Draft Minutes District Academic Senate/District Joint VP Council Meeting November 21, 2011 2:00pm – 3:30pm ITS Board Room

Introductions:

Co-Chairs: Diana Bennett-DAS President, Jing Luan-Vice Chancellor Education

Senate Members Present: Fermin Irigoyen, Dave Clay, Carlos, Leigh Anne, Monica Malamud, Alicia Aguirre, Diana Bennett, Patty Dilko, James Carranza, James Robertson

District Administration Present: Susan Estes, Jing Luan, Jenifer Hughes, Mike Williamson

Minutes: Joint DASGC/VP 10/10/11 meeting minutes reviewed and endorsed

Discussion Topics:

Student Support Task Force – During the 10/10/11 meeting faculty and administration articulated a desire to broaden the conversation about the Task Force Recommendations with the goal of educating our various constituent groups as well as developing our platform for advocacy at the state level. Toward this end, the Trustees are planning a study session on the Student Success Task Force Recommendations on January 11, 2012 at 6:30pm. This meeting will fall after the Task Force distributes the final/revised recommendations; therefore it will be an opportunity to communicate critical and time sensitive issues to the Trustees, and to begin a conversation about implementation. The study session will be planned jointly by the Senate Presidents Bennett and Irigoyen, and VC Luan. Participants agreed that the student senate should be involved with the study session. A small group of all constituents will meet before the Dec 14th board meeting in Cypress Room. 4:30 pm to plan the study session. The VPSS will arrange to bring a student on board.

Faculty Grade Submission – The group engaged in a lengthy, collegial, and comprehensive discussion regarding the consequences – both intended and unintended – to the proposed change of date for the submission of final grades for Fall 2011 and Spring 2012. As a result of prior discussions, VP Hughes informed the group that IT can roll the grades on December 22 at 4:45, so it would be safe to change the submission date to December 22 at 4pm.

The VPs drafted a letter describing the benefits to students of moving up the grade submission date. In concept the letter was intended to inform faculty about the history of the decision and the collaborative work that the two groups did during the previous Joint Meeting. DASGC proposed a revision to the VPS letter. Discussion ensued regarding the details in the letter. There was a difference in opinion regarding a reference to the 10 + 1. The Senate acknowledges that setting the date is an administrative function. However, Senators believe that changing the date in the middle of this semester has created a situation which, as an unintended consequence, could necessitate a change in grading policy — an item which the Senate believes is covered by the 10 + 1. The administrators were uncomfortable with a direct reference to a possible violation of the 10 + 1 agreement between the Senate and the Trustees.

Compromise language was reached and the discussion on the topic ended with the promise of an updated draft for consideration by 12 noon on Tuesday the 22nd. It was acknowledged that the issue should be dealt with quickly so that we could inform faculty and staff across the district. It was also determined that the Joint VP DASGC will need to meet again this semester to discuss the proposed dates for Spring and Summer 2012. In the future, SMCCCD administrators and the Senate President will work with the VC of Education & Planning if there are changes to the length of time provided to grade assignments and process final grades.

After a brief, confidential consultation, the VPs and VC decided that the best approach for Fall 2011 would be to restore the original date for submission. They made this proposal pending consultation with the VPs at Cañada and their respective A&R departments. They will contact President Bennett by Nov. 22 at 9am with their final decision. At that time the notification will go out district wide.

DASGC leadership discussed the need for District Senate Forums on the Student Success Task Force Recommendations. A date was determined for each college, and it was suggested that we send the invite out district wide so that faculty would have the greatest possibilities for participation. Skyline ... CSM Cañada ... Leigh Ann will draft a flyer and Dianna will send it out via DASGC. While they will be primarily geared toward faculty, all employees will be welcome to attend and participate.