



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

· A C A D E M I C · S E N A T E ·

Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 29, 2007

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** J. Custeau, G. Differding, G. Gomez, S. Haber, L. Halsted, J. Hider, N. Keeley, A. Nesta (Proxy for K. Wergeland), T. Pagaard, M. Wangler, T. Zambelli
- ABSENT:** J. Campbell, B. Viersen, J. Ford, C. Hammond, T. Marshall, T. Nichols, P. Thiss, G. Thurman
- OTHERS:** Pamela Wright, Lyn Neylon

The Senate minutes are recorded and published in summary form. Readers of these minutes must understand that recorded comments in these minutes do not represent the official position of the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate expresses its official positions only through votes noted under "Action."

CALL TO ORDER

Senate Vice President Michael Wangler called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the minutes of November 8, 2007 was postponed to the December 6th meeting.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Update from IPC

Mike distributed a handout including (1) an update on recent activities with the Basic Skills Initiative, (2) a list of areas in need of revision in order to comply with the recently approved changes to Title V, and (3) a progress report on SLO activities. Mike also reminded everyone about the upcoming Student Learning Outcomes theme for this spring's professional development week.

B. Update on Administrator Evaluations

Mike provided an update on the issue of 360° evaluations for district administrators. The Chancellor indicated he is willing to discuss the issue once the colleges receive their final accreditation recommendations from the Accreditation Commission.

C. Announcement from Duplicating Services

Mike informed the Senate that duplicating timelines might be affected by the installation of new duplicating equipment. He encouraged faculty to get any duplicating requests in early for the start of the Spring Semester, as the date for the change over in machinery is unknown and could come at any time over the next 2 months.

III. ACTION

Due to the lack of a quorum, no action was taken.

IV. INFORMATION

A. *Plus – Minus Grading*

Tim Pagaard provided a summary of discussions related to plus-minus grading that have taken place at each of the last two joint Academic Senate meetings. Tim pointed out that, as proposed, the new plus-minus grading scheme would be optional and left to the discretion of each individual instructor. A recent survey of instructors indicated that a majority favored moving to a district-wide plus-minus grading system. According to Title V, there can be no grade point distinction between an A and an A+. Both are recorded as 4.0, although a grade of A+ would still show up on a student's transcript. In addition, the grade of C- is prohibited under Title V. It was suggested that a joint resolution with Grossmont's Academic Senate be drafted to maintain consistency on this district-wide issue. Mike encouraged Senators to view the plus-minus documents posted on the Academic Senate's website.

B. *Faculty Handbook – Course Syllabi*

Mike led the Senate in a discussion about the course syllabi section of the Cuyamaca College Faculty Handbook. Two handouts were distributed—one was a copy of the current course syllabus review procedure and syllabus checklist; the other, a copy of San Diego State University's course syllabi guidelines. After some discussion of possible changes to the course syllabi checklist, it was suggested that a task force be created to review the current syllabus policy and checklist, and report back any recommendations for revision to the Academic Senate for approval. A motion to create a syllabus task force will be considered at the next regular meeting.

C. *Emeritus Status*

Mike distributed a draft copy of the Emeritus Policy with recommended changes that reflect last year's implementation of Academic Rank at the college. This policy was originally based on Grossmont's Emeritus Policy, which was also distributed. There was discussion regarding the difference between acquiring emeritus status and academic rank. After discussion on the merits and timing of awarding retired faculty with the title of "Emeritus," it was suggested that the task of revising the Emeritus Policy be referred to Academic Rank Committee, who would report their recommendations back to the Academic Senate for approval. A motion to refer the Emeritus Policy to the Academic Rank Committee for review and possible revisions will be considered at the next regular meeting.

V. ADDITIONAL REPORTS

A. *Vice President Report*

Mike Wangler reported that the Senate Officers had made the following committee appointments:

1. Debra Babylon and Tim Buckles were appointed to the Art Studio Lab Assistant Search & Interview Committee.
2. Beth Viersen, Mary Asher, and Greg Differding were appointed to the Alternate Media/HTC Specialist Search & Interview Committee.
3. Ted Chandler and Paul Carmona were appointed to the Academic Rank Committee.

B. *United Faculty Report*

Lyn Neylon provided an update on recent UF activities, including a status report on contract negotiations with the district, which are currently at the mediation phase of impasse.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Adjournment – Senate Vice President Michael Wangler adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Reported by Gwen Nix