



FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2012

APPROVED

PRESENT: Laurie Lema (President), Beth McBrien (Vice President), Milagros Ojermark (Applied and Fine Arts), John Freytag (Corresponding Secretary), Nicole Hess-Diestler (Representative-at-Large), Buzz Holt (Social Sciences), Tom Barber (English), Marva DeLoach (Library), Craig Gerken (Physical Science/Engineering), Katrina Keating (Math/CompSci), Peter Churchill (Business Education), Catherine Machalinski (Biology and Health Sciences), Maria Dorado (Counseling), Theresa Flores-Lowry (Physical Education, Athletics and Dance), Doug Dildine (Part-time Faculty Representative), Ann Patton (Faculty Senate Administrative Secretary)

ABSENT: Lisa Orta (Faculty Development Coordinator)

GUESTS: Susan Lamb

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF APRIL 10, 2012, AND THE MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2012.

It was MSC to approve the agenda of April 10, 2012 with revisions. All in favor. Approved.

It was MSC to approve the minutes of March 27, 2011 with corrections. All in favor. Approved.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. COUNCIL COMMENT

Holt asked Council if anyone had heard any follow-up about the recent suicide of one of our international students. He said he is concerned about international students that are under great pressure to get into a UC and often are asking for grades to help them do so.

4. APPOINTMENTS

None.

Lema reminded Council to let her know if they will not be returning on the Senate Council next year. She also asked that any faculty not returning to the college governance committees to let her know ASAP so she can find replacements before they start meeting in the fall.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dorado said the State Chancellor's Office just published online the AB 540 application for available financial aid. These are available for non-resident students who have been here for a while and have completed a California high school degree. There are BOG waivers, EOP funding, and CalGrants available to them.

Keating said the UF is helping to gather signatures for a proposed November ballot measure sponsored by Susan Bonilla for a compromise tax measure. Keating said if anyone wants to help gather signatures to contact the UF Office.

Lema announced the Faculty Lecture is scheduled on Wednesday, May 2 at 12:30 in MA 101 and again on Thursday, May 3 at 7pm in the Forum.

Lema said the College President has decided to hire a permanent Vice-President of Student Services. She said she discussed the proposed hire with Counseling it before the decision was finalized. She told Council we will need faculty appointments for the hiring committee and non-student services faculty should be included. She said the hiring process may extend into summer which means faculty participating in the hiring process will need to be available during that time.

Lema told Council the Governance Committee co-chairs and senate presidents will meet with Juan Lopez to begin planning the next step in the strategic planning process.

6. GRADUATION SPEAKER

Lema told Council she has asked Lupe Dannels to be this year's graduation speaker. She asked Council for a motion to officially approve Dannels as the Graduation Speaker.

It was MSC to approve Lupe Dannels as the 2012 DVC Graduation Speaker. All in favor. Approved.

7. DISTRICT BUDGET PRESENTATION

Lema reminded Council the District Budget Forum at DVC Pleasant Hill is on April 17 at 3pm which conflicts with the FSC meeting. She asked Council if they want to adjust the meeting schedule to allow Council to attend the forum.

Keating added that the UF approved the presentation and she recommends faculty attend this forum as it is different than in previous years and the district has a new director of finances that will be presenting. She said there will also be time for Q & A.

DeLoach moved to adjourn the April 17th Faculty Senate Council meeting at 3pm to allow Council members to attend the Budget Forum. Dorado seconded the motion. All in favor. Approved.

8. VP OF INSTRUCTION REPORT

Lamb distributed three documents about how accreditation teams do their assessments during site visits. DVC will have a team visit in approximately two years.

Lamb reviewed the list of the Team's Confidential Recommendations to the Commission that includes the levels of affirmation or sanctions the visiting team's can recommend. She said the team must come to consensus on their recommendations. The commission reviews the team's recommendations and announces them but any action by the commission is announced about four months later.

Lamb then reviewed with Council the ACCJC Rubrics for evaluating institutional effectiveness. She said the main areas they look at are Program Reviews, SLOs, and continuous improvement in those areas.

Lamb told Council the team looks for all evidence to support the self study including web sites, meeting minutes and other meeting documents, and policies and procedures. She reminded Council that everyone needs to keep this in mind when disseminating information at the college in whatever format.

Freytag asked if the college is on track for writing our strategic plan. Lamb said we are beginning the process and if we continue and show we are in process we should be ok. She added that we are supposed to be proficient in SLOs by October 2012 in all courses, programs, support services, certificates and degrees. The year after that we need to achieve a sustainable status on SLOs.

Lamb gave kudos to Mario Tejada, Robert Burns and Lindsay Lang for their work with the SLO Committee and their minutes that really show the dialogue that has begun.

Machalinski said the commission has made SLOs more central to everything we do and she is frustrated with the work that does not help student success in her area.

Lamb agreed but explained this actually comes from the federal level and WASC had gotten into trouble for not checking and enforcing what the feds mandated.

Lema asked if four-year schools have to jump through the same hoops. Lamb said not at this level. She reminded Council WASC covers more than California.

Freytag said he heard some of the people who wrote or are mentioned in these documents at the Accreditation Institute and he got the feeling that they enjoy the power they have of enforcement.

Hess-Diestler asked if we meet SLOs, will they continually be raising the bar for continuous improvement. Lamb said we do not concentrate on every SLO every semester so as we meet one, we then start working on the next.

Keating commented that WASC has more schools on sanction than the rest of the U.S. combined.

Lamb reminded Council that at least the rubrics tell us on what we are being evaluated.

Holt commented that four-year schools get to choose their students and we don't, yet we have the same standards as they do, so we will never have the same student success as four-year schools.

Colber asked beyond Accreditation, how else are SLOs used? Lamb said in other countries their government looks at their country's accumulated educational achievements and issue mandates accordingly. But the U.S. does not and she does not see SLOs ever being used at a federal level.

Lamb told Council the proposed changes to the Ed Code regarding Repeatability will have a big impact on us especially in activity courses such as PE courses that have sections levels. These would be considered a "family" of courses and altogether would be subject to the repeatability rule. She added that the proposed changes are in draft form and the language is not ideal.

Lamb said these proposed changes are part of the reason we are moving our withdrawal date closer to the census date. With the gap between the dates, students would get counted at census and then withdraw and it would be counted as taking the course one time.

9. SCHEDULING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS

Lema reviewed with Council the proposed membership of the Scheduling Committee based on the Council's discussions. She said she recalls Council agreed to add the Senate VP to the membership. Council agreed with her on this.

Freytag asked why there is a UF representative on this committee. Keating said there are overlaps such as when a scheduling decision could impact a faculty member's load.

Hess-Diestler said there should be one representative from each division but they need some knowledge and experience on the scheduling issues.

McBrien reminded Council they have talked about member terms from the perspective that they have to be committed to the work for a few years so there is continuity and they do not have to constantly get new members caught up.

Holt suggested the terms be staggered to avoid a turnover of the whole committee at once.

Machalinski said if there are terms, members should be encouraged to serve more than one term because there is a steep learning curve.

Lema reviewed she is hearing from Council that since there is a vetting process for members, there does not need to be a mandated, specific previous experience requirement to serve on the committee. And the Senate President should be looking for people who can bring a broad cooperative orientation to the conversations and work. She also is hearing Council would like three year terms.

McBrien said she wants to revisit the inclusion of a UF representative as she is not sure if they should be a voting member. She said at this time they are a voting member.

Dildine said the UF representative should not vote and just be there as an advisor and if there are any questions regarding the contract they can always go back to the E-Board.

Lema said here have not been any scheduling decisions yet that have needed UF advice.

Keating said there were some decisions that were pushing the line a bit. One was a concern that faculty were feeling they had to overload their classes so they wouldn't get cancelled.

Flores-Lowry added that PE was concerned with the load factor for Full-time faculty. In their discipline they are very subject specific. For example, if a tennis class were cut, that instructor would not be qualified to teach water polo. She said as we cut more, these things could become more of an issue.

Holt reminded Council that personnel should not drive curriculum, curriculum should drive personnel.

Machalinski wondered how the UF contract would address this as load becomes more of an issue.

McBrien said because this is an ongoing committee, and because the budget situation will continue, she does not think it is appropriate for the UF representative to vote on scheduling matters when their expertise is on UF matters. There are broader conversations and perspectives that are needed to be informed to vote.

Keating said at the least the committee should consult with the UF president to make sure there are not unintended consequences.

Lema reviewed that she is hearing there is an understanding that there is a need for UF expertise for contract matters but concern about the UF representative having a vote on curriculum decisions. She said she will talk to

Jeffrey Michels and bring his feedback to Council. Lema said the committee charge will be finalized by the end of this semester.

10. VALUES DISCUSSION

Lema told Council the officers met for about an hour after the last meeting and talked about the following: where, when and how to have a values conversation to give information to the scheduling committee. The officers discussed how could we have this conversation if everyone is not informed. Lema explained the officers agreed to look at what we are trying to get out of the conversation. If it is the same as our mission statement, our values should be transfer, basic skills and CTE which are what the committee has been using for their values criteria. Machalinski said the values discussion is important to help the college know why we are making these decisions. She asked if the criteria approach could work for one more year and then we get to the point that we have to look at what we can and can't keep.

McBrien said she agrees but we are also going to be pressured to use success and retention rates and how they tie into how we are funded. She said her understanding is in working with Juan Lopez on strategic planning we will get some tools to have these discussions.

Freytag asked if the cuts are deeper than we have currently planned for, will the criteria be enough. Or will the timeline allow us to adjust our values.

Holt said most of us are talking about values in terms of what DVC was ten yrs ago but financial realities are making it so that we can't be that college anymore. He said the committee has some good values now but they will become increasingly irrelevant.

Lema told Council her understanding is that if the ballot proposition doesn't pass, it will be the following year that the college will most feel the impact.

Gerken suggested we include something about this discussion at the All-College day.

11. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lema told Council the resolutions for the Plenary session have been posted on the State Academic website. Lema recommended they skim the table of contents to see what the issues are and to see if there is anything relevant to their disciplines. They need to let her know their positions. She said Keating will be voting for DVC, and she will be voting for the district.

Lema reviewed two senate bills that have been proposed. The first is SB 1456 which includes the Student Success Task Force recommendations. The second, AB 1741, provides the infrastructure and resources to implement the Student Success Task Force recommendations.

Keating added that AB 1741 says if the Student Success Task Force recommendations are mandated, then they need to be funded. She said there is an assembly hearing on it next week.

Lema said she and McBrien talked to President Garcia in consultation about the impact of additional retirements on full-time hiring.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Langelier-Patton
Administrative Secretary*