

Academic Senate Fall Plenary Sessions – November 5 – 7, 2015

The Academic Senate Fall Plenary Session was held in Irvine this year and there were some main topics that were discussed in the general sessions, multiple breakout sessions, or both. These topics were:

- Baccalaureate Programs
- State Chancellor's Office Task Force Report on Accreditation
- Equity and Diversity of Faculty

I attended multiple breakout sessions with regards to the resolutions dealing with the baccalaureate programs. I attend one of the breakout sessions with Klint Rigby who was attending in place of Liz Rozell. I made sure that I seeked his input since he is a member of the baccalaureate program and he was in constant contact with Liz during the plenary session.

There was a panel discussion during the general session on Thursday dealing with the State Chancellor's Task Force Report on Accreditation. Members of the panel include a trustee from the Ventura Community College District, the Chancellor of the Grossmont – Cuyamaca Community College District, the secretary of FACCC, the president of the ASCCC, and the State Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. Each gave their perspective on the report and all were in favor in support of the report.

Another general session dealt with diversity of the faculty in the California Community College system. Roughly 50% of all students fall into minority categories, while only 20% of all faculty fall into minority categories. There was discussion on how to increase the proportion of faculty by recruiting graduate students to teach in the system once they graduate and to try to focus on non – teaching experience when looking for new faculty.

There were two other breakout sessions that I attended. One was dealing with dual enrollment and the other was discussing the faculty hiring boom. A new state law (AB 288) expands dual enrollment for the next five years. The purpose of this new extended dual enrollment is to reach a broader range of students, not just the advanced students. The emphasis would be on college and career readiness, CTE, and college pathways. Another purpose of this new legislation is reducing the number of students needing remedial math and English courses, which would be addressed during their senior year of high school. This would be accomplished in a joint collaboration between the community college and the high school.

The breakout on the faculty hiring boom is based on extra money that is being allocated for hiring extra faculty above the Faculty Obligation Number (FON). This year 62.3 million dollars is being allocated to the community colleges and there is a request for 80 million dollars for next year. The discussion talked about staying true to local hiring processes and how to be competitive in recruiting faculty. Some suggestions were to offer position as early as possible and to make salary attractive since everyone will be recruiting to hire more faculty.

Some resolutions of interest that passed:

2.02 Endorse the CCCCCO Task Force on Accreditation Report

This resolution would support the State Chancellor's Office Task Force Report on Accreditation. As directed by our local senate, I casted a "no" vote. Out of approximately 110 delegates, BC was one of two "no" votes.

9.02 Defining the Parameters of the California Community College Baccalaureate Degree in Title 5

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to ensure that upper division courses are defined as requiring lower division knowledge and applying that knowledge as demonstrated measures of critical thinking through writing, oral communication, or computation, and allow that upper

division coursework may encompass research elements, workforce training, apprenticeships, internships, required practicum, or capstone projects.

9.03 Baccalaureate Level General Education at the California Community Colleges

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to ensure that all baccalaureate degrees granted by the California community colleges require either IGETC or CSU-GE Breadth as lower division general education preparation; 5 <http://www.naceweb.org/about-us/press/skills-qualities-employers-want.aspx> FALL 2015 PLENARY SESSION ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS 7 Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to ensure that all baccalaureate degrees granted by the California community colleges require six semester units of upper division general education offered by at least two disciplines external to the major, one of which must have an emphasis in written communication, oral communication, or computation; and Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges evaluate the feasibility of creating a baccalaureate level general education pattern for the California Community College System and report back to the field by Spring 2017 Plenary Session.

9.04 Limitations on Enrollment and Admission Criteria for Baccalaureate Programs

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to create guidelines that adhere to principles of the California community college mission of open educational access and equity while allowing enrollment restrictions for baccalaureate pilot programs.

9.05 Upper Division General Education Curriculum for Baccalaureate Pilot Programs

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urge local curriculum committees to ensure that courses developed to meet upper division general education requirements for the baccalaureate pilot program are designed for the baccalaureate pilot student cohort and not for the general population of students.

9.06 Support for Baccalaureate Pilot Programs

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urge local senates and the Chancellor's Office to ensure the baccalaureate pilot programs are adequately supported with appropriate financial and other resources without negative impact on existing programs.

9.13 Develop Descriptors for Alternative Prerequisites for Statistics

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges convene the Math C-ID Faculty Discipline Review Groups (FDRG) to consider alternative prerequisites for CID Math 110, Introduction to Statistics; and Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges convene the Math Basic Skills FDRG to initiate development of descriptors for alternative prerequisites for statistics.

Note: BC has created an Intermediate Algebra for Statistics, Math B65, that will be a pathway for non – STEM/business majors to take Statistics (Math 22 or PSYCH 5), so the Math department was in favor of this resolution.

9.14 Resolution in Support of Credit ESL

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges affirm that credit ESL courses offered at the community college remain a vital service to community members seeking to pursue educational and career pathways; and Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges affirm that the right to decide the credit or noncredit status for any class is an academic and professional matter and hence under the purview of the local academic senate.

Note: The ESL department was in favor of this resolution and had notified me that this resolution would be voted on at the plenary session.

All resolutions that passed at the fall plenary session can be found at
http://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/Final_Adopted_Resolutions_Fall_2015.pdf