

Cañada College Academic Senate Governing Council Minutes
Thursday, November 30, 2006

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

Senate Members and Guests in Attendance: Tom Mohr, Ronald Trugman, Annie Nichols

1. Call to Order: 1:35 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Professor Trugman requested to be moved to the front of the Agenda. Jenny moved and Lezlee seconded the request. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes (11/09/06): Denise moved. Doug seconded. Motion passed.

4. Public Comment: N/A

5. Old Business:

5.1 Committee Appointments: N/A

5.2 Class Size Limit Resolution: The current draft has been reviewed by the District Academic Senate. There is still a question about the last resolution which includes AFT Local 1493 in the approval process of enrollment limit changes. AFT argues that it should be part of the process because there isn't anything specific in the current contract regarding enrollment limits. ASGC feels an additional resolution is needed stating that AFT should serve as an oversight body and not be part of the actual "approval" process. It was suggested that the contract is in dire need of precise language which addresses the issue of enrollment limits before further policies regarding enrollment limits can be made.

6. New Business:

6.1 What is in a title? Professor Trugman presented his proposal regarding academic titles at our college. Faculty members have academic titles (e.g. "Professor," "Instructor," "Assistant Professor," etc.) which are not always recognized. They are important in our profession, and we should begin using the title "Professor" among ourselves. Our students could benefit from the knowledge that they are being taught mainly by "Professors" because students who hear their teachers referred to as "Professors" might be instilled with a greater sense of respect for the institution they are attending and for their accomplishments here. Counterarguments included the following: 1) While in mainstream American culture, the connotation of the word "teacher" may not be as distinguished as other titles, in other cultures, the term is used as a title of respect. For that reason, it might not be a good idea to insist that students stop saying it; 2) Many faculty members favor a less-formal classroom environment because they feel it is conducive to effective learning, and they prefer avoiding academic titles. [It was noted that "Instructor" is a specific academic title; teachers should be referred to in a generic sense as "Faculty."]

6.2 Community College Ballot Initiative: ASGC doesn't have funds to contribute to a political initiative; however, individual faculty members are free to support this initiative. It was decided that ASGC shouldn't endorse the initiative because it's a slippery slope to endorsing other initiatives which really don't fall within the purview of this body, and because we haven't been provided with any formal opposing arguments which would help us make an informed decision about the initiative. Monica has a signature sheet for those who

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are interested in signing to support getting the initiative on the ballot. People who are interested in helping Monica gather signatures should contact her.

6.3 Strategic Plan – Recommendations, Suggested Strategies, and Success Factors – First Draft:

The general consensus of the Council was that this feels like a standard form rather than something specifically tailored to our needs at Cañada. Specific reactions to the document will be forwarded to the appropriate parties by the Senate President.

7. Committee Reports:

7.1 Finance: Lezlee presented an overview of ASGC's budget for '06 – '07.

7.2 Curriculum: The primary text rule allows courses to be rejected by other institutions if the first textbook listed in the Official Course Outline is out of date. The hours by arrangement issue has been clarified for course outlines.

7.3 Planning and Budget: Focus is on the Strategic Plan. Fiscal allocations for faculty and classified hiring will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

7.4 College Council: The revision of the bylaws is almost finished. Discussion regarding reducing the number of members is ongoing.

7.5 AFT: Attachments from Monica are included with these minutes.

7.6 FACCC: Reports must **be** made at every meeting by the official FACCC representative if this category is to remain on the agenda. [Reports may be submitted to the ASGC Secretary to be read during Committee Reports.]

7.7 Professional Personnel: Professional Development has finally received the figures from the district telling us what their exact budget is for the year. They are still awaiting word on their portion of the allotment of additional monies from the state.

8. Matters of Council Interest: Happy Holidays to everyone!

9. Motion to Adjourn: 3:52 p.m.

10. Upcoming Meetings: The December 14th meeting has been cancelled.

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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