

Minutes of Academic Senate Meeting - 11/9/2011 12:10 PM in 451B

Present: Pieter de Haan, Hannah Chauvet, Jenny Lowood, Kathryn Kocel, Barbara Des Rochers, Siraj Omar, Chuck Wollenberg, Paramsothy Thananjeyan, Leonard Chun

#### Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes was unanimous
3. International Students Program Issues

Jenny Lowood asked to delay resolution on item three until the next meeting so that Laurie Brion, head of ESL department, could be here.  
Pieter agreed.

Pieter: in the handouts there are tables of figures that were requested by the DAS and the PBIM and published by Jacob Ng which show the grand totals of different years. Sum of applied amounts is what the district gets. So it's close to \$5 million. Outstanding is what the district doesn't get from the students. They go back to home country or state and never pay.

If we look at out of state and then at international students, you'll see that we, at BCC, generates \$925,000 for a whole year ... College of Alameda ... \$600,000 ... Laney ... \$1.8 million ... Merritt ... \$208,000 ...

We can also look at 2010-2011: BCC generated \$971,000, College of Alameda \$638,000, Laney \$1.6 million, Merritt \$230,000.

The district gets close to \$5 million dollars each year for these years. We have been told that the International Office has an overhead of \$1.5 million, and the remainder, almost \$3.5 million goes directly into the general fund. The Colleges get something like \$75,000 each.

Two obvious questions would be: Why is the overhead \$1.5 million? Why do the colleges get back a fraction of what they actually earn?

The Office of International Services is overseen by the Vice Chancellor of Student Services. Jacob Ng was promoted in July of 2010. He handles the passport documents etc.

Consensus: If we have a lot of international students, then they are not paid for by the State but they are taking a place in our college and if we only get \$75,000 for all these students, it does not make any sense.

Is the money coming in from the International students covered by the 50% law?

At the DAS meeting it was stated that International Student income is subject to the 50% rule. However, this needs confirmation.

All instructional moneys whether from out-of-state or international should be allocated to the colleges on the basis of enrollment with a reasonable amount taken out to support the district office. There's no reason to take state instructional funds and distribute them to the colleges but yet not take out of state instructional funds and NOT distribute them to the colleges.

The international students could easily sue the district because they came here on a two year visa and yet could not finish their programs.

Next time we will look over the line item budget of the International Office, because it is the perception that the International Student Office is NOT providing the services that they should be providing. So if they get \$1.5 million and they are not providing the services then there is a problem.

Language barrier:

There isn't a TOEFL cut-off at Peralta, we take students that other college districts won't take.

These students pay tuition two years in advance to Peralta.

So if students are upset if you tell them they need to get more language skills before they take your class, consider that they paid two years in advance, they may not be getting what they need in counseling.

On the International Student Office website, they have a special counselor who is a BCC one afternoon per week.

354 International students who are paying extra fees and who need extra services and we have a counselor here one afternoon per week.

And what languages does this counselor speak?

General agreement that this is incredible and constitute abuse.

How do they do it at UC? They have a TOEFL cut-off?

At UC, an astonishing percentage of students fail their entrance exams and have to take remedial classes before they can proceed with their regular class work.

Task Force for Student Success:

Last week, there was the Plenary meeting from the State Academic Senate and there were many ... hundreds ... of resolutions ... some were passed and some were not passed ... but most of these resolutions were about the Task Force for Student Success ... from the Board of Governors ... there were five faculty members ... in the Task Force ... last time I copied the recommendations ... it is accessible online ... we as Academic Senates should have input into these recommendations ... people were asking who is paying for this Task Force and who is involved - the Gates Foundation and the Koch brothers from the East Coast ... the Koch brothers are from Right Wing Factions ... so is

this Task Force truly from the Board of Governors or is it partially influenced by Right Wing Advocates ... this issue was debated but it's a little vague ...

The other bunch of resolution was on limiting repeatability ... departments of music, art, English, PE, Multimedia were against limiting repeatability.

You can repeat a course twice ... I would strongly recommend that you read through these resolutions and the web pages are given so you can see the whole resolution.

Hannah's comments on the Board and Administrative Policies ... on Program, Curriculum and Course development.

This is the time to do it because of the Accreditation visit ...  
The district hired Jim Griffith to do this.

Pieter: I talked with Joseph B. and he is putting a group together to work on a state

There will be a general Assessment Committee meeting this Thursday at 12:10 PM in the TLC.

Meeting is adjourned.