

Minutes: MSP

Ventura College Academic Senate Thursday, November 1, 2007

I. Call to order

I. Call to order at 1:37

Present:

Edith Conn (Senator Emeritus), Joe Selzler (Secretary), Nancy Mitchell (Nursing), Angelica Gonzales (Student Services), Deborah Ventura (Vice President), Randy Ringen (Communications and Learning Resources), Bill Hendricks (Art), Ollie Powers (Criminal Justice, Technology and Music)

II. Approval of the minutes

Approved 5-0 with 3 abstentions

III. Action Item

A. Diversity Facilitators. The Senate Exec drafted a resolution regarding the need for faculty diversity facilitators to serve on faculty hiring committees. Patricia Parham, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, has agreed with the essence of the resolution and has agreed to use classified diversity facilitators only if it is “an emergency”. It is not clear what would constitute an emergency, and Senators raised the concern that if faculty diversity facilitators are not giving enough paid hours “an emergency” might be triggered. Issues related to pay are currently being working on by AFT. The resolution demanding the reinstatement of faculty diversity facilitators was approved 8-0. The resolution will be sent to Patricia Parham.

B. Senate Bylaws Deborah Ventura updated the Senate on the bylaws. Two areas where changed since the bylaws were last discussed by the Senate. The makeup of the Faculty Professional Development Committee was changed to include up to 10 faculty members. The mission of the Faculty Professional Development Committee was also updated. The membership of the Subcommittee on Student Success was also clarified. The bylaws will be sent out by email to all faculty for approval. The succession of officers was also discussed. It was agreed to add a clause stating that an election can be held to fill the Office of President -when there is a resignation- at the discretion of the Senate Council. Approved 8-0.

C. Ethics Statement An Ethics Statement is need for accreditation purposes. Senators will discuss the Statement with their division and then will vote on it at the next meeting. The draft Ethics Statement is the statement adopted by the AAUP. The relationship between the Ethics Statement and the AFT/VCCCD contract was discussed.

V. President's Report

A. Administrative Council Report: Four Day Class Schedule- Model for Consideration. The idea of a four day class schedule was discussed at the last Admin

Council meeting. Oxnard is using a four day class schedule. Senators raised concerns relating to the limited number of classrooms, timing of classes, and effect of schedule changes on working students. The success of students in long block classes was also raised. The college is also looking into a weekend college which would offer classes on Fridays and Saturdays. The Senate Exec suggested the idea of polling students in regard to a four day class schedule before exploring a full scale mock up of the schedule. A list of expenses of one time money was presented as an information item at Admin Council.

B. DCSL A proposal was discussed to charge students for credit by examination. The fee would be the cost of the class for which they are getting credit. The effect on LVN students who enter the Nursing Program was raised since LVN graduates get credit for NS10. This issue needs to be looked into further.

C. DCHR Human Resources has three new employees although their backgrounds are more with classified employees. One of the new employees is qualified to do an ORAP review, and might be interested in taking on a study according to Patricia Parham. The Senate Exec will follow up on getting a review started. It was suggested that applicants should be surveyed as part of the review process.

D. Career Focus Career Focus was mailed to households in the county as a publicity brochure for the District. Concerns about the descriptions of programs and the potential earnings of graduates were raised (page 10 of Career Focus). Give input to your deans if you think descriptions in your area are questionable.

E. Senate Communication The improvement of communication was discussed. Senators were reminded to consult with faculty in their division about issues before voting on them. Voting should reflect their constituency's views.

F. Others

VI. Committee Reports

A. Division reps on college committees None

VII. Items for Information/Discussion

A. Division Reports None

B. Other None

VIII. Adjournment

Adjourned at 3:06