

FULLERTON COLLEGE FACULTY SENATE
approved minutes
1-Mar 2012

present, according to sign-in sheet

At-Large	Mike Baker, Dale Craig, Liz Kiszely, Ricardo Salas, Jay Seidel, Pete Snyder
Business/CIS	Nancy Woolridge
Counseling	Laura Almodóvar-Solé, Bryan Ouchi
Fine Arts	Carl Stanaway
Humanities	Joe Carrithers, Jeanne Costello, Brandon Floerke
Library	Dave Brown
Math/Comp. Sci.	Dana Clahane, Cheryl Duhme
Natural Sci.	Colleen Kvaska, Mary Nolan-Riegle, Karen Robinson
Part-time	Roger Perez
Physical Ed.	Tim Byrnes
Social Sciences	Robert Hyde, Julie Felender
Student Services	vacant
Tech./Engineering	Jose Miranda
Associated Students	Maria Duque
Senate President	Marcus Wilson
Past-president	Ken Collins
Curriculum Council	Jennifer Combs
Treasurer	Sam Foster
Secretary	Josh Ashenmiller
Guests	Dr. Terry Giugni, VPI Callista Lee, DEAC Chair

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:05P by Dr. Wilson.

II APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

M/S/U (Nolan-Riegle/Kvaska) to approve the 16-Feb 12 minutes with corrections.

III APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

M/S/U (Combs/Foster) to approve the agenda for this meeting.

IV PUBLIC COMMENTS

Greg Ryan, Director of Financial Aid, briefed the Senate on many recent rule-changes to financial aid, all of which will result in less aid to students. There is a limitation on repeating courses, but the District's new policy of three-time maximum already covers that. As of 1-Jul 12, the maximum for Pell Grant funding will shrink from 18 full-time semesters to 12. A high school diploma or GED will be required—no more equivalence tests. Once a student drops below 6.0 enrolled units, he or she has to begin making loan payments within six months. After 1-Jul 12, there will be no six-month grace period, and the interest rate will almost double to 6.8%. On the bright side, the state DREAM Act will be in effect in Spring 2013, making more students eligible for Board of Governors and Cal Grants.

Carrithers spoke for many faculty members who find the new 30-minute loading zone in front of the 700 building to be dangerous. Why did Campus Safety choose that spot? With whom did they consult?

Dolores Cornejo from the Cadena Center is encouraging all faculty members to get involved in the World Fest, formerly the Festival of Diversity. It will be Thursday, 26-Apr, from 10:00A to 2:00P. A College Hour is scheduled for 12:00-1:00P that day, so please consider releasing your class then. Faculty can participate in any of the cultural events, but cannot bring food because the event is already being catered.

Costello announced that there is still Basic Skills funding available for faculty to attend the International Supplemental Instruction conference in San Diego on 31-May and 1-Jun. Danni Wilson is accepting applications until today, 1-Mar.

Callista Lee announced that Study Abroad in Rome is set for Spring 2013. She will be teaching Psychology courses, and Mary Forman from Cypress College will be teaching English courses. Please promote this to your students.

V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Distance Education Advisory Committee Report, Callista Lee

Many FC faculty members have had problems with Blackboard this year. And there have been many rumors floating around about the sources of the difficulties, in particular that Cypress faculty have not experienced the same problems, perhaps because Cypress—rather than the District—hosts their own Blackboard courses. This is not entirely true. Cypress never had CE6 through CE8, which many FC faculty members recall fondly. Cypress has been using crummy Blackboard products all along. This had two effects: 1) Cypress instructors don't consider Blackboard 9 to be all that bad because they are used to it, and 2) Cypress instructors are well-versed in finding ways to work around Blackboard's annoying roadblocks. DEAC has been working closely with District IT to keep track of the all the problems and make patches available. For example, a patch is coming soon that will fix bugs in the calendar tool. Lee will also send out to all faculty a feedback form that will help DEAC get a handle on what needs to be fixed.

President's report

Pres. Wilson reminded the Senate of the two renamed District Councils. One works on the budget and has one FC faculty representative, Wilson. The other is the District Consultative Council, on which Past-Pres. Collins and Wilson serve. At the latter Council's most recent meeting, there emerged an alarming proposal for using video surveillance to ensure that faculty and staff were adhering to board policies. Collins and Wilson strenuously

objected and suggested that video was only appropriate for protecting property and campus safety. The proposal went nowhere. There was much discussion in the Senate, most of it exasperated in tone.

The Institutional Research Committee is meeting accreditation standards by drafting a structure for overseeing faculty research. The Committee is also in the process of evaluating other campus processes, such as program review, staff development, and the President's Advisory Council. It was the sense of the Senate to support the IRC in its efforts.

The Community College League of California is holding a day of advocacy for education funding in Sacramento on 28-Mar. The FC delegation will include at least one student, one faculty member, one trustee, and the college president.

The Senate executives are still waiting for the college administration's draft plans for program discontinuance and the new technology committee.

Treasurer's report

Foster thanked pizza and healthy snack providers Salas and Baker.

VI CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

The District curriculum committee is meeting tomorrow to analyze a recent spreadsheet that compares average class sizes at FC and Cypress. The data show a difference of less than one student per class, putting to rest the misperception that FC's class sizes are much larger than Cypress's.

VII ELECTIONS

The Senate elected Sam Foster to be the new president. He will begin his term in the fall of 2012 as president-elect, followed by two years as president and one year as past-president.

At the 15-Mar meeting, the Senate will elect a president to replace the current vacancy. That person will serve as president for the 2012-13 academic year, and he or she will serve as past-president for the 2013-14 academic year. The Senate will also elect a new treasurer and secretary for 2012-2013. Kiszely said that the Senate executive committee should have more women on it to ensure gender balance in shared governance, because Senate executives represent faculty on various campus and District committees and hiring committees.

There is still a vacancy for a faculty representative on PAC.

Other election results:

Selection Committee for the Director of the Cadena Center: Jodi Balma and Elias Dominguez.

VIII OLD BUSINESS

Budget

On Tue, 6-Mar, 2:00P the Workload Reduction Task Force will have its first meeting. The Senate executives, under former Pres. Chamberlin, reached agreement with the administration to create this task force, which will attempt to make decisions to cut or add classes more rational and transparent than the status quo, which seems arbitrary and based on

circumstances such as retirements and sabbaticals. The Senate executives believe, and the Senate agrees, that instead of focusing on units, the college should use “hours of instruction” as the basis for decision-making. Senators had much to add to this. Keeping faculty in the dark about class cut allocation leads to speculation that secret criteria are being used, perhaps success and retention rates. Departments with instructors using reassigned time get punished hardest by extended day budget cuts, because they have more classes taught by adjunct faculty.

Newspapers have published rumors that there will soon be a surprise, state-wide, midyear budget cut. There is truth to the rumors, but District budget director Fred Williams told the Board of Trustees that such a cut was built into the original budget assumptions. The worst-case scenario is a cut that goes deeper than extended-day cuts by reducing the overall student cap for fall 2012.

Senate constitution and bylaws

M/S/U (Floerke/Miranda) to continue to have both documents, subject to revision by the Senate and approval of the faculty.

There was much discussion of rules that need to be revised, such as elections. The Senate also discussed the pros and cons of keeping the current four-year Senate president cycle, which some recent presidents have been unable to finish. Perhaps we should move to a three-year cycle. Senators will consult with their divisions about this.

Campus reassigned time positions

Senate executives reached a verbal agreement with the college president that will do away with the existing rule requiring the Senate to elect a selection committee for each position, then hold another election to fill the position.

The new agreement, subject to Senate approval, will have the Senate announce widely all vacancies with reassigned time. Once faculty members have nominated candidates, the Senate will either vote to elect, or appoint a selection committee if the Senate feels one is needed. Pres. Vurdien expressed the desire to have the opportunity to meet with the candidates before they take office, so that he can make his recommendation to the Senate.

There was much discussion on this last point about whether this constituted a presidential veto, which would be a new element in the process. Maybe the president should be able to meet with candidates before the Senate votes, not after. Maybe the president should be allowed to comment on the candidates’ letters of interest. The new procedure would also revise the existing procedure by removing the managers and classified staff, who currently have representatives on selection committees.

The Senate expects a draft of the new proposal to come from PAC, and it will undoubtedly be the subject of further Senate discussion. The first test-case of the new procedure will be election of a new Staff Development Coordinator.

IX LIAISON REPORTS

Associated Students

AS is conducting on-line student surveys. It is also trying to fill vacant AS positions. Candidate information packets will be available Mon, 5-Mar. Elections will be in April.

United Faculty

The UF Board voted to finalize language to submit to the District for SLOs. If the District agrees, the Board will sign a tentative agreement, but it will not become part of the Contract until faculty members vote on it. As always, the UF's goal is to keep SLOs from serving as criteria for faculty evaluations.

The UF is helping Cypress faculty who are having difficulties with managers and deans. The UF will use a CEA website to collect hard data from faculty about the disputes.

Adjunct faculty

No report.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05P.

Respectfully submitted,
Josh Ashenmiller
Secretary