



**ACADEMIC SENATE
APPROVED MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2011**

Senators Present: Mike Adams, Kevin Alavezos, Bruce Anders, Ellen Dambrosio, Bob Droual, Catherine Greene, Jennifer Hamilton, Jim Howen, Lee Kooler, Debbie Laffranchini, Allan McKissick, Eva Mo, Estella Nanez, Jeff Netto, Adrienne Peek, Sam Pierstorff, Belen Robinson, Brian Sinclair, Jim Stevens, Theresa Stovall, Barbara Wells, Layla Yousif, John Zamora

Senators Absent: Dan Alcantra, Marlies Boyd, Lisa Riggs

Guests: David Chapman (substituting for Travis Silvers), Marcos Garcia (substituting for Burt Shook), YFA President Jillian Daly, Hanna Louie, Heidi Meyer (substituting for Paul Cripe), Charles Mullins (substituting for Rob Stevenson)

I. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS

The order of the agenda was approved without objection.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 3, 2011 and February 10, 2011 senate meetings were approved as submitted without objection.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Membership Change: Add the Director of Grants and Resource Development as a voting member of the Planning and Budget Committee
- B. BBSS Division Dean Selection Committee faculty representatives: Teri Nicoll-Johnson, Nancy Sill, CeCe Hudelson-Putnam, Brian Sinclair
- C. Curriculum Committee Actions
- D. ESL Selection Committee faculty representatives: Bruce Anders, Ruth Luman, Sara Shore, Gabi Steiner.

The Consent Agenda was approved without objection.

IV. PRESENTATION

Jonathan Lightman, Executive Director of the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, presented a legislative update and a summary of FACCC's activities. Several MJC faculty leaders will be joining Jonathan and other FACCC leaders at the Advocacy and Policy Conference on March 6 & 7 in Sacramento. Conference participants will be meeting with their local legislators to discuss the impact of proposed budget reductions on their local community colleges and the ability to provide educational and student services.

Some of the issues that will be discussed include:

- Overview of the CCC system, funding sources, and the governor's budget proposal
- Census date change proposal
- Student fee increase proposal
- Categorical programs funding flexibility
- Career Technical Education (CTE) / CTE Pathways Initiative

V. REPORTS

College Council

Senate Secretary Barbara Wells reviewed the following highlights of the February 7, 2011 College Council meeting:

Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness Committee Update (AIE): Karen Walters Dunlap reported that AIE met last week and that approximately 190 surveys regarding the hiring prioritization process had been received. Classified staff felt that they were not engaged in the process, and more drill down on the process will be provided through Ken Hart's area including study sessions, conversations at division meetings and through "Just the Facts". AIE will then make recommendations for improvement. The end of the year annual assessment for AIE will be on May 12, and PRNET is almost ready to go live. General Education SLO's have been determined to be congruent with the mission statement, and no further discussion is needed.

Enrollment Update: Karen Walters Dunlap stated that enrollment is flat. There are 10 FTES less than last year, and no growth is exactly what is wanted. The summer schedule is almost ready, and faculty should have been contacted by their deans regarding summer cutbacks. There will be no growth for fall, and the Vice President of Instruction is meeting with deans to discuss further reductions in sections.

Planning and Budget Committee Update: The meeting on February 4th had overflowing attendance and was intended for suggestions for budget reductions. Many concerns and questions were brought up and discussed at the meeting, and the seriousness of the budget situation became more of a reality. The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, for the purposes of voting to approve the list of proposed budget reductions. Ground rules and time limits will need to be established for this meeting. The President indicated that if there is a friendly amendment to not remove a specific item from the budget reduction list, then an equal alternative cut must be provided to the list. The ownership of the list needs to reside with the President. The results from the vote of the PBC will be reported to the Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees. However, if the current MOU between the President and the Academic Senate is not approved, the meeting will become an open forum and the PBC will not vote. The President will be meeting with the District and Columbia College next week to collectively review the list, which will be sent out to everyone electronically on February 28 or March 1. The Academic Senate has scheduled a special meeting on Tuesday, March 8 to ratify the list, and the outcome of that vote will be reported to the Board.

Measure E Projects Update: The President reported that the Turlock Education Center located on CSUS property on Geer Road is moving forward for spring 2012. The plans include two 750 square foot modular, energy efficient classrooms, with minimal operational costs. Similar plans are in process for Patterson. Operating money is essentially PTOL and grant money for Patterson. The President is meeting with the Chancellor to continue discussing lowering the expectations for Turlock. Plans for Oakdale and Calaveras will be similarly reduced.

The President indicated that the Student Services Building is oversized, and there needs to be better use of the building. There are 29 offices for counselors and three offices for deans, with no budget for secondary effects. If the lower floor of the Morris Building were not renovated, approximately \$1 million could be saved in renovation costs, and DSPS, EOPS and International Students could move into the Morris Building, instead of the Student Services Building. The needs will be determined after the March 9 Board meeting.

The Ag Pavilion and the Art Building are due to be completed in August. Founders Hall should be completed in July, and Allied Health in June. The Student Center Career and Transfer Center, the High Tech Center, the Science Community Center, and the Outdoor Education Center are proceeding. The Library is working on swing space, and the East Campus parking lot is out to bid.

President's Report

President Mike Adams submitted the following summary report:

District Council Notes – The Leadership Team Advisory Council (LTAC) has new leadership. Spence Cooper stepped down from the Presidency after many years of service, and has been replaced by Rhonda Green. The status of the state budget as of January 26 was discussed, as was the status of the Chancellor search. The YCCD Strategic Plan update final draft was discussed and approved, and will be going forward to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Chancellor Search – The committee held interviews, and two candidates were invited to present at college forums: Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker and Dr. Joan Smith. It is anticipated that the Board of Trustees will present its decision at their March meeting.

State Budget Update – This week the Legislative Analyst's Office leaked a warning about the need for an additional huge cut to the state budget. This additional cut would more than double the reduction the community college system is already looking at as its worst case scenario. There is some discussion that this warning may just be a scare tactic to encourage a willingness to discuss tax increases, but there is no consensus that this explanation is correct. The College President has expressed that, at this time, he does not intend to consider any cuts beyond the level already discussed for MJC.

Minimum Qualifications, Equivalency, and 'Faculty Service Areas' – Over the past few weeks, there have been many questions about minimum qualifications for disciplines, the process of establishing equivalency, and how these relate to the competency requirements in the contract that allow faculty members to teach in certain areas. Much of the process is working adequately, but this 'stress test' has revealed some areas that would benefit from improvement.

Construction Projects Update – The Allied Health building and the Founder's Hall remodel are both on track for completion this summer. The process of moving in may not be able to be completed by the beginning of fall, so faculty should not expect to see either of those buildings involved in their fall schedule. Moving in during the semester is a possibility, especially for those who are comfortable doing so with their classes. The Agriculture Pavilion suffered a serious delay when several subcontractors went out of business, but is now scheduled to be completed sometime late summer. The Art Building maintenance project is scheduled to take place over the summer as well. The Student Services building should be completed sometime in October. The only major visible project that will NOT be completed by the end of the year is the Science Community Center. That project will be ongoing until sometime in the middle of 2012.

VI. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. New Business

Resolution SP11-B: MJC Faculty Senate Role in Proposed Academic Program Elimination

The senate discussed Resolution SP11-B: MJC Academic Senate Role in Proposed Academic Program Elimination and some amendments to the resolution were recommended and passed by the senate. The amended resolution reads as follows:

“Whereas: The Yosemite Community College District and Modesto Junior College anticipate a severe reduction in funding for the 2011-2012 academic year, and the extent of that reduction is expected to necessitate the elimination of viable academic programs and tenure-track faculty positions serving Modesto Junior College's mission, and

Whereas: The President of Modesto Junior College has announced that he will present a plan for such eliminations which is designed to accommodate a funding reduction of \$8 million, for the worst of several scenarios identified by the District, and

Whereas: The Academic Senate of Modesto Junior College has demonstrated its understanding of the need for a timely response to the funding situation by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the College President and directed the Senate Planning and Budget Committee to cooperate with the President in his efforts to develop a plan, and will give the plan careful consideration in the coming weeks, and

Whereas: The Academic Senate also recognizes the importance of minimizing the disruptive effect of prolonged uncertainty over which reductions will take place, and that permanent elimination of academic programs and tenure-track faculty positions should not occur under such conditions, and

Whereas: It then follows that proposed eliminations should be prioritized by importance to the college mission, to make it clear at the earliest possible time which programs and faculty positions are to be eliminated, and in what order they would be restored as funding to do so becomes available, and

Whereas: YCCD Board Policy 4103 requires good faith efforts to reach mutual agreement between the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate and the Board on matters of Institutional Planning and Budget Development and primary reliance on the MJC Academic Senate on matters of Curriculum, unless failure to reach decisions by that approach are deemed by the Board to cause “substantial fiscal hardship,” and

Whereas: The Modesto Junior College Academic Senate is committed to make every effort to achieve a good faith agreement with the YCCD Board of Trustees on a plan to deal with the fiscal challenges faced by our college.

Therefore: Be it resolved, that the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate strongly recommends an immediate freeze on hiring new faculty for permanent full-time faculty positions, and

Therefore: Be it further resolved, that the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate stands ready to support a responsible plan for dealing with reduced funding, which would include prioritization of programs to be retained should it be possible to do so, and

Therefore: Be it finally resolved, that the Modesto Junior College stands ready to assume its responsibilities under Board Policy 4103 in the areas of Curriculum and Institutional Planning and Budget Development as funding becomes available to restore any eliminated curriculum, college programs and faculty positions.”

M/S/C (Charles Mullins/Ellen Dambrosio) to suspend the rules and approve Resolution SP11-B: MJC Faculty Senate Role in Proposed Academic Program Elimination as amended for a final reading.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.