



Academic Senate Highlights February 24, 2009

President's Report: (with assistance by Carol King and Alejandra Gutierrez) Noncredit ESL classes have been approved by the Curriculum Committee and by the Chancellor's Office. One of the courses will be offered starting in March. Ten others are in discussion for offering in Fall 2009. However, there are many infrastructure issues that should be worked out before we proceed much further. One example is the college application. The application we have for the credit program is inappropriate for the noncredit program. Other issues that should be addressed in order to implement a quality noncredit program include registration, assessment and placement, locations, faculty, and counseling. In all these areas there may be a need for a difference between what we do in the noncredit program vs. the credit program. ESL faculty spoke about the need to address these issues and develop the infrastructure needed, before a wide scale noncredit program is offered. We want noncredit students' first experience with the college to be a positive one

Discussion Items

Equivalency to the Associate Degree: The Senate received a proposal for evaluating equivalency to the minimum qualifications for disciplines in which the Master's is not generally available or expected. The proposal calls for evaluating equivalency to the general education requirements of the Associate's degree by using our six Core Competencies. The document is included as an attachment to this email.

Evaluation of the DBA Pilot: At the next meeting the Senate will form a Task Force to evaluate the DBA pilot. Evaluation will also include the nursing program's foundation course and the results. It will also include comparison to the results of other successful learning communities both here and elsewhere. Costs vs. benefits, outcomes, satisfaction levels, curriculum needs, and administrative support needs are examples of things to be evaluated. Kathleen Rose has offered to help put together an instrument to collect midterm data so the evaluation work can start immediately. In addition, the Task Force will look at the MOUs between the college and Cabrillo's DBA to determine what constraints exist and evaluate the impact of the constraints. If you are interested in serving on the Task Force, please contact Kelly Locke.

Action Items

Accreditation Report: The Senate received a copy of the Accreditation Report (2/19 draft) for this second reading that was very different from the one available at first reading (2/19 draft). The Senate had concerns that so much of the document had been changed and many of the changes seemed substantive rather than editorial. First, a motion was made to table the report, but before it was voted on it was changed to be: The Senate moves to approve the accreditation report of 2/9 as being the document that best represents the input of all constituencies. This motion was adopted on a 13-3 vote with 1 abstention. *[Important Note: As a direct result of the Senate's motion Dr. Helm worked with Dr. Rose to merge the 2/9 draft with the 2/19 draft. This was done in order to keep the clarifying language of the 2/19 draft that added important elements that were missing from the 2/9 draft, but to also include the parts of the 2/9 draft that had been eliminated or substantially revised. The majority of this was done in Recommendation 2. I am pleased with the responsiveness of Dr. Helm to the Senate's concerns. The college could have sent the 2/19 version of the document despite the Senate's concerns. The Senate's approval was not required for this report. Instead, Dr. Helm, Dr. Rose and Board President Donahue spent time and energy working out a compromise. I believe this is a good example of how the college is better today than it was two years ago when we ended up on probation.]*

Committee Appointments:

Full Time Faculty Hiring Committee—Susie Hovde (Math/Sci) and Carol Kimbrough (LA/FA/SS)

[NOTE: Mary Cousineau has volunteered to serve for Occ Ed. Occ Ed faculty, please vote among yourselves if necessary to determine your representation and let me know so I can get someone appointed to represent you.]

Faculty Development Committee—Sunita Lanka

Tenure/Evaluation Workgroup—Tony Anderson, Barbara Durham, Debra Kazcmar, Alison Paul, Sharon Radel, Heidi Ramirez, Carole Thole, Hetty Yelland