

Berkeley City College, Wednesday, September 2, 2009

## Academic Senate Meeting

12:20 - 1:20 PM

Present:

Jenny Lowood, Josh Boatright, Fabian Banga, Marty de Souto, Barbara des Rochers, Joseph Bielanski, Iva Ikeda, Matt Freeman, Katherine Kocel, Chuck Wollenberg, Siraj Omar, Cleavon Smith, Val Djukich, Gabriela Pisano, Hannah Chauvet, Pieter de Haan.

Minutes of meeting -

It was asked if we could meet earlier (12:10 instead of 12:20) because so many of us have a class at 1:00PM.

We started out with introductions and with a request for topics for this year's Academic Senate meetings.

The topics mentioned are the following:

SLO program review and assessment

Section cuts

Equitable distribution of resources

PFT wants a list of cut classes.

We will forward all the information of cut classes in the district to the PFT.

The cutting of classes that students needed for completing degrees, certificates and also for transfer to other colleges were discussed. Are the Career Technical Education Programs and those courses allowed according to the PFT contract being cut?

It was suggested that we need to determine which classes are being cut contrary to the contract. Then we can bring that up to the union.

It was felt that there was discussion and transparency to the process that resulted in the recommendation from the district that BCC cut 35 sections from the Spring 2010 schedule. But now that cutting 70 sections is being talked about there was no discussion about this doubling of the cuts.

The issue of budget allocation between the colleges and this inequity be remedied ASAP.

Merritt has the power of the Union, Laney has the size and BCC has the growth; if we are cut then we will lose our growth which is our strength; they had us cut sections too early this term.

ASL dept. at BCC is the only one in the district, there are not very many ASL programs in the whole Bay area

Should we cut arbitrarily rather than assessing each program?

Let's ask the BCC administration to explain the cuts going from 35 to 70 sections to the Academic Senate before we agree to it.

Once a class is removed from the schedule it's very hard to remove it; let's leave it until we know more; 35 is viable but 70 is probably not viable and the fact that the number was determined without any discussion is irrational.

What is the strength in our voice if we draft this resolution?

If we as department chairs say that we will only identify 35 then the administrators will have great difficulty identifying the remaining 35 sections, that is our power.

let's cut \$ from other parts of the college

The categorical cuts to student services that have happened already are much worse than cutting of class sections; we may end up with no counselors or tutoring.

The following motion from the Academic Senate was proposed:

The BCC Faculty Senate recommends to the Department Chairs that no more than 35 sections be cut in the Fall 2009-Spring 2010 academic year until the administration meets with the Faculty Senate.

Jenny seconded the motion.

The Motion was unanimously passed.

Announcements -

An e-mail survey has been sent to all BCC faculty members asking them to express their thoughts about the role of the faculty senate, please reply to this survey ASAP.

Census Rosters are soon going to be due, be sure to drop no shows.

Phase two of build-out begins in September finished Jan-Feb.

Phase three of build-out will start in April and finish sometime in end of 2010

Faculty appointment to committees

Fabian mentioned that the district Technology committee needs more members from BCC; the committee meets Friday mornings

Jenny has seen the new Unit Plan Form (the fourth form being developed in four years); it is very long and the part devoted to the SLOs is a small box with % of classes with SLO developed and % of SLO assessed. Apparently this form has been developed and vetted for a year and the Unit Plans need be done by department chairs using this new form and are due in October. None of the department chairs at BCC have been consulted in the development of this form

Faculty Senate should be a strong body - extremely strong politically but we must stand together and refuse to put up with things like this - nobody has seen the new form

Why do we have to have a new unit plan form every year?

Unit Plan should be unique for each department.

Jenny said that she will send the Unit Plan Form as an e-mail attachment to all Senate members and all department chairs.

Round table - meets every other Wednesday; open to all faculty; Betty wants someone else to chair the round table; perhaps the Academic and Classified presidents.

The Round table was Debbie Budd's idea and it is supposed to be a public forum to talk about budget planning and budgetary decisions.

How many committees are there where Betty can be present to the whole college - this is a very important committee for her to be present.

She will still attend the committee but she felt that someone else should chair it.

The president should be at every meeting and she should report to us about all the things that are happening at BCC; she should chair it so that she gets all the information to us.

We should call the round table the budget committee; we have a direct line through the Academic senate and the DAS. if it is turning into a budget committee shouldn't we call it that? it is actually the planning and budget committee and it is a part of the admin workload.

Matt Freeman - introduced as the newest full time faculty hired in Political Sciences