

Cañada College Academic Senate Governing Council Minutes
Thursday, March 8, 2007

Council Members in Attendance: Patty Dilko, Jenny Castello, Denise Erickson, Carol Rhodes, Martin Partlan, Paul Roscelli, Monica Malamud, David Clay, Lezlee Ware, Arturo Hernandez, Katie Schertle

Senate Members and Guests in Attendance: Marilyn McBride, Janette Medina, Barbara Christensen

1. Call to Order: 1:52 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Passed.

3. Approval of Minutes (2/22/07): Postponed until next meeting.

4. Public Comment: Martin suggested adding an academic topic for discussion to each agenda. Also, all are reminded to consider the rules of the Brown Act when emailing about ASGC issues. Jenny pointed out that most of the full-time faculty teaches during the day, but the larger student population attends in the evening. It might be worthwhile to urge for more full-time representation in the evening. Thanks to Monica for doing the minutes from the last meeting.

5. Old Business:

5.1 Committee Appointments:

5.1.1. Accounting: Paul nominated Chuck Iverson. Passed.

5.1.2. Fitness/Dance: Patty appointed Vera Quijano during the interim between the last meeting and this one.

5.1.3. Anthropology: Patty appointed Lezlee Ware and Bob Lee during the interim between the last meeting and this one.

5.2 Senate Handbook Update: Postponed until Ethics Statement is finalized.

5.3 Ethics Statement – Division Reports: The Texas A&M College of Business version was favored by the Science and Technology Division. The issue of “maintaining confidentiality [regarding student issues]...” was challenged as being contrary to the best interests of students because it restricts teachers from using each other as resources to overcome particular challenges with students. Marilyn informed the ASGC that some years ago, an ethics statement was adopted by the District Senate. The issue of not accepting gifts from students which might create a conflict of interest was debated. Some feel it’s unavoidable because giving gifts to teachers is a given in some cultures; others feel all gifts should be politely declined. The Humanities and Social Sciences Division also favored the Texas “version”. It was suggested that “physical handicap” be replaced with “disability” and that the phrase “sexual orientation” be added. The bulleted items about “...an environment that is free of discrimination...” and “...threatening or abusive behavior...” were challenged as being risky because they are too broad and could be misinterpreted.

5.4 Dues Letter Update: Moved to report from Treasurer.

Your Governing Council for the 2006 – 2007 academic year – working for you!

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6. New Business:

6.1 Update on the Proposed District Housing Project: The success of College Vista at CSM is the inspiration for another housing project in the district. A district survey was taken to gauge the feasibility of such a project. 50% of the respondents of the survey want to live closer to campus. 22% plan on leaving within 5 years if better housing can't be found. 83% are "interested/very interested" in another district housing project. Cañada is the preferred location by an overwhelming majority. Costs have gone up 25% since the last housing project was built, so keeping the same rents as those of College Vista would be difficult. Potential sites include the tennis court area and Parking Lot 3.

6.2 Honors Program: Should we have an honors program and what steps are needed to create one? There is a cost (promotion, recruitment, etc.), but there is a willingness by the college to move forward. Honors programs are a way of creating transfer guarantees with universities. It would require heavy commitment by faculty teaching such courses. A committee should be created to begin investigating the pros and cons of an honors program at this campus. In addition, one of the ASGC meetings could be dedicated in its entirety to a discussion of this issue. Patty, Arturo, and Denise voiced an interest in doing some preliminary investigating.

7. Committee Reports:

7.1 Finance: The dues letter modifications have been made. Lezlee read a breakdown of who in each division is not yet paying Senate dues so the reps can urge them to begin. The pros and cons of raising dues to various amounts (\$50, \$75, \$100/year) were discussed. A 10 to 1 vote resulted in a decision to raise dues to \$10/month. Reps will bring this issue to their respective divisions ASAP.

7.2 Curriculum: No report.

7.3 Planning and Budget: No report.

7.4 College Council: No report.

7.5 AFT: No report.

7.6 FACCC: No update.

7.7 Professional Personnel: A new idea for flex days was presented involving a faculty member getting 3 units of release time per semester to do research and develop materials about teaching and learning themes. This would culminate in workshops and seminars at which the materials would be presented and which would satisfy flex requirements for faculty. A question was raised about simply increasing the money allotted to faculty members who want to attend conferences where these types of workshops and seminars already take place.

8. Matters of Council Interest:

9. Motion to Adjourn:

10. Upcoming Meetings: March 22, April 12, 26, May 10. PLEASE NOTE: We will be meeting in Building 3, Room 104 for the remainder of the semester.

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To request that an item be added to the agenda, please contact one of the governing council members no later than one week prior to the next meeting (see above for the dates of upcoming meetings).

View past minutes at http://www.canadacollege.edu/inside/academic_senate/0607/index.html

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