

**Ventura College Academic Senate
Minutes
Thursday, September 19, 2013
1:30 – 3:30 p.m. MCW – 312**

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:33p.m. The following senators were present:

Braver, Adam—ASVC Student Senator for External Affairs
Carrasco-Nungaray, Marian—Student Services (Transfer Center)
Coffey, Colleen—Senate Secretary
Enfield-Martin, Amanda—English and Learning Resources
Horigan, Andrea—Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Henny Kim—English and Learning Resources
Lange, Cari—Mathematics and Sciences
Mules, Ron—Behavioral Sciences
Sandford, Art—Senate President
Sezzi, Peter—Senate Vice President
Sha, Saliha—Mathematics and Sciences
Wendt, Patty—Student Services
Zacharias, Mary—Career and Technical Education

II. Public Comments

None.

III. Acknowledgement of Guests

None.

IV. Approval of minutes

a. September 5, 2013

Carrasco-Nungaray raised concern that draft minutes are being circulated and posted. Senators discussed this issue. Point made that other committees do not post draft minutes. Unanimous agreement among Senators that in future minutes will not be distributed or posted until finalized and approved by Senate. Carrasco-Nungaray raised additional concern that minutes seem to be recording conversations whereas they ought to capture only actions. Sandford disagreed saying that per accreditation guidelines, minutes are specifically to capture *how* meetings arrive at their decisions. Motion to approve minutes made by Horigan. Seconded by Sezzi. Discussion: Carrasco-Nungaray would like item VI (d) corrected to remove the word “document” and replace it with the word “feedback.” Senators discussed this proposed change. Vote 7-2-1. Motion approved.

V. Study Sessions

a. VCCCD Facilities Report

Sandford shared chart depicting changes in VC square footage and landscaping as a consequence of Measure S. Custodial is really understaffed for what is now required. Discussion had regarding the lack of adequate funds for scheduled maintenance. Lange raised concern about maintenance utilizing teaching classrooms for equipment without communicating with impacted faculty first. Sandford said he would undertake to invite Jay from M&O to speak to the Senators about this issue.

b. Analysis of Grade Distribution and Success Rates (Attachment 1)

Senators discussed the data about student success prepared by the VC research office. Lange suggested implementation of a +/- grading system. Coffey brought up effect that SLO implementation (70% or above success) may have had on this data. Sezzi shared that our results are commensurate with statewide average. Horigan stated that she would like to find out how many cc's have +/- grading options. Henny said she was unsure of what to take away from this data in terms of teaching/grading strategies. Braver spoke to student perspective.

VI. Action Items

a. Goal-setting for 2013-2014 (Attachment 2)

Senators discussed consolidation of proposed Senate goals as follows:

Communication

Suggested to combine goals 1,2, 5 and 7; to combine 3 & 4; and to let 6 stand on its own.

Success

Suggested goal: Foster a productive transition with new faculty and leadership. Sandford made suggestion for an inaugural social to welcome new faculty et al.

College-Level Operations

Suggested to combine 1, 2, and 7 re program review. Suggested language: continually evaluate and improve the program review process.

Suggestion made to drop 3 from the Senate's goals as DCHR is taking this up.

Suggested language for 4: open district communication with other 2 senates re: plus minus grading.

Suggested language for 8: explore conversation with 3 senates and union re: developing a contiguous finals week schedule.

Suggested language for 9: explore possible opportunities for more faculty to participate in middle & high school recruitment. Horigan stated that she would like to be on a committee to undertake this goal.

Sezzi moved to approve the goals as consolidated. Zacharias seconded. Vote unanimous in favor. Motion passed.

b. VCCCD Educational Master Plan—2nd reading

Motion to approve this by Hendricks. Horigan seconded. Discussion followed. Sezzi raised issue of “overarching strategic goals” and then in appendix the listing of 6 goals. Sezzi suggested striking the word “strategic” in Appendix 1 at page 11. Zacharias raised issue that the Appendix appeared to be action steps, rather than goals. Vote unanimous in favor. Motion passed.

c. VC Accreditation MidTerm Report – 2nd reading

Sezzi moved to approve this document. Wendt seconded. Vote 12-0-1.

d. Nominations of faculty to serve on Staffing Priorities Committee

Discussion had regarding the need for a past senate president to serve. Possible names are offered for this: Goff, Ventura, Schoenrock, De La Rocha, Corbet, Costentino. Hendricks will serve as general education faculty member. Wendt nominated Corey Wendt to serve. Mary Zacharias will serve. Motion to approve these nominations made by Lange. Horigan seconded. Vote ; Horigans seconds. Vote 10-0-2. Motion passed.

VII. President’s Report

President reported that VC is down in enrollment—approximately 200 FTES as of 9/16. Discussed the ADTs. Sandford asked Hendricks about ADT in art department. Hendricks says art department working on more transfer degrees. ADTs also in the works in English & Philosophy.

VIII. Senate Subcommittee Reports

None.

IX. Campus Committee Reports

Sezzi reported on Curriculum Committee meeting—they had a training session on Tues 9/17/13. Reported that it was a good briefing on what goes into curriculum review. Says Oct/Nov is busiest time for CC. Horigan reported re SLO committee: said there was a change in the form for reporting Course Level Outcomes. Said she & Newcomb are going to attend the next department chair meeting about this change.

X. Announcements for the Good of the Order

Hendricks told Senators of a memorial for Carlisle Cooper being held Friday, 9/20 outside the MAC building at 11:00. Sandford provided an update on Larry Barrett’s condition.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:01pm.