

ACADEMIC SENATE of BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

March 14, 2012, 3:30 P.M.
Collins Conference Center

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: Corny Rodriguez (EB); Kate Pluta (EB); Wesley Sims; (EB); Leah Carter (EB); Matthew Morgan (EB); John Gerhold (EB); Rick Brantley (EB); Nick Strobel (EB); Melinda Fogle; Christian Zoller; Kris Stallworth; Nancy Guidry; Susan Pinza; Phil Whitney; Janet Tarjan; Gayla Anderson; Terry Meier; Luis Guajardo; Kathy Freeman; Klint Rigby; Reggie Bolton; Sue Granger-Dickson; Lisa Harding; Jeannie Parent; Marsha Eggman

ABSENT: Bill Barnes (EB); Michael Korcok (EB); Kimberly Hurd (EB); Bill Moseley (EB); Maria Perrone; Shane Jett; Patrick Fulks; Bill Kelly; Jason Stratton; Anna Poetker

GUESTS: Bernadette Towns; LaMont Schiers; Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg; Jorge Barrientos

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. M/S/C: Gerhold/Carter

***A motion was made to suspend the agenda and move to Opportunity to Address the Senate. M/S/C: Gerhold/Sims.*

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE SENATE

LaMont Schiers and Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg:

Corny introduced LaMont and Nan. He then explained that after district leadership met with the Chancellor, Dr. Jensen met with the Executive Board. LaMont and Nan presented the budget information on behalf of Dr. Jensen who will address the Senate at a future meeting.

Nan explained the information she and LaMont share with the Senate will be shared with all campus constituents through various forums. KCCD has seen a steady decline in allocation, sections and staffing due to the declining state budget. The state budget is not expected to recover for several years, and there is a sense of urgency, but due to conservative budgeting KCCD has healthy reserves which will allow for the development of a two-year plan. The college's core mission has been defined by the state as transfer, CTE and basic skills. It is now time to discuss how best to carry out the mission and still meet the state FTES target but on a smaller scale. The Senate will be part of the discussion now and in the future during implementation. BC must prepare a two-year plan by April 30, based on the mission, college goals, the district and college strategic plans, and budget criteria. Bakersfield College will most likely offer fewer and different services. Bakersfield College offers good courses, they fit the mission, but we will have to look at how many we offer. Every employee will be asked for input on how best to gain efficiencies in their area. Currently, there is no plan for layoffs, but there will be a greater scrutiny of every vacancy.

LaMont distributed and reviewed several documents including five spreadsheets. The second spreadsheet shows revenues and expenditures with the reserves levels since 2007. LaMont noted that last year KCCD used reserves to continue operations. The college has used approximately \$3.4 million in carryover to maintain operations for 2011-12 and will continue to do in 2012-13. The goal is maintain operations and avoid layoffs until 2013-14. The first spreadsheet shows budget projections for 2012-13 and 2013-14 based on the Governor's proposed budget. LaMont noted that KCCD base budget revenue declined in 2011-12 from approximately \$104.9 million to approximately \$100 million which will be absorbed by reserves. The third spreadsheet outlines KCCD unrestricted budget projections

through 2015-16. The worst case scenario is if the tax initiative fails in 2012. Of note are the reserves levels in 2011-12 of approximately \$22 million declining in 2012-13 to approximately \$10 million. The Board of Trustees intend to maintain reserves at this level as it allows the district to cover operational costs when state allocations are delayed with having to borrow. The last spreadsheet provides FTES data for KCCD through 2012 and scenarios for 2013 if the tax initiative passes and if the initiative fails.

Nan asked the Senate to consider how to maximize faculty resources, meet the FTES target with limited funds and how best to get to a smaller core. Dr. Jensen will forward a budget plan to the Chancellor by April 30 but wants input from everyone. Nan also noted the Senate's Program Discontinuance Policy and indicated it will be used if necessary. Nan was asked when the district will respond back to the colleges on the plans that are submitted. Nan indicated she would ask.

REPORTS

President (Rodriguez)

- Corny noted that there will be several changes in financial aid this next year related to Pell Grants, eligibility requirements, BOG waiver eligibility and others. There was a request to get an electronic document outlining the changes from the Financial Aid office.
- The Board of Trustees has approved board policy section 4A3, Matriculation without the language related to Placement that was recommended by the Senate. The Chancellor did notify the Board that additional changes related to Placement would be addressed separately.
- Corny asked Senators to review the Program Discontinuance Policy as it may be used as the college moves forward with the two-year budget plan. The Senate will need to provide input on how "core" is defined for Bakersfield College.
- Interim President Jensen has assembled a Strategic Planning Work Group. This group will quickly develop a strategic planning based on Annual Program Review trends, college goals, and the district strategic plan.
- Corny reviewed the process for reviewing and taking action on agenda items. As business comes forward, each item is discussed and Senators should relay this information back to their constituents. Each New Business item should be considered as an action item in terms of discussion, voting, request input, tabling, etc. It is important than Senators are prepared to address the agenda items at each meeting as some topics need to be addressed swiftly.

Accreditation (Pluta)

Kate encouraged Senators to read the Governance section of the self-evaluation.

Curriculum (Moseley)

Bill was not in attendance. Corny reported on his behalf the Curriculum Committee continues to work through the courses in CurricUNET and will ask faculty to submit their remaining courses in the next few weeks.

Correspondence (Sims)

Wesley had nothing new to report but asked for Senators to send any news or information to him.

Treasurer (Brantley)

Rick asked Senators to look for an email from him asking for dues donations for scholarship. The Senate will be asked how many scholarships to award at the next meeting.

CCA

Nancy Guidry reminded the Senators that nominations for CCA Executive Board end Friday, March 16. CCA will be hosting a training session on how and why to organize, April 21 from 10:00a.m. – 4:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to attend, and lunch and snack will be provided.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA (*must be added with a 2/3 vote of members present*)

A motion was made to add as New Business Item D, Budget Discussion. M/S/C: Gerhold/Tarjan

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

A motion was made to approve the committee appointments as presented. M/S/C: Carter/Tarjan

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Common Assessment (Gerhold)

Based on discussion at the February 29, 2012 Academic Senate meeting, the resolution below was presented and reviewed. If approved, the resolution would be forwarded to District Consultation Council, the Board of Trustees and the C6 Consortium.

Resolution on the Sovereignty of College-Determined “Cut Scores” for Placement

Whereas community colleges were intended to offer programs and services designed to meet the needs of their local community;

Whereas various factors—such as the students’ socio-economic background, family history of college-level educational experience, and feeder high school student success rates—exist in a particular mix in each college’s service area and impact the level of academic preparation attained by the incoming students of each community college;

Whereas colleges, using the particular educational needs of the students in their service area as part of the data considered to determine faculty hiring patterns, have created and staffed various programs and departments to promote student success;

Whereas, given the above factors, colleges may find it difficult or impossible to quickly change course offerings to match a vastly different student enrollment pattern which could be occasioned by using “cut scores” for placement into appropriate levels of math and English courses developed for a vastly different college and community; therefore

Be it Resolved that the Bakersfield College Academic Senate unequivocally supports independent and locally determined “cut scores” for placement into appropriate levels of math and English for each community college whether or not common assessment instruments are developed and implemented statewide.

A motion was made to approve the resolution as presented. M/S/C: Freeman/Sims

SLO Course Assessments

Bernadette Towns referred the Senators to information she provided in response to the questions raised at the last Senate meeting. She clarified that the Assessment information in CurricUNET contains course outcomes only and is not related to success and retention. Having the information in CurricUNET provides evidence that the college is conducting course assessment. Department faculty can jointly conduct the assessment for each course and post the overall department outcomes so the information is not tied to one particular faculty member. The question is whether the posted assessments should be public or private. Public posting will make the information available to everyone in the college and others outside the colleges. Private posting means the information is only available to those within the department. There was a question about why anyone outside the department would need to have access to the information. One response was that it could provide idea of what works and examples of what doesn’t work for those in other departments.

A motion was made to continue to keep course level assessment data posted in CurricUNET with the stipulation the data will be available within the department. M/S: Gerhold/Sims. The motion carried with one abstention.

Bookstore Issues

A motion was made to remove this item from the agenda. M/S/C: Carter/Freeman

Institutional Transfer Plan

Sue Granger-Dickson responded to the concerns expressed at the last Senate meeting. She noted that the document was developed by an advisory group comprised of college faculty and representatives from other public and private organizations.

Delano is not mentioned separately since it is part of Bakersfield College. It should be noted though that separate transfer events happen at that location.

Visiting campuses will not happen since funding is not available

UC Berkeley is mentioned specifically because they volunteer each year to provide general transfer information at no cost.

A motion was made to approve the Institutional Transfer Plan as presented. M/S/C: Gerhold/Carter

*** A motion was made to suspend the agenda and move to New Business Item D, Budget Discussion.
M/S/C: Gerhold/Sims*

Budget

Based on the information provided by LaMont Schiers and Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, there was a suggestion to hold a Senate forum for all faculty. There was a question about how the Senate discussion differs from those being held at the department level. It was noted that the budget development process is one of the Senate's 10+1 matters. For clarification Corny explained that the college has been charged with developing a two-year budget plan which needs to be complete on April 15. Corny also confirmed that the \$12 million that was moved from reserve to the unfunded liability account will not be used as part of this budget plan.

A motion was made to extend the meeting time by five minutes to allow for more discussion on this topic. M/S/C: Tarjan/Whitney

A question was asked about how to maintain integrity of the program discontinuance policy when the plan will be developed in the next few weeks. It was noted that administration is aware of the Program Discontinuance Policy and the time involved to follow the process outlined in the policy. Programs may be identified in the college budget plan but will still go through the program discontinuance process. Corny asked Senators to review the policy as it may be necessary to initiate the process. Concerns were expressed about the policy's weakness and how administration can reduce courses to a point where the program is essentially discontinued.

A motion was made directing Corny Rodriguez to set a date and time for an informational meeting to review budget reports, the Program Discontinuance Policy and other relevant documents so that as many faculty as possible can hear and respond to the information as soon as possible.

M/S/C: Tarjan/Freeman.

Additional comments were made about the need to review the mission and the need to keep the arts and athletics. Senators expressed the need for administrative and district office cuts before cuts are made to programs. It was suggested that administrative staffing levels should go back to 2002 levels.

Parking Fees

This item was not addressed due to a lack of time.

NEW BUSINESS

Student Achievement Data & College Data

This item was not addressed due to a lack of time.

Constitution & Bylaws Revision

This item was not addressed due to a lack of time.

Program Discontinuance Policy Review

This item was not addressed due to a lack of time.

GOOD AND WELFARE AND CONCERNS

ADJOURNMENT at 5:20

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Marden