

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

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**FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 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), Katrina Keating (Rep-at-large), Patrick Moe (Applied and Fine Arts), Carolyn Seefer (Business), Marva DeLoach (Library), Barbara Hewitt (Biology/ Health Sciences), 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:** Peter Churchill (Corresponding Secretary), Cheryl Carter (Counseling)

**GUESTS:** Laurie Lema, Andy Barlow, Lindsey Lang, Becky Opsata, Donna Wapner, Katy Agnost, Rachel Westlake, Rick Robison, Ted Wieden

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2015 AND THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2015.**

**It was MSC to approve the agenda of September 22, 2015. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Keating, Seefer, DeLoach, 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 September 8, 2015. The following members all voted aye: Freytag, Keating, Seefer, Hewitt, Flores-Lowry, Vela, Magee, Holt, Moe, Krivicich, Sporer, Colber, and Gheith. No nays. DeLoach abstained. Approved.**

The minutes of September 15, 2015 were not ready for review.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lema said she respects and appreciates what the Union does for faculty as far as work conditions go. She said she is concerned about some of the things that were negotiated in the current tentative agreement. She said there is a section of the agreement that addresses professional development and the use of equity funds for those professional development activities. Lema pointed out the 10+1 items under the senate's purview includes district and college governance structures as related to faculty roles; policies for faculty professional development activities; and processes for institutional planning and budget development. Lema acknowledged sometimes the UF negotiates an item that impacts the senate but faculty needs to be careful that the UF is not negotiating 10+1 items. She said if and when that happens it removes the senate and the senate's purview to have a say about those matters. She added that the senate does not negotiate contract matters in consultation. Lema recommended the senate have a conversation with the union to make it very clear about what is under their purview and what is under the senate's purview.

Donna Wapner, UF President, responded that we have received a lot of money over the last couple years for implementation of the Student Success Act and we have to show the state we are improving in these areas. She said there will be a lot of faculty doing this work, not just in certain courses or programs. The issue the UF looked at is that Part-time faculty won't do this work if they are not compensated. But the UF wants them involved, so that needed to be negotiated. She further explained the district has developed an initiative for a Student Equity Hour. She said this two-year pilot program aims to improve course completions and student outcomes by expanding opportunities for students to connect with faculty outside the classroom. The program has four key components:

professional development for faculty focused on identifying and reaching out to at-risk and underserved students (as well as working effectively with students from diverse cultures and backgrounds); providing extra time for faculty to work outside of class with students who need extra help and support; facilitating dialog and cooperation between instructors to identify and expand best practices in supporting at-risk and underserved students; and assessing the program's effectiveness as well as opportunities for improvement. Wapner said since we have so many part-time faculty we need to involve them or we could lose money if we don't show improvement.

### 3. COUNCIL COMMENT

Flores-Lowry said her area has a concern about our technology services office does not support printers. She said it had been brought up last semester about going to centralized printers. She said this is a problem for one because they have to share one printer with the whole department, the printer is slow, and most of them have offices upstairs and the printer is downstairs

Colber commented that faculty teaching at night have no tech support. She said she was teaching an evening class and the network went down and her students could not even log in. The only reason she got help is because her department chair happened to see her message and was able to get her some help.

### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flores-Lowry announced for the first time in the college's history, both the women's and men's cross country teams took first place at the Big 8 Conference. She said the women's soccer team is 3, 1 and 2, they play this Friday; the football team is 2 and 1, they play this Friday at home; women's volleyball is 4 and 3, they play September 30 at home; and men's water polo is 6 and 1.

### 5. APPOINTMENTS

#### Student Equity Committee

Bridgitte Schafer

#### Research and Planning Committee

Toni Fannin

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

### 6. BASIC SKILL INITIATIVE (BSI)

Lindsey Lang distributed to Council information on expenditures and categories, as well as ESL results for the Basic Skills Initiative program for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015. She explained they had to spend the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 allocation by June 30. We now have the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 allocations and the categories for expenditures have been expanded. She said a lot of what they do overlaps with 3SP and other equity groups so she will be meeting several times with the leaders of those groups. She said when you look at the narrative results we have been doing an impressive amount of work we've done with BSI funds. She explained before she became BSI Coordinator, her predecessor Ellen Kruse had worked on a five semester plan to get the college thinking long term about BSI. We are now in the fifth semester and she is pulling all the areas together to write a Campus-wide Developmental Education Plan.

Lang said coordination is somewhat of a challenge because basic skills are part of so many programs on campus. She told Council the data show the general trends are positive and we have been seeing some increases and stabilization.

Lang said the state expects us to provide this information every year and it is worthwhile for the college to do this. She will be bringing details to the Senate on the Developmental Education Plan.

McBrien said the BSI group is doing extraordinary work and thanked them for their efforts.

## 7. DE COMMITTEE REPORT

Becky Opsata, the Distance Education Coordinator, told Council she and Rick Robison will focus on the Learning Management System (LMS) and the Online Education Initiative (OEI) in their report today.

Robison explained the purpose of the Online Education Initiative is to create a network of online classes in the state. But first they want to increase the quality of online education in California.

Robison and Opsata presented a PowerPoint about the OEI and a new LMS.

Robison reviewed the components of the OEI. They are online student readiness tools, online tutoring, course exchange, enhanced professional development for DE, and standardization of learning management system. Opsata added that each of the components are optional.

Opsata reviewed the history of the districts adoption of D2L which was fully implemented in fall 2013. She said many faculty are also using it for face-to-face classes. Opsata said the senate needs to decide if we want to go with the Canvas LMS that will be used for the OEI classes. She said the state has chosen Canvas for the OEI and several colleges are using it now. Opsata explained if we use Canvas, the state will pay for the first two years and it will be offered at a discounted price after that. The savings would go to professional development. In addition to the savings, she said the positive points to switching to Canvas are that it has 24/7 support (D2L does not), there is a tutoring component, and it lines up with the state program. The negative points are that we would have to go through a transition, and we have to trust that the state selection process was thorough.

Opsata said many think Canvas is easier for students to use but they want feedback from the Council.

Colber is concerned that we heard the same things about D2L and it turned out to have a lot of problems.

Opsata said this is not a done deal.

Sefer said when we transitioned from WebCT to D2L it was time-consuming and difficult for students and faculty, and she does not want to put faculty and students through another transition so soon." She said she has used Canvas and recommends we do not switch our LMS. She said it did not seem professional and anyone can take a course while D2L limits it to registered students.

Opsata said what they are asking from the senate is to talk to their divisions, attend a presentation on OEI and Canvas on October 14, they would like to hear feedback by late October, The feedback will go to the District-wide LMS Taskforce and the District Distance Education Committee, then on to the Chancellor's cabinet and then the Governing Board by the end of the fall semester. She said the presentation is scheduled at each college and will be filmed for those who cannot attend.

Opsata said another pro of Canvas is it connects with Datatel and faculty can enter their grades through Canvas.

Hewitt said she has used canvas but it is still a beta version and has some bugs. But it should not be a hard transition.

Sefer pointed one more con is that Canvas spends a lot of time trying to get you to take other classes and D2L does not. Opsata said she will find out if they can turn off that feature.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS/TECHNOLOGY

McBrien shared with Council a list of all the conversations about technology and the website that Senate Council has had over the last two years. She told Council she and Freytag have discussed the technology issues with Peter Garcia in consultation. She said Garcia would like a list of specific things people would like the website to do. She said after that feedback is received she and Freytag will sort them out by function. Freytag added that the messaging that goes out when asking for this feedback is important. It needs to be emphasized it is not a gripe session. McBrien added that she brought this here because the senate has been talking about improving the website for at least two years and this is an opportunity to solicit suggestions for fixing or improving it.

Krivicich asked if this is for all things IT, not just the website. McBrien said it is.

Joe-is this all things IT – yes Joe-they got new projectors and they are not compatible with the connectors

Sporer pointed out several issues unique to SRC including linking back to Pleasant Hill when they click on an information link in the SRC page, students on a roster at PH when they thought they were signing up for a class in SR, and we need to inform students of the time it takes to travel between campuses when they are registering for classes at both locations.

Magee reiterated that we need an evening help desk.

Hewitt suggested the feedback be sorted into classroom issues, online issues, etc. Freytag said he has the summaries of the last two technology surveys that went out to faculty and they are sectioned out much like Hewitt is suggesting. He said we could take those survey questions and formats and rework them for this.

McBrien said she wants to get something back to President Garcia by the end of October. There is possible funding for technology improvements and we have already collected a lot of information. She suggested we focus on two areas, website and enrollment areas, for now and begin working on them.

## **9. VP INSTRUCTION**

Westlake said the Box2A committee met the previous Friday for about 4 hours and reviewed proposals for faculty positions. She said there were 32 proposals for a total of 54 positions, and there are 30 positions that have been allotted. The group also looked at compiled data on FTEF, FTES, part-time full-time ratios, etc. They also looked at large and small departments and how the loads are distributed. They did send a recommendation to the college president and he will have the final decision in a few days. After that there will be meetings with the departments that were allocated positions to help with their hiring processes.

Westlake said she, the faculty hiring trainers, and McBrien have been reviewing the online application to see about improvements. The minimum qualifications issue needs further discussion and she would like feedback from faculty. She said the first level of checking could be done at the DO.

Westlake said she worked with McBrien, Sophia Lever from the DO, and a few others about the hiring process and they will be developing a hiring plan for each department instead of putting all the work on the departments.

Westlake share information on several upcoming workshops and webinars related to the hiring process.

Keating mentioned in a class she is taking they had a guest lecturer and she talked about expanding the diversity of hiring pools. The speaker said churches are a good place to do outreach for faculty recruiting. Especially in churches with a majority of African Americans and Latinos.

Krivich said the district needs to be a little looser on interpreting whether or not an applicant meets the minimum qualifications. He said his department forwarded an applicant that they felt met the minimum qualifications and the district disagreed. He said he does not think the DO understands how to interpret minimum qualifications as well as those teaching in that discipline. Westlake responded that the district can only work with what is stated in the guidelines, faculty determine if an applicant who does not meet the literal qualifications, qualifies for an equivalency.

Krivich said his concern is that the district will eliminate candidates before the department ever gets to see them and evaluate their qualifications for themselves, or determine if they are qualified for an equivalency. Westlake said there is a clear statement on the application that if the required degree is not met exactly, they should fill out an equivalency form. However, there may be room to allow candidates to submit equivalency paperwork after the application deadline.

McBrien said the faculty guidelines on equivalencies can be confusing where sometimes it is totally clear they match and other times she searches for details in their applications and even sometimes refer to the Ed code.

Moe said they were told they would be able to start doing online interviews but when they tried to schedule one, they were told we are not set up for that. He wants to know if we are going to get support from our college to do online interviews because that could help expand their applicant pools.

Sporer said we can't be passive in asking for equivalency forms. We are losing good applicants because they have not submitted the form.

DeLoach said in the hiring process it needs to be clear who is responsible for what and when.

Keating said our sister colleges do follow up if the applicant did not include equivalency form but we don't.

Westlake said we are way ahead of the district in our hiring process and President Garcia went out on a limb in allocating the 30 positions before the final funding for faculty positions is known.

Freytag said there is a limit to how many we can hire at a time because of the logistics for hiring a large number of faculty.

## **10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Postponed due to time constraints.

## **11. COLLEGE COUNCIL UPDATE**

Postponed due to time constraints.

## **12. GOALS**

Postponed due to time constraints.

## **13. SENATE AND COLLEGE COMMITTEES**

Postponed due to time constraints.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

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

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Langelier-Patton  
Administrative Secretary*