Cañada College Academic Senate Governing Council Minutes  
Thursday, November 08, 2007

Council Members in Attendance: Martin Partlan, David Clay, Katie Schertle, Lezlee Ware, Carol Rhodes, Sharon Finn, Monica Malamud, Jenny Castello, Denise Erickson,

Senate Members and Guests in Attendance: Tom Mohr, Ray Lapuz, Dave Patterson, Lyn Belingheri, Paul Roscelli, Allison Kronenberg, Lesli Sachs

1. Call to Order: 1:47 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Motion to adopt the agenda with proposed amendments: passed.

3. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve 10/11/07 meeting minutes: passed. Motion to approve 11/01/07 meeting minutes: passed with two abstentions.

4. Public Comment: Follow up about academic titles – The administration should follow conventional protocols regarding the academic titles of faculty members. All titles should be used consistently by all constituents throughout the district. This issue will be discussed further on a future agenda.

5. Committee Reports:
   5.1 Finance: Some full-time faculty paychecks had $25 taken out in one month instead of $10. The remaining $75 will be taken out in appropriate increments.

   5.2 Curriculum: Work continues on the GE Handbook. Stand Alone training took place, and Cañada can now approve stand alone courses. Certain words, including “completion” and “competency” can no longer be used for certificates. Consistent terminology is being developed at the state level.

   5.3 Planning and Budget: 1) Finding a way to evaluate the decision making process of the college stood out in the preliminary accreditation report. 2) An accurate way of forecasting the budget is being developed.

   5.4 College Council: No report.

   5.5 AFT: 1) A connection between SLOs and faculty evaluations was recommended in the preliminary accreditation report. This is in violation of the AFT contract. 2) The district found out last summer that the union/district administration agreed-upon date for Veteran’s Day (Friday, November 9th) was an error because, being a state holiday, it must remain on Monday, November 12th.

   5.6 Professional Personnel: Proposals for the fall were reviewed. SOTL proposals submitted by Aniqua Rana, Paul Roscelli, and Lezlee Ware were enthusiastically supported: There is approximately $6,000 left for more proposals. A summary of faculty and staff numbers was given: Full Time Faculty = 66, Adjunct Faculty = 188, Full Time Staff, = 61, Adjunct Staff = 7, Overall Faculty = 254, Overall Staff = 68. College Council needs to review the system by which Professional Development funds are distributed with respect to the faculty/staff ratio (254/68).
5.7 SLOs: 1) On Monday November 19th there will be a meeting between the SLO Coordinators and the District Academic Senate. 2) The SLO philosophy regarding faculty evaluations is as follows: SLOAC will NOT use assessment of student learning punitively or as a means of determining faculty or staff salaries or rewards. The purpose of assessment is to evaluate student learning, not to reward or punish faculty or staff. 3) On February 29, 2008, there will be a District-wide workshop on assessment (faculty from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, staff from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.) run by Jerry Rudmin (retired faculty). Location TBA. 4) On Wednesday, November 14, there will be a “clicker” meeting in room 17-103 from 2 – 3:30.

6. Old Business:

6.1 Committee Appointments:
6.1.1 College Council – Mike Garcia has been approved as the new Business, Workforce, & Athletics Representative. A representative from the Science division is still needed.

6.2 Diversity Committee Faculty Appointments: Summary: Val Goins, Lesli Sachs, (already approved by ASGC during a voting process that included an additional erroneous name), Alicia Aguirre, Romeo Garcia (recently added names). Some Faculty members feel there should be no diversity committee at all for several reasons: 1) There are too many committees already, 2) It’s everybody’s issue, not just a special committee’s issue to deal with, 3) Diversity needs to be defined first; it’s not just race or economic status, 4) Diversity is built into so much of what we do already, 5) College Council seems to be the logical place to hash out diversity issues from time to time, 6) There’s the MOT training which already addresses some issues involving diversity. It was pointed out that there’s something called the Equal Opportunity Employment Committee which might address some of the issues a diversity committee would be interested in. Questions raised: Why is this particular committee the first to be blocked for reason #1? Why should these faculty members not be approved for work that they have volunteered to do? Some feel that the wishes of certain faculty members to be a part of a Diversity Committee should be honored by the ASGC, and that a protocol was breached by voting against Faculty participation in a DC. This issue should be an action item on a future agenda.

Motion to repeal the previous appointments to the Diversity Committee because it was based on erroneous information: passed. Motion that the ASGC recommends that we not the support the formation of a Diversity Committee and that its goals be accomplished in another manner: passed with 6 in favor and 2 opposed. The issues regarding whether or not the campus should have a diversity committee will be on a future agenda. The issues regarding the number of committees extant and the desire to prevent further committees from being developed until faculty numbers make it feasible will be on a future agenda.

6.3 Block Scheduling: Motion to move forward with block scheduling with the particulars to be worked out between ASGC and Administration by December so that the new scheduling can begin Fall Semester ’08: passed with two abstentions.

6.4 Plagiarism (Turnitin.com): It is less expensive to purchase Turnitin.com for the entire district. Motion to support the discussion of purchasing anti-plagiarism software such as Turnitin.com across the district: passed.

6.5. Distance Ed Policy: The Faculty is encouraged to review the development of this policy.
6.6 The 15 Week Calendar: Data presented by Professor Malamud showed that about 40 CC’s in CA are on a compressed calendar. It was pointed out that the 15-wk semester was the norm elsewhere in the U.S., and of those which have adopted the compressed calendar in recent years, none have changed back. Motion to request that the District create a mock 15 – week calendar to help the district-wide discussion of such a calendar move forward: passed.

6.7 Faculty Ethics Statements: Motion to leave the District Academic Senate Faculty Ethics Statement in tact as is: passed.

7. New Business:

7.1 Proposed New Faculty Positions: For the purpose of discussion and information only, a list of proposed new faculty positions was reviewed. The policy of not replacing full-time faculty members who leave the college will be on a future agenda.

7.2 Improving All-College Meetings: Some reasons were offered as to why attendance at recent All-College Meetings has been declining: 1) Some topics are discussed at multiple committee meetings, 2) Some of the content is report-based (versus discussion-based) and can be distributed via email or campus mail.

7.3 Enrollment Limits: These are inconsistent between the three colleges.

8. Matters of Council Interest: None

9. Motion to Adjourn: 4:20 p.m.


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 fore the dates of upcoming meetings).

View past minutes at http://www.canadacollege.edu/inside/academic_senate/0607/index.html