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**FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 15, 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), Katrina Keating (Rep-at-large), Patrick Moe (Applied and Fine Arts), Carolyn Seefer (Business), Marva DeLoach (Library), Barbara Hewitt (Biology/ Health Sciences), Cheryl Carter (Counseling), David Vela (English), Theresa Flores-Lowry (Kinesiology), James Magee (Math/Computer Science), Joe Krivicich (Physical Sciences), Buzz Holt (Social Sciences), René Sporer (SRC), Valerie Colber (Part-time Faculty), Muhammed Gheith (Part-time Faculty)

**ABSENT:**

**GUESTS:** Rachel Westlake, Andy Barlow, Laurie Lema

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015 AND THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2015.**

**It was MSC to approve the agenda of September 15, 2015. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Churchill, Keating, Seefer, DeLoach, Carter, Hewitt, Flores-Lowry, Vela, Magee, Holt, Moe, Krivicich, Sporer, Colber, and Gheith. No nays. No abstentions. Approved.**

**It was MSC to approve the minutes of August 25, 2015. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Churchill, Keating, Seefer, DeLoach, Carter, Hewitt, Flores-Lowry, Vela, Magee, Holt, Moe, Krivicich, Sporer, Colber, and Gheith. No nays. No abstentions. Approved.**

The minutes of September 8, 2015 were not ready for review.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. COUNCIL COMMENT**

Holt said he heard that BOG or Pell Grant students do not get money the following semester if they drop a class that has been paid by a BOG or Pell Grant. He asked if that was true. McBrien said she did not know but would look into it.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

McBrien welcomed the newly elected Part-time faculty representative Muhammed Gheith. Council members each introduced themselves.

**5. APPOINTMENTS**

**Curriculum Committee**

Owen Lee, Shannon Padilla - Applied and Fine Arts

**Tutoring Advisor Committee**

Sam Needham-Math

### **3SP**

Holly Kresch

### **VP of Instruction Hiring Committee**

Paper screening - Becky Opsata

Interview committee - John Freytag Mario Tejada

### **VP of Finance Hiring Committee**

Paper screening – Claudia Eckelmann

Interview Committee - Ray Goralka Rene Sporer

### **Sabbatical Leave Committee**

Toni Fannin

Cheryl Wilcox

Jean Hetherington

### **District-wide Study Abroad**

Scott MacDougall

Dorrie Mazzone

**It was MSC to approve the appointment listed above. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Churchill, Keating, Seefer, DeLoach, Carter, Hewitt, Flores-Lowry, Vela, Magee, Holt, Moe, Krivicich, Sporer, Colber, and Gheith. No nays. No abstentions. Approved.**

## **2. VP INSTRUCTION**

Westlake apologized for the situation this morning with the painter crews. She said they were not supposed to be painting during work and class hours but there had been a miscommunication with the contractor.

Keating asked when the next round of hiring is set to begin. Westlake said there is a Box 2A scheduled this Friday. The data should be out next week. There will be up to about 52 positions out.

## **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

McBrien told Council as follow-up to the forums on the web page, a small task force will be formed to review the results and make recommendations for possible changes. McBrien said the expert that was hired to facilitate the Forums suggested we think about what we would like to have our website do, starting from “scratch”. She said Mario Tejada will be on the Task Force and will report to Council and get their feedback. Freytag suggested the website task force should include students, staff, faculty and administrators. Council agreed and briefly discussed what type of expertise they would like the students on the task force to have. McBrien said part of the reason for students on the task force is because the expert told the forum groups that transfer students usually have it figured out, but we need to help the “in-between” students. Those that have maybe applied and don’t know what to do next. McBrien said she would like to have recommendations for improvement of the website to President Garcia in November and implement them in fall 2016.

McBrien said to Council there is a lot of construction planned on the campus over the next 10 years or so. She said College Council will be discussion building plans and she urges faculty to pay attention and speak up when they will be the ones using the new buildings.

McBrien told Council she attended her first Governing Board meeting. She said there were several interesting presentations including about the new veteran’s centers that will be on the campuses. McBrien said the highlight of the meeting for her was when Peter Garcia told about a student of Peter Churchill’s who had glowing things to say about his time at DVC, and felt that what he learned from Churchill and in particular was the equivalent of what a friend had learned in an MBA program .

#### 4. GOALS

McBrien reviewed with Council possible changes in the Senate goals to align them with the directive, values, and goals of the DVC Strategic Plan. McBrien used the example of the goal of increasing certificates and degrees and perhaps developing a program to help faculty identify students in their programs that are eligible for a certificate or degree.

Holt commented that many of the terms we use, such as “best practices” are not clearly defined. McBrien said that is a good point and said she has talked about putting together a glossary of the terms we commonly use so we all have the same understanding of what they mean.

Churchill said in his division they have a lot of certificates, but faculty don’t have any way to identify which certificate program a student is in if they are not on that faculty’s class roster. He said that alone could increase the number of certificates awarded.

Colber shared with Council an article from the Wall Street Journal on how for profit and community colleges are not meeting student’s needs. The article states they default on loans at a higher rate than students at 4 year schools, and they have less earning potentials than students with 4 year degrees. She said we need to do a better job of measuring factors such as these when we look at what students need.

Barlow said the ultimate goal is to move the college forward so we need to write our goals while looking at the outcomes we want to achieve.

McBrien added that is part of the Senate’s role to weigh the goals in terms of our values. Lema agreed and said senate is the watchdog to make sure we keep our values.

Moe asked how degree audits are generated. Carter explained when students do their Ed Plan; their major is put into the system and provides the student with a check list to achieve a certificate or degree. She said at this time the system is not set up to notify students they are close to earning a degree or certificate. But a list could be provided to divisions and departments at the beginning of the semester to identify in which programs the students are majoring.

Krivichich said he would also like to see data on which students are transferring because not all transfer students are looking to earn a 2 year degree or a certificate.

McBrien said that information used to be readily available but it changed when the district took over research.

Hewitt said the comments she got from her division about the goals are that they want to see the Senate working on how committee members can sustain their committee workload.

Barlow said when we start talking about increasing degrees and certificates, it is a small goal but it opens up a bigger conversation about institutional support to reach our goals. He said we are also talking about faculty advising students which will result in faculty playing a more active role with the students in their program. Working towards this goal will also bring out conversations about equity and access. He said we are at an early stage of learning how to do this, so baby steps are good to start off is good. We could do a lot with simple goals.

Freytag suggested the senate focus on goals 1 and 2 that address student success and access. He said goal 2 also includes addressing institutional effectiveness which is what we are trying to do with our new governance structure. He added that we need to encourage conversations about what we already have in place, what resources we have and how to make everyone aware of them.

Holt asked how we are going to quantify that best practices are sustainable. Barlow responded that he has thought about this too. He said we need to figure out where there is duplication of effort and we can measure how much we’ve reduced it. We should also look at how many people hours are being used to complete tasks and is there a way to reduce the number of hours needed to complete the task. He said we also need to focus our goals so the work is streamlined. And then we survey committee members to see how it is working.

Holt said in many corporations a task is identified and there is more than one committee that works on it from different perspectives. McBrien said we have been working at evaluating the efficiency of the college committees and now we are working on evaluating the senate committees. She said she met with the Distance Education Committee earlier in the day and they talked about the need to review their charge and membership and assess how it is working. She said what is clear is many committees are stymied because of a lack of access to research. She added that as we evaluate the efficiencies of committees, we need to find out what they need to make them run more efficiently so we can measure the outcomes.

McBrien asked if any council members if there is anything else that would help faculty accomplish the goal of increasing the number of degrees and certificates awarded.

Seefer commented that every student should end up with something when they leave DVC and she thinks increasing degrees and certificates should be our #1 goal. Seefer added that there is technology available to track students in their degree or certificate programs. We need to support obtaining a computer program that would enable us to see this information. Keating added that it could also be used to identify at-risk students. Freytag said the working in Goal 1 section 1 should be specific. McBrien asked Seefer to expand on why increasing degrees and certificates should be the number one goal. Seefer said having a piece of paper students can show an employer that they completed a program. And that is going help get them hired and a good salary. Vela added that the state definition of achievement is the completion of a certificate or degree. Holt said this effort to increase degrees and certificates came from the state. But our enrollment is going to stay flat in the foreseeable future. So we need to convince our existing students to complete certificates or degrees, even if they are transferring. He said that could be a problem because students who are transferring may have to take more classes than required to transfer, so they can complete a certificate or degree. Carter responded that it would hurt her integrity if she pushed a student to get a degree or certificate who is transferring. Instead, we need to include transfer rates in these discussions about increasing achievement. She said also we are not addressing those students that are undeclared. She added that the portal is a good way to communicate with students but we don't use it and students don't access it. Seefer commented that a lot of students are so focused on transferring that they don't even know an AA is an option. That information needs to get out to students. Moe said just because there are discrepancies in the requirements for AA degrees and Transfer requirements, does not mean we should abandon discussions about AA degrees. But we need to have a larger statewide conversation about why those discrepancies exist. Carter explained first, in terms of degree requirements, California has one of the highest. She said degree requirements for transfer are tied to CSU, but not UC. The requirements were set up for graduation for 4-year schools, not community colleges. Lema said these conversations will continue to come out of Goal 1. She said sort of breaking out the different stages students need to go through to achieve success. She said these conversations will be embedded as we discuss the components of the stages. She added that we still need to work on integrating Student Services work with Instruction. She said we also need to look at our communication – how do we communicate, what is our role as faculty in communicating information to our students, what information do students need that is beyond the curriculum we are teaching in our classes? McBrien said in the Student Focus group on the website, students talked about their experience outside of the classroom and commented how helpful everyone is. Vela said one example is we are becoming a Spanish service institution, so how will we increase student success with our Latino students. We can't just do Puente times 10 and there are not enough counselors to begin with; so faculty will have to step up and know the same things counselors know to help back them up. The ratio of students to counselors is 1 to 1000. Keating suggested adding to goal 1, "Make progress in closing the achievement gap". McBrien asked if that should be added to goal 1 or as a separate goal. Barlow commented that we are not going to increase degrees and certificates unless we address the achievement gap so they are not separate. He said as we develop an understanding of how we are going to achieve an increase in degrees and certificates based on the values as a college. He said he thinks we will be developing a list of specific recommendations to achieve the goals, and some of those recommendations will be on addressing the achievement gap. Freytag suggested adding the phrase "and the equity in the rates of student success". He said that would then we would not have to list the achievement gap as a separate goal. McBrien asked Council if they agree to make Goals 1 and 2 the 15-16 goals of the academic senate. She said we can add to them in spring if we want. Lema clarified in Goal 1 to change the wording to "Increase the number of degrees, certificates *and transfers*". And in Goal 2 she suggested the following wording: "*Structure committees to support student success and institutional effectiveness*". Council agreed to bring this document back to the next meeting with the suggested revisions included. McBrien told Council to get feedback and suggestions from their divisions and departments, and look at where we can align the goals with our strategic directions.

## **6. ACADEMIC SENATE COMMITTEES**

McBrien postponed the discussion on Senate committees due to time constraints. She told Council to look over the documents they received and she would like to focus on the Student Services Committee first.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Langelier-Patton  
Administrative Secretary*