

FACULTY SENATE

March 15, 2005

3 - 5 pm, Sesnon House

Present: Marcy Alancraig, David Balogh, Nancy Brown, James Durland, Paul Harvell, Steve Hodges, Sue Hoisington, Jay Jackson, Andre Neu, Dorothy Nunn, Rory O'Brien, Georg Romero, Dan Rothwell, Deborah Shulman, Barbara Shultz-Perez, Topsy Smalley, Christy Vogel

Liaison: Dale Attias, Claudia Close, Ben Corman, Michele Rivard

Guests: Johanna Bowen

1.0 Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

2.0 Minutes

It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of March 1, 2005 as presented.

3.0 Officers' Reports

3.1 President's Report – Rory O'Brien

President O'Brien encouraged those present to attend a talk to be given by Chancellor Drummond on March 24th.

Discussion of the request for \$700 worth of faculty food for graduation by Sesario Escoto centered on the current lack of Senate funds. Andre Neu moved that we provide \$300, Paul Harvell seconded the motion. The motion was tabled until the next meeting.

Evaluation committee assignments were completed. The *Alcohol and Other Drugs* Committee still needs a representative.

3.2 CCFT – Michele Rivard

Michele reported that CCFT meet on March 16th to discuss the price of health plans after the midyear changes. They will take the first look at the 2006-7 calendar.

3.3 SEIU – Dale Attias

SEIU will be discussing the issues of seasonal workers (temp hourlies); the strain is due to total workload expectations remaining constant while the number of staff has been reduced.

3.4 Student Senate Report – Ben Corman

Ben reported that the Student Senate is authoring a resolution that all students pay the health fee. Ben will co-author a bill with John Laird regarding this issue.

4.0 Information

4.1 Academic Council – Jay Jackson standing in for Brad Krein

The Academic Council proposed a modification of AR3010 to allow students who already have a BS or BA to use their satisfaction of previous general ed requirements as fulfillment of the general ed requirements of our AA/AS degrees. Counselors currently have to go through graduates' transcripts course by course to determine equivalency. A specific petition by a student led Mary Ellen Sullivan and Jay to reconsider our methods. Only Cabrillo College and San Jose City College do these transcript evaluations of students who already have bachelors degrees.

This modification would not change the multicultural requirement or the individual program requirements of the AA/AS degrees. If this is passed it would apply to current and future students. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the modification as Jay proposed.

4.2 The Sacramento Scene – Nancy Brown

Nancy reported that the governor wants to make subtle changes to Prop 98, taking out “Test 3.” This would allow him, during a bad budget year, to make across-the-board cuts, meaning \$372 million more. There are a variety of bills being sponsored to do what the governor wants. Many of the campaigns to create state initiatives have been nationally funded (e.g., to cut Prop 98 and retirement benefits for faculty). Proposed retirement package changes address the 2% required by the state—turning that over to the districts and letting the districts decide if they will pay it. It could end up costing Cabrillo an additional \$300,000.

The change from defined benefit to defined contribution was also discussed. CALSTRS is the 3rd largest pension plan in the country, 5th in the world. The changes proposed would mean that new employees would have 403B plans only, with employer contributions.

Tenure and merit pay for K-12 are additional proposals that are not expected to pass because amendment to the constitution requires 2/3 of the vote. Another item, AB1417, replaces Partnership for Excellence. It would entail district-by-district reporting, regrouping of districts, or statewide ranking. The Lowenthal bill, AB55, is sponsored by FACCC; it specifies that when a local faculty academic senate passes a vote of no confidence in an administrator, the board must agendaize that vote.

4.3 Accreditation and Faculty Evaluations – Marcy Alan Craig

WASC is mandating that faculty evaluations include student learner outcomes (SLOs). The Governor talked about merit pay, but there isn’t a connection between SLOs and merit pay. The local accrediting team will look for some mention of SLOs in our faculty evaluations. It is hoped that our next VP will be as enlightened as Claire with respect to SLOs, hopefully not more rigid and stringent in requirements.

There is discussion of a negotiated sideletter to the contract regarding SLOs and faculty evaluation. Rory mentioned that the union isn’t willing to have a discussion regarding SLOs because it involves compensation issues. We need CCFT to include this. The Senate will receive a draft of a letter to CCFT at the next meeting and then be asked to endorse sending a letter to the union regarding evaluation.

5.0 Action Items

5.1 Election By-Laws – Paul Harvell

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the first of the three options put forward, to “allow the president to serve two (or more?) consecutive terms with the vice president selected by some other means” as an amendment of our current election by-laws. It was moved, seconded and approved that the term limits for the president would be two consecutive terms without any lifetime limit.

By general consensus, training must be included in the mechanism. The job description of the vice-president remains undefined. It was recommended that training for these positions begin by sending members of the faculty senate to plenary sessions.

5.2 Textbooks, the Senate and the Law – Susan Lonnblad

Susan referred to a handout of the matrix encouraged by AB2477. Susan wants the senators on the book store committee to represent the Faculty Senate in the decision-making. She provided an update regarding progress the bookstore has made thus far: textbook buyback is up by 40%;

used book sales are at their highest level, 30%; complaints are down by 90% because Steve is now buying back text and supplement bundles.

Senators noted that publishers are ending the availability of older editions. Michelle has a text that changes more than once a year. Susan remarked that multiple editions reduce demand in the used book market. She mentioned unauthorized substitution, where publishers will send bundles rather than the individual texts requested.

Paul made a motion for the Senate to comply with AB2477 by having this body represented by the two members on the committee. Nancy seconded and the motion passed.

Again, variation in the treatment of deadlines by divisions was highlighted – some are always on time and others are not. In the report presented to the board, it was noted that there was a 10% improvement in getting book requisitions in on time. It is very difficult for Susan to attend division meetings due to the time of year but it seems necessary for faculty to learn about bookstore issues.

5.3 Curriculum Committee – Claudia Close, Dale Attias

Claudia Close reported that some proposed curriculum changes were sent back and these changes will not be reflected in the next schedule. Several items had been sent back for revision and were revised but still did not comply with standards. In general, the curriculum committee will not correct curricula for faculty. Some work was not done in the first meeting because Claudia heeded Rory's admonition to encourage collegiality by asking program chairs to sign curricula proposals. The program chair's signature signifies that the proposal was read by the program chair but does not signify approval by program chair.

Michelle Rivard asked where the actual changes made could be found. Claudia said that each representative has a book containing the completed changes. Michelle also asked about the due dates for curriculum proposals and if there was any way the program chairs could have those dates. The response was that all the divisions have the calendar of due dates and handle the administration of notification in an individual manner. Other senate members testified to the different approaches to reminding faculty about these deadlines.

6.0 Adjournment

At 5:00 pm, it was moved, seconded, and approved to adjourn.