



**FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 24, 2010  
APPROVED**

**PRESENT:** Laurie Lema (President), Keith Mikolavich (Vice President), Marva DeLoach (Library), Rick Godinez (San Ramon Campus), Katrina Keating (Math/Computer Science), Peter Churchill (Business Education), Catherine Machalinski (Biology and Health sciences), Steve Ward (Physical Education, Athletics and Dance), Becky Opsata (Applied and Fine Arts), Buzz Holt (Social Sciences), Craig Gerken (Physical Science/Engineering) Nicole Hess-Diestler (Representative-at-Large), Lisa Orta (Faculty Development Coordinator), Doug Dildine (Part-time Faculty Representative), Len Grzanka (Part-time Faculty Representative), Ann Patton (Faculty Senate Administrative Secretary)

**ABSENT:** Counseling Representative (TBD), ASDVC Representative (TBD)

**GUESTS:** Patrick Leong, Lupe Dannels, Susan Lamb

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 24, 2010 AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2010.**

**It was MSC to approve the agenda of August 24, 2010. All in favor. Approved.**

**It was MSC to approve the minutes of August 11, 2010 with corrections. All in favor. Approved.**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. COUNCIL COMMENT**

Lema explained this item was added to the Agenda to allow Council members to make comments on issues that are not on the current agenda. There will be no discussion on the comments but the issue could be placed on a future agenda.

A. Gerken said he had a discussion with a member of his division about timing of the Box 2A Process. In previous years divisions were notified by December of which disciplines got the hires. The current process considers Program Reviews. But they are due in December and the feedback will not be available until March or April which is very late to post positions that would start the next Fall.

B. Orta commented that faculty needs to acknowledge the impact the workforce cuts are having on areas of the college. She said we need to pay attention to the areas of deficiencies for when we do get a decent budget back. She told Council the Staff Development Office has lost all administrative support and she has to compromise the standards of the Program.

C. Freytag read an excerpt from an article on the achievement gap. Mourshed, M. & Whelan, F. "How to Close the Achievement Gap" Newsweek August 23 & 30, 2010: 35

*"All over the world, your chances of success in school and life depend more on your family circumstances than on any other factor. By age three, kids with professional parents are already a full year ahead of their poorer peers. They know twice as many words and score 40 points higher on IQ tests. By age 10, the gap is three years. By then, some poor children have not mastered basic reading and math skills, and many never will: this is the age at which failure starts to become irreversible."*

*“A few school systems seem to have figured out how to erase these gaps.....First, get children into school early.....Second, recognize that the average kid spends about half his waking hours up until the age of 18 outside of school-don't ignore that time.....Third, pour lots of effort into training teachers.....Finally, recognize the value of individuated attention, In Finland, kids who start to struggle receive one-on-one support from their teachers. Roughly one in three Finnish students also gets extra help from a tutor each year. If we can learn the lesson of what works, we can build on it.”*

#### **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Lema announced Chancellor Benjamin will be at the Pleasant Hill campus the following day, August 25, to discuss the process for hiring a permanent president. She said she is not sure if there will be an opportunity to provide feedback on the values and qualities we want in a president at this meeting.

B. Lema announced a retirement reception for Judy Walters is scheduled on September 28 from 3:30-5:30 in the Norseman.

C. Lema announced the Dinner Theater is scheduled on opening night of Cabaret on October 15. She encouraged everyone to attend and bring their colleagues, families, and friends.

D. Lema reminded Council that they can donate money to the Faculty Senate Voluntary Fund through payroll deductions. She said the Voluntary Fund helps support the Dinner Theater, the Faculty Lecturer, the Retirement Dinner, and other things such as scholarships. She explained they can split their donation between the Voluntary Fund and the Legal Defense Fund. The LDF was developed to pay off legal expenses from the lawsuit and for any future legal needs.

E. Lema announced The DVC Foundation is interested in providing money for a speaker series. Cindy Goga, Foundation Director will come to a Senate meeting to discuss it with Council. Lema said this is a good opportunity to utilize our Arts and Lectures Committee.

F. Orta announced an Evaluation Process Workshop is scheduled for the following day, August 25 from 4-6 pm. There are three more scheduled this semester. They are listed on the Staff Development page where you can register. She reminded faculty need to track themselves to make sure they receive training every three years.

G. Hess-Diestler announced the Drama Department always tries to select productions that are relevant to DVC courses. She said they present matinees for the high schools and they save seats for DVC students. The cost is \$5.00. She asked Faculty to let the Drama Department know which shows students would be most likely to attend so they can reserve the seats.

#### **5. APPOINTMENTS**

##### **Faculty Development Committee**

Helen DeMarco, Nutrition  
Florence Espiritu, Library  
Kris Koblik, Art History  
Lisa Orta (SD Coordinator)  
Neal Skapura, p/t faculty  
Julie Walters, Math SRVC

##### **Integration Council**

Peter Churchill, Business

##### **College Council**

Nancy Deason, Disability Support Services

##### **Institutional Planning Committee**

Judy Myers, English

### **Facilities Committee**

John Rodriquez, Physics

### **College President Hiring Committee**

John Freytag, Biological Sciences

Marva DeLoach, Library

Jennifer Tejada, Speech SRC

### **Tutoring Advisory Committee**

Tamar Baskind, English

**It was MSC to approve all the appointments listed above. All in favor. Approved.**

## **6. DVC PRESIDENTS' TRANSITION**

Lema explained to Council a voluntary collection of funds is being done to purchase a retirement gift for President Walters. She said funds will be pooled from all constituencies for one gift. She asked Council if they would approve a donation from the Faculty Senate Voluntary Fund. Council discussed how much to donate and requested some additional information before deciding upon a dollar amount.

Lema explained a reception is being planned for Peter Garcia. The date has not been set but it will be within his first few days here. She suggested Faculty contribute out of the Senate Voluntary Fund to cover refreshments. Council agreed.

## **7. SEARCH FOR THE NEXT DVC PRESIDENT**

Council reviewed a draft list of values we would like to see in our next college president. The list also included some suggestions from the Counseling Division whose representative could not attend this meeting.

Ward said the PE Division wants someone who would be supportive of a student's whole college experience.

Hess-Diestler suggested we specify they have experience not just teaching but teaching at the college level.

Churchill suggested they have an understanding of California Ed Code.

Gerken said their vision for the college is important.

Holt said the culture of the college is not new but is well established and we should not admit that it is fragile.

Grzanka said we need to include something about addressing the current budget situation.

Opsata said we need someone with management experience with large groups.

Godinez suggested rewording the item about the college culture since we are in a transition.

Keating said experience in a large college in a multi-college district to the values, and also a respect and understanding of the Faculty Senate.

Lamb cautioned that there are only so many large college districts in California.

Council discussed how to organize and bring these ideas forward.

Lema polled the Council and summarized the priorities are student learning, understanding of the role of the senate, collaboration, accreditation, and budget. She said this will be back on the next agenda and suggested a small subcommittee to work on the full list and bring it back. Council agreed the subcommittee should include the hiring committee faculty representatives.

## **8. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

Council reviewed a draft motion on the action steps to support the Strategic Directions based on the discussion at the Senate Flex workshop.

Lema reminded Council we are talking about Basic Skills throughout the curriculum, not just Basic Skills classes.

Mikolavich said we need to agree on what we mean by Basic Skills in this context so we are all operating on the same definition.

Dannels informed Council of the legal definition of a basic skills student versus a basic skills student in other classes.

Machalinski suggested using the term skills instead of basic skills in this context.

Freytag said we should look at deficiencies versus barriers.

Mikolavich commented our purpose is to be more inclusive and we want to focus on the deficiencies in all our classes including the Basic Skills students.

Hess-Diestler said there are students that test into Basic Skills classes but at the same time they take other classes where they should have finished the Basic Skills levels first.

Keating said in her division part of the problem is the lack of pre-requisites.

Lamb commented the State Senate President said last year they are looking at the pre-requisites. There was a study that showed many students not succeeding in higher level courses if they have not completed the basic skills classes.

Machalinski asked about getting the money to do these things. Lema said it could be through the Program Review process.

Opsata suggested having standardized things in every class such as citation formats.

Machalinski said we should discuss standardized grade distribution since now grading standards differ from teacher to teacher, department to department, and division to division.

Lema said this will be on the next agenda as an action item and told Council to get more feedback.

Mikolavich stated the Council would get more done on these issues if we did not start with critiquing what's been done but to start more constructively.

## **9. FOUNDATIONS FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS**

Dannels, FCS Chair, told Council the Basic Skills Program has some money that can be used for specific things. She said the FCS met with the TAC last spring after the TAC agreed amongst themselves, Basic Skills would be one of their principal focuses. She explained the FCS spoke with tutor support personnel, and then a tutoring inquiry group and they will be continuing this process.

Dannels reminded Council the TAC has gone through some revamping and representatives are needed. She said the Basic Skills Committee is becoming more of a work group.

Dannels said the Reading Apprentice Institute was very good. It is continuing through this fall. She said they are also working on more integration between Student Services and Instruction for referring students to areas of support such as Tutoring.

Leong said the English Department received a grant through the FCS for a textbook package that includes a code for no extra charge that allows students access to self-paced help.

Keating cautioned that when publisher bundles something for free, a student who buys a used book, then needs to buy the code.

Freytag asked if the codes can be purchased for a lab. Leong said they are only for individuals. Dannels said that is something that could be explored though.

## **10. VICE-PRESIDENT OF INSTRUCTION**

Lamb informed Council people can put an endowment in their wills for DVC.

Lamb told Council the scantrons for the new evaluation process are done, however the scanners cannot read them but that will be fixed. She said the new forms are on the "U" drive and the UF site, and the old forms need to be thrown out.

Lamb said the Program Reviews will start this semester. She said the Senate Task Force worked on changes to the forms based on feedback. There will be workshops where faculty can get help with Program Reviews or actually work on them.

Lamb told Council last year she had a situation with a faculty member that had been pressured to change a grade and after the semester he allowed student to do additional work and then changed the grade. This year she had a situation where a student applied for a degree and had D's or F's in a couple of required classes. The instructor then submitted a grade change and they told her that the student can now get their degree because they changed the grade. She would like to discuss Academic Integrity in these types of situations with Council.

Grzanka said he tells his students in his syllabus that they will get the grade they deserve and to not pressure him to change a grade, and that if they can't make the grade or want to do the work, they shouldn't take the class.

Opsata said faculty need to be reminded this is discrimination to the other students in their classes.

Lema asked if this comes up in Nexus. She said that would be a place to start faculty out on the right track. Lamb commented that in her examples, these were experienced instructors. She said she wants to trust instructor integrity but she knows it happens. She would like some way to bring awareness across the board on this.

Hess-Diestler said in the Reading Apprentiship, and the Millennial presentation, they learned that the generation that we are dealing with now has grown up doing things this way and the presentations gave ways to address them. She said she sees no problem with holding an instructor to what they put in their syllabus.

Machalinski commented that it is a culture at this college and it may take a culture shift.

Churchill said if an instructor does not have it in writing, they've got nothing. He said he has been harassed by students for this type of thing.

Lema reminded Council instructors can contact Bill Oye if a student is harassing or pressuring them.

## **11. FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

This item was postponed due to time constraints.

## **12. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Lema reported the College Council has received the draft of the Accreditation Follow-up Report. She shared with Council a statement that was given to the College Council saying the next step is to determine the report accurately reflects accept continuing implementation of what we said we would do in the Show Cause Report. If Council agrees the report is accurate, then we would vote to accept the report. Lema said we are looking at the report as a whole, we are not wordsmithing. She said she will send the Draft report out to all faculty and she will also ask the Accreditation co-chairs of work groups 1, 2, and 3 to provide some feedback.

Lema reported the College Council was given the draft Handbook on College Committees. She told Council she sent them both the updated document and the one with track changes so they can see where changes were made. She said the changes were made by President Walters and Ted Wieden based on the survey results.

Mikolavich said he is concerned with the process and how the decisions were made on what to change. Lema said she was told the committees' self-assessment surveys results were given more weight than the college community survey results. She said next time we conduct a survey of college-wide committees we need a process and it should be more transparent.

Council briefly discussed the college community survey results and questioned why the changes did not reflect the large number of survey comments that said there are too many committees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Ann Langelier-Patton*  
*Administrative Secretary*