

Academic Senate Minutes



May 13, 2008

1. Call to Order: 3:15 pm

Senators & Officers Present: Jennifer Fellguth, President; Phil Adams, Vice President; Stelvio Locci, Cathy Noble, Yvonne Reid, Carole King, Susie Hovde, Larry Adams, Nancy Schur

2. Adoption of the Agenda: Agenda was adopted with requests to table items 5B and 5F.

3. Approval of the Minutes: There were no minutes available for approval.

4. Public Comments: Kathy Mendelsohn, Curriculum Committee Chair provided information regarding recent matters concerning curriculum. The Curriculum Committee is interested in establishing a Catalog sub-committee tasked with responsibility of reviewing the college catalog and improving the accuracy of information printed in the college catalog. The 2007-09 Catalog will be available at the end of May. Fall semester 2008 is the time line for finalizing the 2009-10 Catalog.

Ms Mendelsohn further reported that three new Construction courses have been developed and will be presented to Curriculum Committee at their next meeting and that Dr. Helm has requested these courses be expedited and offered during fall semester 2008. Ms Mendelsohn remarked that this does not follow the typical time line for new courses and she is exploring what the Chancellors Office indicates regarding legal and feasibility issues. These courses will not be in the printed fall schedule of classes and thus may not meet equal access requirements.

5. Presentations: None

6. Discussion Items

A. Tenure Review Process Revisions

President Fellguth reported a Tenure Review Process Revision draft has been distributed by email and recommended we read this document. She also reported meeting with Dr. Helm and Dr. Rose who shared innovative ideas including activities for developing a “sense of community” among new faculty. Other topics discussed included creation of an evaluation portfolio and providing new faculty a list with specific items to be included.

During the discussion, Senator Phil Adams raised concern about the roles of Administrative personnel in the evaluation improvement process. He stated that the faculty and Senate are working to improve the process but evaluation details regarding the roles and responsibilities of administrative supervisors still needs to be addressed. Other Senators echoed this concern.

B. Transformation (tabled)

C. Presidential Search

Senate President Fellguth reminded Senators of the numerous forums available to meet the three college President/Superintendent finalists and encouraged all to attend and complete the Comment Sheets, available at each Forum, to be shared with the Board of Trustees. She also reported on a letter sent to the Board and signed by the presidents of all three senates and the unions supporting on-site visitations of each candidate's present and past sites of employment.

D. Faculty chairs/discipline realignment

Senate President Fellguth informed the Senate that the HCFA union is in the process of negotiating language defining roles of Faculty Chairs and reassigned time/compensation as part of current contract negotiations. If an agreement is reached, this change would take effect in Fall 2008.

A discussion followed questioning the amount of release time and mechanism for selecting Faculty Chairs.

E. Delegation to meet with Dr. Helm regarding hiring of full-time faculty

Dr. Helm has responded to Resolution 4.08 by inviting faculty to meet with her to discuss this issue and explore funding. Senators Nancy Schur and Ignacio Pando's names were mentioned as possible faculty representatives.

F. Permanent Cesar Chavez display on campus (tabled)

7. Action Items

A. Adoption of Resolution 5.08 Regarding Establishment of Emergency Response and Planning Committee

Moved by S.Locci, 2nd by C. King, Approved unanimously.

B. Election of 2008-2009 Academic Senate Officers

The following Officers were elected by confidential ballot

President	Kelly Locke
1 st Vice President	Liz Estrella

Approved unanimously, 5/27/08

2nd Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer
At-Large Member

Nancy Schur
Jennifer Fellguth
Larry Adams

Senator Cathy Noble reviewed expiration dates of current Senate members. It was clarified that Stelvio Locci's elected positions as both a representative of the State Faculty Association Region I and Community College Association Board of Director for Area B provided automatic membership as a Senator and did not fill a slot from his department.

A discussion followed regarding election of new Senators and confusion regarding the potential academic department realignment.

7. Committee Reports

Senator Sharon Radel reported she and Joe Welch are serving on a facilities task force to recommend building improvements in the CAB including replacing furniture, flooring, wall covering and some computers. Faculty should submit requests by Thursday if they have not done so.

8. President's Report (none)

9. Student Senate Report (none)

10. Classified Senate Report (none)

11. HCFA President's Report (none)

12. Announcements

Senator Nancy Schur announced that Mary Young has been appointed to the position of Assistant Nursing Director

13. Items for the next agenda

Senators suggested a portion of the next meeting be used to list Senate accomplishments for the 2007-2008 Academic Year.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m., Locci moved, King 2nd.