Academic Senate Meeting
Thursday, November 17th, 2005
Minutes

Present:
Members of the Executive Committee:
Kathryn Schoenrock, Becky Hull, Luke Hall, Robert Porter

Members of the Council:
Marjorie Smith, Nancy Mitchell, Ollie Powers, Lauri Moore, Terry Morris, Peter Sezzi, Bill Hendricks, Mayo de la Rocha, Steve Turner, Marian Carrasco Nungaray, Karen de la Pena, and Donna Beatty

Senator Emeritus:
Edith Conn

Guests: Karen Gorback
ASB Rep: None

I. Called to Order: 1:36

II. Motion to approve the minutes was made. These included two sets of minutes from the 11-03-05 regular meeting and the special meeting on reorganization 11-08-05. Approved with one abstention and all other yes votes.

III. President’s Report: President Kathryn Schoenrock gave a report from the State Academic Senate Fall Plenary Session which included a discussion of Academic Freedom. It was announced that there will be a flex day event on Academic Freedom on Friday January 6th from 10-12. Kathryn also talked about another session she attended on schools with declining enrollment. The session included discussions about what mistakes and lessons other community colleges have been through. One of the recommendations that came out was not cutting programs as this may result in permanently losing many students. Another lesson was that faculty had to become more involved in their colleges to address enrollment declines. At the DCAS meeting, it was decided that cuts need to be made by December 12th. A discussion of the budget situation followed, including how faculty should respond to requests for making cuts. (*10)

IV. Motion to move to topic V. Approved unanimously.

V. Steve Turner reported the election results: 52 ballots casted, 12 ballots were disqualified; Kathryn Schoenrock –30, Becky Hull – 29, Lauri Moore – 29, Bob Porter – 29. A motion was made to approve the results of the Senate election. Approved unanimously. (*6)

VI. President’s Report, Continued: Kathryn then continued with the President’s report. She noted that there are some new district committees being created: District Enrollment Management and District Marketing Committee. A discussion of this issue followed. (*6)
VII. President’s Report, Continued: Kathryn then presented a handout on academic freedom and a discussion followed about changes in the board policy manual. The issue of rewriting the board policy manual without simultaneously revising the board procedures was brought up. It was decided that our last meeting for this semester (Dec 1st) will focus on Chapter 4 of the board policy manual, as well as be a potluck. (*10)

VIII. President’s Report, Continued: Reorganization Report. A discussion followed about the reorganization process and we reviewed the chart with the discipline groupings from our brainstorming session at the 11/8 meeting. It was agreed that council reps will share the chart within their departments and bring back information to the next meeting.

IX. President’s Report, continued: College Planning Council. Kathryn was asked by Robin to appoint faculty to this council. She presented a slate of faculty names and asked for consensus on the list. The Senators, by consensus, approved the list. (*6)

X. President’s Report, Continued: Accreditation Committees. Kathryn asked for faculty volunteers to serve on sub-committees addressing the recommendations. All interested faculty should contact Kathryn soon. (*6,7)

XI. The Treasurer’s Report. Luke Hall let us know that Faculty Recognition Night is scheduled for Friday April 21st. He has reserved the Poinsettia Pavilion and the Senate, by consensus, told him to lock in that date for the event.

XII. Committee Reports. Curriculum Committee: Paulette Johnson is still filling in for Jeff Ferguson. Winnie Rivere’s study abroad class was approved by the Board without any objections. (*1)

XIII. Announcements. 1) Karen Gorback mentioned that the next Symposium on Teaching and Learning will be on January 5th from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Pierpont Inn (550 Sanjon Rd. Ventura). There will be a session on student learning outcomes. 2) Kathryn Schoenrock then let us know about an issue at Moorpark College, where faculty were being asked to take on the role of faculty advising. A discussion followed about the role of counselors and how they may be affected by budget cuts. (*8,7) 3) Kathryn Schoenrock mentioned that there was a plenary session on the role of limiting part-time faculty to only teaching 60%. There was a proposal in the plenary session to increase this to 80%, however it failed. A discussion about this followed. 4) Bob Porter brought up that many students who were involved in the ASB this semester seemed very upset about the way the ASB was operating. 5) It was also mentioned that there are now no Oxnard College students writing for the Colleges’ district student newspaper. (*6)

Motion to adjourn at 3:25. Approved unanimously.