



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE

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APPROVED: 02/11/08

AMEND SOMETHING PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED: 02/21/08

MESA ACADEMIC SENATE

December 10, 2007 – 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. – H117/118

Minutes

PRESENT: Mark Abajian, Bill Brothers, Jan Clymer, Mike Crivello, Adrienne Aeria Dines, Dwight Furrow, Paula Gustin, Martina Hesser, Madeleine Hinkes, Holly Hodnick, Bill Hoefler, Gary Holton, Geoffery Johnson, Ken Kuniyuki, Susan Lazear, Nina R. Lopez, Carl Luna, Joe Mac McKenzie, Jonathan McLeod, Trish Mendoza, Val Ontell, Francisca Rascón, Michael Reese, Cynthia Rico-Bravo, Ron Ryno, Joe Safdie, Mike Sanchez, Barbara Sexton, Marilynn Schenk, Shannon Shi, Erica Specht, Paul Sykes, Terrie Teegarden, Bonnie ZoBell.

ABSENT: Chris Althaus (excused), Nathan Betschart, Leslie Cloud (proxy to Specht), Margaret Fickess, Bob Gordon, Laleh Howard, Leroy Johnson, Georgia Laris (excused), Andrea Luoma, George Svoboda (excused), Michelle Tucker, Tracy Tuttle, Manuel Velez, Duane Wesley, Farshid Zand.

I. **CALL TO ORDER** was made by President Terrie Teegarden at 2:10 P.M.

II. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- A. **Associated Student Body (ASB) Representative** – Nina R. Lopez' report was postponed until her arrival (see below).
- B. **Public**. No public presentations were made.

III. GUESTS

- A. **Hank Beaver's** report from the Distance Education Committee will be postponed until the next Senate meeting on February 11, 2008. President Teegarden discussed concerns with USD not accepting online classes.

McLeod pointed out the problems created when individuals on one campus unilaterally decide to offer an online section of one of the more specialized courses that, to that time, has been offered in face-to-face format only a few times each year on two or three campuses. The more specialized focus of the course assures that F2F offerings of the course draw enough students for the sections to be offered, but the likelihood is that more competition for the limited pool of prospective students tends to spread the enrollment too broadly. Given that online classes often fill quickly, though student persistence typically is not high, the new online offering will tend to diminish the F2F sections. Since the review process for putting a course online occurs only in channels on the campus where the change proposal is submitted and does not require the kind of dialogue with colleagues in the discipline across the district which might lead to a broader discussion of the implications of the proposed change, the curriculum review process does not serve the interests of all the departments. McLeod stated his judgment that the

impact of courses being offered online should be assessed on a district wide basis, not just on a single campus. A more substantive curriculum change impact report should summarize the results of the discussions. McLeod cited the proposed offering of History 123 as an online course at City as an example.

[Amend Something Previously Adopted: Safdie pointed out that there are benefits to online classes and that the pedagogy in them is rigorous.]

McLeod clarified he's not opposed to online teaching but rather he's concerned with the quality of what's being taught. Dawes inquired if four-year institutions are using the same rationale as McLeod and Teegarden explained she believes that colleges may question the rigor of online courses and that there is no accountability to confirm the identity of the person taking the exam is the student enrolled in the online class.

Gustin mentioned that at a CIC meeting last semester, the VPI firmly suggested the three colleges review enrollment management before deciding to activate a class. Last semester CIC discovered four instances where courses to be activated were taken back by City and Miramar. Gustin emphasized the importance of curriculum planning and coordination to Mesa; otherwise, enrollment is affected each semester. She recommended for faculty to add comments and put them in CurricUNET so that the CIC can see them. At the moment, this topic is considered a "discussional item" but it's beginning to turn into a dilemma since articulation is turning into a problem. This topic will be brought up with CIC for further discussions by Gustin.

President Teegarden announced that USD's University Senate is currently developing an online class policy. The faculty can't all agree on accepting online classes for transfer students. Business professor Abajian indicated his department offers about 45 classes, including online, but he feels they are not affected because all classes get full. In the past, there had been discussions to have online students take exams at a testing center but it was determined to not be feasible for military students who are away from the area. A recommendation was made that it would be wise for a prospective transfer student going to USD to "Don't ask, don't tell" about online courses that they've completed. Abajian noted that at Palomar College hybrid classes in Economics have been successful as transfer courses, but Palomar decided to stop teaching the classes online. Since this topic affects all departments, President Teegarden would like the chairs to discuss it further.

ASB representative Nina R. Lopez arrived and was asked to give her report by President Teegarden.

- She reported they are working on a survey to find out if students are interested in having a Book Loan Club. Members of the Book Loan Club Committee have identified some books to be purchased for the pilot program, which include Chemistry 200, BioChemistry 2A, Chicano Studies, and Math 95.
- A new VPSS has been selected but the official announcement hasn't been made yet.
- Thanks-4-Giving fundraiser to help students affected by the wild fires yielded about \$1,000.
- Immigration Student Support Organization (ISSO) is sponsoring an event on Thursday, December 13th in Room H117 at 6:00 P.M. on "We Dream, We Act".

After Lopez presented her report, Holton mentioned how Southwestern had a successful Book Loan Club, which used grant money for funding but Lopez heard quite the contrary after she spoke to students about their experiences with the club. Lopez stated she used a model based on student data.

- B. President Rita Cepeda and Vice President Elizabeth Armstrong – Next steps for the Vice President of Instruction (VPI).** The presentation will commence upon their arrival.

IV. APPROVAL OF SENATE MINUTES OF November 26, 2007 as amended.
M/S/U Brothers/Sykes

V. REPORTS

- A. Treasurer** – Michael Reese reported there is \$1,322.15 in the Senate checking account and \$1,367.40 in savings. He noted several invoices are due, one of them from 10/31/07 for \$73.96, and one is due for VPI Armstrong's celebration.

- B. Professional Development Committee** – Bonnie ZoBell reported on the following:

- A reminder for deadline of Sabbatical Applications for the 2008-2009 Academic Year was sent across campus, along with attachments of the official contract timetable and reminders for applying.
- Samples of past successful sabbatical applications can be viewed in Room A117. Anyone on the PDC may review the sabbatical application and offer suggestions to the applicant. There will be 10 sabbaticals available for next year.
- New Licensure/Certification Reimbursement Forms is a new form that faculty can submit to the PDC, if an employee is required to have a license/certificate to maintain employment with the District. AFT will be responsible for paying for the certification. Senators were urged to inform their departments of this new form. However, the PDC does not agree that they should be responsible for approving the forms. PDC received the first form and it was passed even though the procedures on processing the form are unclear and also because it's not the fault of the faculty member.

- C. Committee of Chairs** – Georgia Laris report is postponed until the next Senate meeting on February 11, 2008.

- D. Curriculum Chair** – Paula Gustin reported on the following items:

- At the last CIC meeting, they agreed and recommended to the VPI to not offer classes from their list that haven't been reviewed in six years. Unfortunately, there are 120 of these classes at Mesa while sister colleges have lowered their numbers. Title 5 states that courses must be reviewed every six years and Mesa is in violation. Miramar solved this issue by not offering classes until the classes were integrated and now the class list is down to zero. Gustin felt that Mesa faculty can no longer offer reasons why classes can't be reviewed, especially when there is a Curriculum Coordinator (Elizabeth Castaneda) available. Castaneda's office is in Room A111 and she may also be contacted at extension 5776 or by email at ecastane@sdccd.edu. Gustin reported that seven faculty were contacted by email informing them of the violation and none of them had responded to her. She warned everyone that Juliette Parker, Articulation Officer, won't be able to articulate classes that haven't been reviewed. ZoBell suggested for Gustin to advertise Mesa has a curriculum coordinator so that faculty will feel more at ease to undergo this task.

- Mesa is being tasked to define transfer studies and liberal arts degrees. Gustin met with City and Miramar and City would like to propose that counseling be defined as well. There is a lot of pressure for this task to be completed by June 2008.

E. President – Terrie Teegarden reported on the following:

1. President's Cabinet

- (a) Mail waste reduction idea was supported; however, there is a concern about the loss of communication since this is a major component of accreditation. It was felt that the following issues should go to the Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC):
 - (i) By law, some things must be distributed in hard copy.
 - (ii) Create a simple "think before you print" sheet of what should be distributed by email or hard copy.
 - (iii) Identify sites for bulletin boards and the people who'll maintain them.
 - (iv) Develop an education plan to get faculty to read email and the bulletin boards so that communication isn't lost.
- (b) Building I-400 will be torn down and rebuilt while Building I-300 will be remodeled.
- (c) The Mesa monument sign was stolen. Any input on a new design is encouraged. Suggestions can be sent to Vice President of Administrative Services (VPAS) Ron Perez or the Facilities Committee.
- (d) Daniel Cisco is the new construction project manager at Mesa, who shares an office with VPAS Perez in Room A103. The Building Committees will be selecting an architect from a list of prescreened candidates. If there is no one with the necessary expertise, an alternate company may be selected. Fifty-five (55) had applied, twenty (20) were interviewed, and twelve (12) were selected.
- (e) There is a need for a 4-way stop sign at the interim construction entrance on Armstrong Street. Accidents have already been reported. The decision is the City's responsibility, not Mesa's.
- (f) There are 3 new dean positions: Humanities, Languages, and Teacher Education/Global Awareness (Associate Dean). The Humanities and Languages deans are being interviewed and should be in place early by spring semester. Associate Dean Danene Soares, Teacher Education, has accepted a Dean position at Cuyamaca College. Her position will be replaced next semester.
- (g) Interviews for VPSS are now occurring and the hope is for the new person to be in place by January. Interim VPSS Gail Conrad is moving to the District office to be the new Director of DSPPS.
- (h) VPI position has been extended to February 8th with the hope that this person will be in place by March as VPI Armstrong has agreed to stay on only until that time.

2. District Governance

- A new draft of the Sustainability Policy was distributed. An attachment of the policy will be sent out with the December 10th minutes for everyone to review. A report is due back to DGC on February 28, 2008.

3. District Committees. Nothing to report at this time.

4. Board of Trustees. Nothing to report at this time.

5. Other.

- (a) The District is now using the Online Classroom Matrix for air conditioning. The temperature adjusts based on the heat/cold levels. Contact Facilities at extension 2814 if you are experiencing any problems.
- (b) Important Dates:
 - 12/28/07 – Faculty are encouraged to post fall 2007 grades online for Intersession prerequisite.
 - 01/02/08 – Intersession Opening Day materials, including rosters, tutorial referral codes and add codes can be picked up by Admissions and Records staff for distribution to faculty by Thursday, January 3, 2008.
 - 01/26/08 – Intersession Ends – Deadline for instructors to submit final grades online.
- (c) Basic Skills will be meeting on Friday, February 1, 2008 from 8:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Lunch will be served. The committee would like to get input from as many people as possible. Student participation is encouraged.
- (d) Accreditation will take place in 2010. The items that will be looked at are program reviews, planning, and SLOs. Starting in the spring semester, Joe Safdie (SLOAC) will provide a report at all the Senate meetings. Teegarden warned everyone that in the past, the Accreditation Team gave two (2) years for a college to fix any problems but now it will only allow a six (6) month grace period to resolve any errors they find.

Safdie recommends that each department develop a rubric for each class addressing SLOs, which will be assembled in a library. He also advised creating a list of discipline and departmental outcomes. He reminded everyone that there are six (6) types of SLOs. New software will be purchased to manage the SLO's and Gustin raised a concern with it. President Teegarden indicated the Research Committee is reviewing some software to see how it works and the VPI agreed it won't be purchased until it is approved by a select group of users (i.e., department chairs or anyone willing to enter their SLO data in the system). The SLO Committee will convene on Friday, December 14th at the Research Committee meeting.

- (e) President's Cabinet agreed to the top nine (9) positions of the Faculty Priority List which are English generalist, art/photography, Music, French, Anthropology, Geography, History, Math/Statistics, and World History.
- (f) Rico-Bravo asked for faculty to submit hiring committee memberships to her.
- (g) President Teegarden mentioned using diversity in the makeup of a hiring committee.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Resolution 07.11.3 – Green Building (D. Barrie/E. Rempala)**. Barrie reported he had been working with the ESC at Mesa and City College. They agreed their statement needed to be strengthened to require LEED Silver certification on new buildings while also making an allowance for projects where LEED Silver isn't practical. Dr. Karon Klipple, Co-Chair ESC at City College offered to present the resolution to Roberta Alexander, City College's Senate President, for her to review. The resolution was tabled until February 11, 2008, because the final wording was not available. Barrie agreed to provide the updated resolution to San Filippo for implementation.

- B. **Resolution 07.11.4 – Academic Senate Constitution changes concerning the Academic Affairs Committee (W. Brothers)** was presented by Brothers to be voted on and it passed unanimously.

M/S/U

Rico-Bravo/Sykes

Unanimous

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- **Mission Statement (W. Brothers)**. Brothers indicated that the Academic Affairs Committee is tasked to review Mesa's Mission Statement every two years. After a subcommittee reviewed the language and changed it, they presented it next to the Academic Affairs Committee, who provided additional changes, and then it was unanimously approved. Brothers explained the language didn't really change, but the order of the statement was rearranged instead. The Four (4) new sections are Vision, Values, Mission Statement, and Goals. Many California colleges had short mission statements but the subcommittee agreed it should be grander than before.

M/S/U

Specht/Ontell

Unanimous

- **Resolution for VPI (C. Luna)**. After President Cepeda and VPI Armstrong arrived to the Senate meeting, Luna read to them the following resolution:

Whereas, The Academic Senate is the voice for the faculty at San Diego Mesa College on all issues dealing with instruction, and

Whereas, The Vice President of Instruction is the chief administrator who oversees instructional issues and has done an outstanding job through shared governance to see that such issues are treated fairly, and

Whereas, The current Vice President of Instruction Elizabeth Armstrong has decided to retire; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Mesa Academic Senate petition the City to rename the Armstrong entrance unless Vice President Armstrong agrees to stay. If this fails, then be it

Resolved, That the Mesa Academic Senate request that the district bribe Vice President Armstrong by doubling her salary. If this fails, then be it

Resolved, That the Mesa Academic Senate place Vice President Armstrong under Senate arrest until such time as her clone can be developed. If this fails, then be it

Resolved, That the Mesa Academic Senate wish Vice President Armstrong a wonderful and fulfilling retirement. You will be missed!

Ontell made a motion to suspend the rules for a vote and Sykes seconded. After the approval of the resolution, VPI Armstrong was given a standing ovation by the Senate. The celebration continued as President Teegarden presented VPI Armstrong with a card and floral bouquet. A delicious cake was also served.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS. No announcements were made.

IX. ADJOURNMENT was made by President Teegarden at 3:21 P.M.

Next meeting will be on February 11, 2008, in Room H117/118 at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Madeleine Hinkes, Senate Secretary, and
Ruth San Filippo, Recording Secretary.