



Academic Senate Highlights February 26, 2007

Public Comments: Ignacio Pando noted that much work needs to be done by the Senate due to the reorganization. He also identified the need to advocate for hiring faculty and expressed concern about the costs of the management positions in the structure. We need information about the costs to fund the administrative positions in the new structure. New (or replacement) faculty positions need to be a high priority and will compete with costs for new managers. Joe Welch commented that the reorganization is a way to open the door for a new culture and that the document presented this month is only the first phase in the process.

Presentation: March 31 Flex Day activities—Dr. Kathleen Rose

She presented the plans for the Salinas Valley Connections Tour. Organizations on the agenda are USDA Agricultural Research Service, Taylor Farms, D'Arrigo Brothers, Tanimura & Antle, and Coastal Tractor. Brief tours will be provided at each stop. The final stop before returning to campus will be Scheid Vineyards for a tour followed by a wine and cheese reception. Between locations we will have presentations by Neil Ledford and Steve Triano (agr. faculty) about high skilled jobs in 21st century agriculture. Ann Riley (history and ethnic studies faculty) has been invited to present political and historical issues of agriculture. Adjunct faculty have been invited and will be accommodated as space is available.

Discussion Items:

Review and Update Senate Goals:

The goals update is attached separately to this email.

Faculty Chairs:

Union needs to work with Senate about faculty chairs ASAP. The Rep Council and the Academic Senate will be working together to determine a proposal for negotiation. It will include the role, responsibilities, work areas/structure of departments, and compensation. It will be important to look at it from the perspective of improvement of instruction rather than administrative duties. The guiding philosophy will be that the duties of the chair are strongly instructionally related duties. The Senate and Rep Council will hold a summit to work on this. We will invite faculty chairs from other colleges (Cabrillo and others), get contract info from CCA/CTA and research what other colleges are doing. The result will be a proposal for the negotiating team. Contact Jennifer if you would like to be part of the "summit."

Action Items:

SLO Assessment Philosophy Statement

The senate adopted the SLO Assessment Philosophy statement that was proposed by the SLO committee. See attached. In particular, the statement says,

"The method to be used for student learning outcome assessment is embedded assessment.

Embedded assessment is a process that evaluates student work from courses (major assignments,

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tests, portfolios, performances, demonstrations, essays, etc.) to measure student mastery of SLOs. Assessment that is embedded in curriculum is minimally intrusive for both faculty and students." The entire document can be viewed at

http://www.hartnell.edu/academic_senate/documents/SLO_philosophy_statement.pdf

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