

ACADEMIC SENATE ATTENDANCE & MINUTES  
15<sup>th</sup> November 2011

**Adjunct Faculty**

Sue Ellen Warren X

Leah Pate

**Behavioral & Social Sciences**

Firestone, Randy EXC

Gold, Christina X

Moen, Michelle X

Widman, Lance X

Wynne, Michael X

**Business**

Siddiqui, Junaid

Lau, Philip S X

VACANT

**Counseling**

Jackson, Brenda

Pajo, Christina X

Sabio, Sabra X

Vaughn, Dexter X

Key, Ken

**Fine Arts**

Ahmadpour, Ali X

Bloomberg, Randall X

Crossman, Mark

Schultz, Patrick X

Wells, Chris

**Health Sciences & Athletics**

Hazell, Tom

Colunga, Mina X

Baily, Kim X

Holt, Kelly

VACANT

**Humanities**

Isaacs, Brent X

Marcoux, Pete X

McLaughlin, Kate X

Halonon, Briita X

Simon, Jenny X

**Industry & Technology**

Gebert, Pat X

Hofmann, Ed X

MacPherson, Lee X

Winfree, Merriel X

Marston, Doug

**Learning Resources Unit**

Striepe, Claudia X

Ichinaga, Moon X

**Mathematical Sciences**

Bateman, Michael X

Hamza Hamza X

Sheynshteyn, Arkadiy X

Taylor, Susan X

VACANT

**Natural Sciences**

Doucette, Pete X

Herzig, Chuck X

Jimenez, Miguel X

Palos Teresa X

VACANT

**Academic Affairs & SCA**

Arce, Francisco

Nishime, Jeanie X

Lee, Claudia

Lam, Karen

**ECC CEC Members**

Evans, Jerome

Norton, Tom X

Panski, Saul X

Pratt, Estina

Halligan, Chris

Odanaka, Michael X

**Assoc. Students Org.**

Asher, Rebekka

Valdez, Cindy X

**Ex- Officio Positions**

Shadish, Elizabeth

**Guests, Dean's Rep, Visitors:**  
Jean Shenkweiler, Tom Lew

Unless noted otherwise, all page numbers refer to the packet used during the meeting, not the current packet you are reading now.

The sixth Academic Senate meeting of the Fall 2011 semester was called to order by Academic Senate President Gold at 12:36pm.

Approval of last Minutes:

The minutes of the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were approved as written.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**Academic Senate President's report – Christina Gold** (henceforth CG)

- **Academic Senate Constitutional Amendment.** [see pp.17-19 of packet] CG noted that proposed amendments to the academic senate constitution had been put to a campus-wide vote. All had passed. The VP legislative action position will be eliminated at the end of this semester, and two new VP positions will be added - that of VP Institutional effectiveness, and VP Technology. Additionally, these positions will have the option of having staggered term Co- VP's.
- CG noted a clean copy of the **Academic Senate Constitution** had been included in the packets. [see pp. 20-34]
- CG reported on discussion at the last college council meeting concerning the re-surveying of campus attitudes on smoking/banning smoking. The survey had confirmed original results, and college council is again looking at a map of suggested smoking areas on the campus perimeters.
- Two Ed. Policies were sent back to the committee for reconsideration due to a statement needing alternative wording.
- Deans' Council discussed changes in the way apportionment is calculated. CG will have more information at the next Senate meeting. It seems people are satisfied in general but there is disagreement on how to implement the recommendations.
- The Distance Education Initiative is set for the 17/18<sup>th</sup> November. All interested faculty are encouraged to attend.

**VP Legal – Chris Wells (CW)**

No report. CG noted that CW had another meeting to attend.

**VP Compton Education Center - Saul Panski (SP)**

No report.

**Curriculum Committee – Jenny Simon (JS)**

No report.

**VP Educational Policies Committee – Merriel Winfree (MW)**

No report.

**VP Faculty Development Committee – Briita Halonen (BH) (Co-VP) and Moon Ichinaga (MI) (Co-VP)**

[See pp' 14-16 of packet for minutes of last meeting]

MI reported that the Committee and panel are in the midst of reviewing the applications for the Outstanding Adjunct Award. A decision will be made next Monday. A letter has been sent to Administration requesting the rationale for revoking the parking spot as part of the award prize, and asking for the reinstatement of this privilege. It seemed a small sacrifice but a great opportunity to improve morale.

The **Getting the Job workshop series, Part 1 “The Application Process”** workshop had gone well, with good attendance and positive feedback. Part 2 “The Interview Process” will be held February 24<sup>th</sup>. On the “**California Reads” project**, MI reminded the Senate that Jeanne Houston, author of Farewell to Manzanar” would be speaking on campus on November 17<sup>th</sup> in the East Dining Hall.

**VP Finance and Special Projects – Lance Widman (LW)**

No report.

**CG made a motion to reorder the Agenda items, having the New Business and Information items before the ECCFT report. There were no objections and the motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Nominations:**

The faculty-at-large approved the creation of two new VP positions in Academic Technology and Instructional Effectiveness. Cg noted that the VP Legislative Action (Mr. Wells) will serve until the end of the semester and then that position will be eliminated.

CG opened the floor for nominations for the two new positions.

Mr. Widman nominated Mr. P. Marcoux for the position of VP Technology.

Dr. Simon nominated Ms. K. Holt for the position of VP Instructional Effectiveness.

CG drew the Senators’ attention to the Constitution which states that the VP must be a member of the Senate, noting that Ms. Holt was taking one of the vacant Senate position in Health Sciences & Athletics/Nursing and so was eligible for the nomination. The Senate will vote at the next meeting.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Academic Calendar and Winter Session:**

[See pp 35-38 of packet] The issue is that Winter session could be eliminated and make it viable to offer back-to-back sessions in Summer. CG had asked that discussion on this be held off during negotiations as this is a negotiable item, but the request was denied. Negotiations are now complete., but if resumed CG again asked that the primary concern be consideration of student success, which echoes the State concerns which state that the academic senate should play a leading role in the compiling of the calendar. The Calendar Committee next meets on the 17<sup>th</sup> November in Admin 101 at 3:30 pm.

Mr.Widman asked why CG’s request had been denied. CG said that President Fallo had said that a lawyer had said it was acceptable to begin planning on negotiable items in similar situations.

Mr. Widman asked if there had been any response from the VPs. CG referred Mr. Widman to the minutes of the College Council on pg 13 of the packet, but noted these minutes did not accurately/adequately what had happened. The discussion had taken up half the meeting. Dr. Nishime said that the Calendar Committee had always been a recommending Committee. CG reminded all that they were welcome to attend these open meetings.

**Hiring Prioritization Results:**

[See pp 39-40 of packet] This shows the votes of the individual committee members, and then the listing of the 20 positions that President Fallo and VP Arce finally decided on, noting the few changes and explanations for those changes. Mr. Ahmadapourfelt the justification re: the art position was insufficient and felt that the recommendations of the Art department had been ignored. CG said we could ask for more elaboration and will email requesting more detail.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ECCFT Report – Elizabeth Shadish (ES)**

ES distributed a summary handout of the Federation/District negotiations, noting that she had earlier sent out an email with a link to the full document.

CG noted that the Academic Senate had to view this through the lens of the Senate and so only discuss items that fell under the 10+1 purview. There are several items of direct interest to the Academic Senate – such as the Winter Session/Calendar issue. CG repeated that the State senate had acknowledged that major changes in the calendar should be made in conjunction with the Academic Senates. Also of interest were the items dealing with counselors and student success, noting that the State report on Student Success Recommendations calls for MORE counseling for students. CG noted that collegial consultation was another issue.

ES said that while she agreed the Senate had to stick to its purview she would also be mentioning other Union issues as she felt they are important. ES first cleared up a point of potential confusion in the handout, noting that statements in the handout say “District proposal” or Federation Proposal” and this means that the issue was originally brought up by the body indicated.

ES wanted it known that the District never claimed an “inability to pay”, yet the document often makes mention of the costs involved in items, she felt this was an oddity. The Union’s perspective is that the Union was being asked to give up a lot, and that the ground was being laid for further concessions on the part of the Union later on. Administration seemed to want to renegotiate items like salary every year, and the Union did not agree. The Union had asked certain gaps in the “step” process be filled, and that faculty receive a 5% increase in 2013, but the Fact Finder said this was impossible. ES said it was frustrating that the neutral chair did not favor talk on Reserves, GASBE and other funds.

ES noted that the Health Benefits and Sabbatical Committees had been voting committees and had been downgraded to recommending committees/consulting bodies.

ES noted several irregularities in the final report, including the fact that the neutral chair had asked for each tem to compile reports that he then used as a resource for his own report, and that in some instances only evidence from one side made it into the report.

This is the first day the report has been made public. The neutral chair has said that the parties can go back to negotiation, but if no agreement is reached this report will move forward to the Board of Trustees in an actionable sense, meaning that the Board can accept or reject the report. If the Board were to accept the report, we would have a contract that has been imposed upon us.

ES said that if the contract is imposed upon us we can renegotiate in Spring as the contract is only for one fiscal year. The feeling of the Union is that the experience was not good-faith negotiating. ES said that the next Union meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November in the Distance Ed room from 1-2.

Ms. Ichinaga asked whether, when the Board decides, they would still be receptive to further comment.

ES said yes, there would be a period in the meeting for open comment. However, comments may not influence their decision.

Mr. Ahmadapour was of the opinion that many teachers were not involved with the Union and recommended a “teach-in” and invite speakers to the campus. He felt we should be sharing the facts with the community, going door-to-door with letters to householders. Mr. Ahmadapour noted that at other colleges on Flex Day the presidents of the Union and of the Academic Senate were allowed to speak after the College president. Then they would have an opportunity to reach all faculty.

ES noted that she had met with other community college Union leaders and they had said they will support us as best they can.

Mr. Marcoux felt the Senate should write a resolution re: student success and retention.

CG said that she would welcome some direction on how to proceed, should the Senate get directly involved or not.

Mr. Marcoux felt the counselors should give an opinion and direction.

Ms. Taylor thought it was a good idea to withhold representation on Committees, or work on the Committees but not submit reports, or begin complaint/grievance procedures.

ES noted that the Union had made frequent requests for information but had received nothing, so the Union has filed a labor violation complaint. She said that PERB can be slow to respond, but it is on file.

ES liked the idea of committee work without filing reports, noting it might not be politic NOT to be on committees.

Mr. Widman asked if it were true that one's pay could be docked if one did not work on Division committees.

Dean Lew said he did not believe this was true, but it IS in the contract that faculty members are obligated to serve on committees. Dean Lew said that the issue of Committees appears several times on evaluation reports.

Mr. Widman said that if anyone hears threats of docking pay, they should contact the Federation office ext 3184, and that he seconded Ms. Taylor's idea of Committee work without submitting reports.

CG asked for suggestions on how to proceed, noting she had heard suggestions on:

Drafting a Resolution, votes of no confidence in persons and proceedings, writing a statement to the Board, completing the Collegial Consultation report.

Mr. Widman suggested sending the Collegial Consultation report to the Accreditation Board. Mr.

Ahmadapour noted that many teachers have lost trust in the President and VP's and called for a vote of no confidence. Ms. Halonen felt that Senate silence could be construed as acceptance.

ES said that if anyone knows a local state representative, they should send them a letter as they could bring pressure to bear. Ms. Colunga agreed that something needs to be done as a disservice is being done to the community.

Mr. Widman noted that the Daily Breeze had never been a friend, and saying that an accurate story needs to be published. Dr. Warren asked if there were other publications that might accept the story, and Mr. Widman mentioned some local small papers, as well as the Los Angeles Times.

CG said it seemed the Senate was advocating a proactive approach. Mr. Ahmadapour said that the Occupy movements were reaching a wide audience.

Mr. Panski warned against sending anything to the Accreditation Board, noting that such an action could backfire, and advised sticking to bringing the issues to the local community.

Ms. Ichinaga noted that while most faculty would support the issues of student success, some faculty have reservations on the counselors 10/12 month issue.

Mr. Ahmadapour asked, for the record, why Dr. Arce was not present. CG said he was in another meeting, and Dr. Nishime had also had to leave early for another meeting.

Discussion continued on committee work; Ms. Taylor noted that Math had many separate committees and that they would continue the work, but not submit report. Ms. Colunga was worried in the case of SLO that, with many faculty being so set against the idea of SLO's already, all work in this area would cease/ ES said it should be made clear that the work should still continue, just the reports withheld.

Mr. Panski said that the CEC could get by without ECC faculty involvement on hiring committees, but that if such a recommendation were to be printed, it be worded very carefully so as not to come across as a "slap in the face" for the CEC.

Mr. Ahmadapour asked for 5 minutes at the next meeting to discuss the idea of Occupy ECC. CG said this could be done under Public Comment.

CG said she would take the suggestions she had heard and consult with the Executive Board, and bring comment back to the next meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 1:36pm.

CS/ECC2011