounds people should then be assigned early EVERY morning, 5 days a week to vacuum the entrance areas.
- New signs designating the campus as "non-smoking" should be installed at all ingress points, large and high enough off the ground so certain student citizens cannot easily tear them down as they have done in the past.
- I have been disturbed by the number of students who smoke wherever they wish and not in designated areas. I spoke to a student one time about not smoking so close to the BFL classrooms and he just glared at me and continued to smoke. Police Services doesn't seem to be enforcing the rules. The number of vapor smokers has increased and they seem to blow much more smoke than regular cigarettes.
- I am in agreement with you about having to wade through a cloud of smoke at the BFL entrance to campus. If we are going to allow smoking on campus, we need to designate a location *out of the way of other people* so nonsmokers do not have to breathe the smoky air as they make their way around campus. Otherwise, ban smoking all together.

Safety

- Another topic I would like to see addressed is classroom access and security. Has anyone looked into the locks for classroom doors similar to what are standard in most K-12 schools? You have to use a key, but can lock the door from the inside. After the many school/college shootings, being able to secure a classroom is vital.
- With the escalating frequency of gun incidents on college campuses, I am concerned that the BFL building is one of the most vulnerable buildings on campus for an attack because it is so close to the parking lot. I think we need to increase the obvious presence of campus security near the entrances of the campuses, particularly where classrooms are so close to the parking lot. With the number of people moving in and out at high traffic times and the short distance from parking lot to building, I do not see how one person observing can be adequate. I HATE the idea of airport type of security. Students are not criminals and neither are we. We need a way to filter traffic without hindering free movement and without going to a gestapo-like atmosphere. Can we somehow create a 100-foot-long corridor for entering personnel where security can observe for possible weapons? I do not want to see our bags inspected like the entrance to sporting events. Most attacks have not been with handguns. Rifle-like weapons cannot easily be concealed in shoulder bookbags or purses. We need to work campuswide on developing creative solutions that respect the collegiate atmosphere of a college campus.

NOTE: The feedback above was received from both full-time and adjunct faculty.

Moe said his department would like to know when more information on Measure E projects and next steps will come to this body.

Colber commented that there is a lack of consistency on enforcement of college policies. She said she has had a lot of international students have to leave the country in the middle of a semester, but they are not following the policies or procedures for a leave. She would like this as an agenda item for discussion.

DeLoach commented that the Library has had issues with skateboards. Not only is it a college policy but a policy of the library. However, when they called police services they said they could not enforce the policy.

4. APPOINTMENTS

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Patrick Moe announced the DVC Speech and Debate Team went to a competition at the University of the Pacific and took first and second in the parliamentary debate, and second overall.

Vela said there will be a brief ceremony on Wednesday at 9am by the flagpole to honor our veterans for Veteran's day. He said the Governing Board will also acknowledge veterans at their meeting this week.

6. FACULTY HIRING TRAINING

Joe Gorga, one of the three current trainers for the hiring workshops, told Council the part-time and full-time faculty hiring workshops have been combined. It is a two hour workshop that faculty on hiring committees must take every three years. He said if a faculty member is current on one but not the other, they must take the whole combined workshop. He added that a lot of faculty are out of date on training for part-time hiring.

Gorga said they are starting to do trainings for whole divisions at once. Eventually the training will also be available online.

Churchill asked why an oceanography professor is teaching the hiring workshops. It was explained that a couple years ago it was decided to have a designated trainer for SRC and Gorga said he was willing to do it. The trainers discipline is not relevant to conducting these workshops.

Freytag asked if faculty have to also take the diversity training. Westlake said they do because they are different trainings. The diversity training is done by the district and covers strategies to recruit and hire diverse candidates. The hiring training is done by the colleges and covers a lot of the legal aspects and the routine nuts and bolts of the hiring process.

7. CANVAS/OEI

McBrien told Council if we decide to go with the Canvas LMS, then we will have to decide if we are going to join the OEI. If we join the OEI, individual instructors can decide if they want to put their course in the OEI, and they need to keep in mind if it will open opportunities for our students. Also the DE Committee has done a lot of research on this and we need to be respectful when they are providing information.

Seefer added that Council members have an obligation to do the research also for our disciplines. She said this impacts everything we do in teaching

Opsata said they researched all the questions they heard from Council and put together a PowerPoint to answer them.

Mario Tejada reviewed the PowerPoint with Council. The presentation covered concerns that have been expressed, and justifications from the DE for endorsing Canvas. The main concerns were the question about tools for testing in math, the discussion boards, copyright and intellectual property issues, and we are rushing this decision. Tejada reviewed the information they gathered to address the concerns.

Holly Kresch commented that the issues with the math tools work ok although they are limited to 5 digits the division is ok with it.

Tejada distributed copies of the contract we currently have with D2L. He said our contract is expiring and they will only do a one year extension. They will not do a 6 month contract so there will be some overlap time of D23L and Canvas. The one year extension is expensive but we will save money in the first year of a Canvas contract.

Council members commented on the OEI piece of the decision. Seefer expressed concerns about Instructure's IPO filing because the financials show growing losses every year. She said her biggest concern is the discussion board. She said at the demonstration it raised a red flag for that not that much information was given about their discussion board. She sees a lot of limitations to using it as opposed to D2L. Tejada said her concerns about the discussion board are more of a process question. He said they researched the technical aspects of the program. She added that the program asks students for donations when they log on and that is inappropriate.

Skapura clarified that this is the research they have done so far and they are continuing to do more.

Carter asked about the discussion on the OEI. Freytag reminded Council they had decided to address the adoption of Canvas first and talk about the OEI later.

Carter commented that if we don't choose canvas it could impact our enrollment as we would not be able to participate in the OEI.

Hewitt said the email section is kind of funky. Also there is no rich text editor. And you can't combine sections. One other concern she has is that they say they update every three weeks. Many people may not have the current version of the software needed for the Canvas upgrade. Hewitt said there are very limited visual functions to make your pages look "pretty".

Magee wondered if the Administration says some sections need to be on OEI to help enrollment. McBrien reminded him it is an academic and professional matter so the faculty would be involved in any discussion like that. Holt commented that yes, the state is giving us money for this but he sees it as another way to standardize the state community college system. He also wants to know who will be evaluating the courses.

McBrien informed Council that CCC has already endorsed going to Canvas. Skapura told Council the DE endorsed Canvas based on the questions and answers they had at the time. He does realize the concerns about math. He said we could get together with other colleges and ask the state to make the needed changes. He does see that this LMS virtually leaves out the sciences.

Seefer, in response to Magee's question, said it is up to the instructor if they want to put a class in the OEI. That course is attached to that instructor so another instructor can't just step in.

Freytag commented that the state chancellor's office had a lot of smart and knowledgeable people looking at and that included 9 faculty. At the Plenary session there was a lot of conversation about the state steering committee are not bad people and have the same questions and concerns as we do. He did say one thing that came up at Plenary was that a college that is already using Canvas received an offer to purchase a premium package and no one had heard of it. Skapura responded that the premium package is included in our quote from them.

Opsata said the information they are providing does not cover the good things about Canvas. She said it's free the first year, students like it, it won't go down as much as D2L, and we'll have 24/7 support. She added that one reason the state went with it is because the students in the group supported it.

Donna Wapner asked to get clarity on the contract and bring it to the UF for review. She is also concerned about increases in cost. She gave the example of Anthem coming in with a great price but have since increased their costs quite a bit. And she asked if we shouldn't take more time in making this decision. Opsata said if we wait we would lose the one year overlap.

Moe asked if there is comparable language about property rights in the D2L contract. He does not want us to make a decision based on fear, not facts.

Seefer said she recommends taking the free @ONE course to learn how to teach using Canvas.

Skapura stated that if we continue with D2L and the rest of the state goes to Canvas, why would students take our classes.

8. STUDENT EQUITY PLAN

Newin Orante and Mark Akiyama distributed the draft Student Equity Plan to Council. Orante told Council this is the state has required this plan. He said it is due to the state on December 18 but recent changes were made so they have had to go back to comply with the changes.

Orante reviewed the history of the Student Equity plan back to legislation in 1991. He also pointed out the Student Success act funds student equity and 3SP. He reviewed the groups that must be addressed in the Plan. He said one new group is current and former foster youth.

Akiyama reviewed the history of the template from the state and the changes made this year. He said it now requires more detail, and is moving towards accountability. It is improved but requires a lot of work. He reviewed the sections of the plan that include a summary, planning, indicators, initiatives, the budget, and the timeline for evaluation and the process.

Akiyama went over the budget information. He said last year was the first year we got funds from the state for this. This year the amount is much greater, double last year's. He said one problem is we just received the figures a few days ago and now we have to include in the plan how we will use the increased funds. He said we are allowed to carry over funds into the next fiscal year. He also said we have to follow state guidelines on eligible expenditures. He said we are carrying over the activities that they started last year and we still have some uncommitted money.

Orante said we don't know how much funding will be provided in the future but hopefully we can institutionalize these activities in case the money goes away. He reviewed the process for allocating the money and connecting the activities to our Strategic Goals.

Akiyama reviewed the five indicators we will use to evaluate the activities. They are Access, retention, basic skills completion, degree and certificate completion and the transfer rates of the specified student populations.

Orante said they want to do some education for the college about what sorts of activities can be funded and help stimulate ideas for innovations. Akiyama added that we need a streamlined process for requesting funds to consistently support innovation.

Orante said this year they are focusing on evaluation for accountability but also because it is the right thing to do for our students.

McBrien said this will come back on the next agenda as an action item.

9. VP INSTRUCTION

This item was postponed due to time constraints.

10. REPORT ON THE PLENARY SESSION AND COLLEGE COUNCIL MATTERS

This item was postponed due to time constraints.

11. ASC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This item was postponed due to time constraints.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Langelier-Patton
Administrative Secretary*