

**Draft: Cañada College Academic Senate Governing Council Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 26, 2006**

**Council Members in Attendance:** Martin Partlan, Katie Schertle, Jenny Castello, Monica Malamud, Denise Erickson, David Clay, Paul Roscelli, Doug Hirzel

**Senate Members and Guests in Attendance:** Jing Luan, Dave Meckler, Ana Peng, Kevin Chappell

**1. Call to Order:** 1:39 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda:** Jenny moved. Denise and Paul seconded. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of Minutes:** Denise moved. Jenny seconded. Motion passed.

**4. Public Comment:**

**4.1** Paul appreciates the celebration of Dia de los Muertos *and* Halloween.

**4.2** UNACC is presenting UN Day on Wednesday, November 1 from 12:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

**4.3** A Student Forum is being held on Wednesday, November 8 from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Main Theater to discuss student views regarding the Strategic Plan.

**5. Old Business:**

**5.1 Committee Appointments:**

**5.1.1** A meeting regarding Learning Communities was held recently, and a committee was proposed in order to investigate the further development of LCs on campus and to standardize the establishment of future LCs. The members would be Denise Erickson, Kathy Sammut, Salumeh Eslameh, Anniqua Rana, and Jane Nason. The committee would also like a student member. Discussion issues include: 1) Why is a committee needed specifically for LCs? 2) What exactly is the function of this committee? 3) Would this committee be a sub-committee of Curriculum Committee? Motion to form this committee (as a sub-committee of Curriculum Committee) made by Paul and seconded by Jenny. Motion passed. Motion to accept proposed members made by Paul and seconded by Jenny. Discussion: Including members from other divisions could add to the strengths of this committee. Motion passed.

**5.1.2** Student Services Strategic Planning Committee: Karen Olesen. Paul moved and Jenny seconded. Motion passed.

**5.1.3** EOPS Director Search Committee: Pamela Ward Smith. Paul moved and Jenny seconded. Motion passed.

**5.1.4** TRIO SSS Director Screening Committee: Judy Litkey from Science. Jenny moved and Denise seconded. Motion passed.

**5.1.5** Matriculation Review Committee: Proposed by Melissa Raby. Martin proposed to table any discussion until complete details of the purpose of the committee are established.

**Your Governing Council for the 2006 – 2007 academic year – working for you!**

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## **5.2 Mission, Vision, Values:**

Discussion issues:

- What exactly should be included in a good mission statement? Is word count really what makes a strong mission statement? More verbose mission statements aren't necessarily better. It seems that the criticism made in the review of Cañada's mission statement revolves around its brevity.
- Should terms such as "ensure" be used in mission/vision/values statements? There is a concern that we don't actually *guarantee* anything at this institution, but that we do provide opportunities that students may or may not take advantage of.
- A distinction between what goes into a values statement and a vision statement needs to be made with Cañada's current statements. A distinction between mission and vision also needs to be made clear. ASGC's understanding is that a mission statement describes what we do currently and a vision statement describes what we want to be as an institution years from now.
- Questions arose regarding the contradiction between certain values as they are listed and what we actually do because of constraints from the state and pressure to increase enrollments and bring more money into the college.
- College goals "buried" in mission statements are an integral part of assessing SLOs.
- It was suggested that diversity of "thought" and "academic freedom" should be included in Cañada's values.
- "Life-long" learners are no longer present in community colleges.
- Distance education is not a "mission," it's a mode of delivery of instruction.

**5.3 Class Size Resolution:** Update: The District Academic Senate wants guidelines to determine class size, specifically language which would enable instructors to add a number of students in the first days of class in anticipation of students dropping during the first few weeks. The overall concern of faculty is *who* makes changes to enrollment limits. Enrollment limits have changed in recent years without a clear explanation of who is responsible for establishing and/or changing enrollment limits. After this has been determined, *how* enrollment limits are established (i.e. what criteria are used) must be discussed. A transparent procedure is a necessary component of the enrollment limits policy.

## **6. New Business:**

**6.1 Plus/Minus Grading: Benefits:** It inspires motivation in students to make the extra effort to move into the next grade level. **Drawbacks:** C- might not be considered a passing grade for transfer to some 4-year institutions. "A" students and "A-" students become distinct from one another, which makes it harder to be an "A" student. It should be noted that the plus/minus grading system used to exist at Cañada, and that faculty were, on the whole, dissatisfied when it was taken away.

## **7. Committee Reports:**

### **7.1 Finance:** N/A

**7.2 Curriculum:** Institutional (degree-level) SLOs have been established in draft form. The next step is to determine how we assess these SLOs. The term "critical thinking" needs to be clearly defined to avoid confusion with the way this term is used in 4-year institutions.

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**7.3 Planning and Budget:** The increase in Denise Erickson's position to 100% was approved. P&B gave CBET approval to hire a replacement for Jose Romero. Numbers comparing full-time and part-time faculty at the three campuses were analyzed.

**7.4 College Council:** Enrollment is down but FTES are up slightly. Issues regarding membership in College Council are still being discussed. The question has been raised about the purpose and even necessity of College Council and the possibility of reducing the frequency of meetings and number of members. The concern is that, because we are understaffed, we need to budget our time and limit our membership on committees as much as possible.

**7.5 AFT:** Grievance Training Workshop on Tuesday, October 31 from 2 to 4 p.m. The official vote regarding an early-start or late-start academic calendar (for one year only) is forthcoming.

**7.6 FACCC:** N/A

**7.7 Professional Personnel:** N/A

**8. Matters of Council Interest:** N/A

**9. Motion to Adjourn: 4:00 p.m.**

**10. Upcoming Meetings:** November 9, November 30, December 14. All meetings are from 1:30 to 3:30 in Building 3, Room 104. NOTE: THIS IS A ROOM CHANGE FROM OUR USUAL ROOM.

*To request that an item be added to the agenda, please contact one of the governing council members no later than one week prior to the next meeting (see above for the dates of upcoming meetings).*

View past minutes at <http://www.Cañadacollege.net/about/academicsenate.html> .

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