

Academic Senate of Imperial Valley College

Adopted Minutes

2 April 2014

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Lehtonen at 1:32p.m.

Present—Eric Lehtonen, Scott Simpson, Frank Hoppe (proxy for Cathy Zazueta), Dave Drury, Frank Miranda, David Scott Sheppard, Caroline Bennett, Rick Goldsberry, Bradford Wright, Ralph Marquez, Norma Nunez, Mike Palacio, Robert Baukholt, Daniel Gilison, Michael Heumann, Allyn Leon, Mary Lofgren, Barbara Nilson, Frank Rapp, Ed Wells, Ricardo Ibarra.

Absent— Russell Lavery, Michael Capeci, Christina Shaner, Kathy Berry.

Excused— Laura Mosier, Kevin White.

Visitors—Tina Aguirre, Marian Boenheim, Susan Carreon, Sheila Dorsey-Freeman, Gayla Finnell, Jill Nelipovich, Brian McNeece, Efrain Silva.

B. Visitors' Comments

Counselor Ralph Marquez questioned President Eric Lehtonen's request for one teaching faculty member for the Staffing Committee, rather than a faculty member in general, teaching or non-teaching.

President Lehtonen replied that the Staffing Committee already had one non-teaching faculty member and that, in the past, that committee had two non-teaching committee members which lead to protests from teaching faculty. Thus, it is his intent to provide the committee with a balance of teaching faculty and non-teaching faculty.

C. Consent Agenda

1. M/S/C (Heumann/Goldsberry) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

D. Reports

1. President—President Lehtonen forewent his report in the interest of expediting the meeting so as to leave more time for other pertinent agenda items.

2. Past President—There was no Past President's report. In the absence of and on behalf of Past-President Kevin White, President Lehtonen reported on the Budget and Planning Committee recommendation regarding a funding plan for Other Post-Employment Benefits

(OPEB) liability. Said plan would automatically allocate 30% of any favorable balance at the close of any fiscal year to OPEB liability.

3. Treasurer—Senate Treasurer Caroline Bennett reported that \$11.40 had been spent on printing, and that therefore the Senate balance stands at \$3,064.65.

4. Associated Student Government—Associated Student Government President Ricardo Ibarra had no report but stated that members of the ASG had requested more information on +/- grading.

5. Part-Time—There was no Part-Time Instructor report.

6. Curriculum Committee—Curriculum Committee Co-Chairman Michael Heumann reported that the committee shall be finalizing changes to the IVC catalog at the meeting of Thursday, 3 April 2014, and that assessment of class enrollment capacity shall be undertaken by the Curriculum Committee in the near future.

7. College Council—College Council Co-Chairman Daniel Gilison reported that during the College Council meeting of Monday, 24 March 2014, a Curriculum Committee Agenda Planning Committee had been formed; standing committee rules were updated; committee meeting times had been changed from twice monthly to once monthly; and committee membership had been changed to include three (3) regular faculty members with one being the Academic Senate President or his or her designee, who shall also be on the Curriculum Committee Agenda Planning Committee.

Co-Chairman Gilison completed his report by stating that a special meeting of the Curriculum Committee shall be held with the explicit purpose of reviewing the IVC response to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College's letter to Imperial Valley College.

8. CART—CART Co-chairman Brian McNeece reported that the CART Committee had been working on the IVC response to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College's letter to Imperial Valley College and that the Student Success Task Force has been creating an on-line orientation for all in-coming IVC students.

9. Distance Education—Distance Education Committee Chairwoman Gayla Finnell reported that at its meeting of Wednesday, 12 March 2014, the Distance Education Committee had clarified procedures for developing new distance education courses; addressed substantive change issues, which have been placed on hold while IVC is on accreditation warning status; and discussed current interpretations of "regular effective contact." She concluded her report by informing the Senate that the next meeting of the Distance Education Committee shall be on Wednesday, 9 April 2014.

10. Technology Planning—Technology Planning Committee Chairwoman Gayla Finnell reported that the Technology Planning Committee had met on Thursday, 13 March 2014, at which time the committee discussed the issue of replacing or refurbishing document cameras which have depleted parts which are no longer under warranty.

11. Basic Skills—Basic Skills Initiative Committee Chairwoman Jill Nelipovich reported to the Senate that she had sent an e-mail to all faculty informing them that Basic Skills funds were available and that requests for funds for Basic Skills projects needed to be received by Wednesday, 30 April 2014.

E. Update on Previous Discussion and Information Items

1. Academic Senate Fund Raiser—Frank Rapp

Secretary Frank Rapp suggested that, in addition to the donations to the Senate Scholarship fund from the Fifth Annual Biggest and Baddest Battle of the Badges, the 2014 Dennis Carnes Memorial Transfer Scholarship fund raiser be conducted as a faculty soiree at which a silent auction could be held but which would not require ticket purchases for attendance.

2. Competitive Athletics Committee—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen reported that David Drury had volunteered to be a faculty representative on the Competitive Athletics Committee.

F. New Discussion and Information Items

1. Distance Education Committee Composition Resolution—First Reading—Gayla Finnell

Distance Education Committee Chairwoman Gayla Finnell presented the proposed changes to the Distance Education Committee composition, particularly the inclusion of a student who has successfully completed a minimum of one distance education course at Imperial Valley College.

2. Spring 2014 Academic Senate Plenary Resolutions—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen informed the Senate of the following issues to be discussed and, in all likelihood, to be voted on at the 2014 California Academic Senate Plenary session: a resolution for California community colleges to dissociate from the Western Association of Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, mock accreditation visits, greater involvement of California Academic Senate in implementation of AB 86 and its impact on the Basic Skills Initiative, California state funds guaranteed to be reserved for community college professional development, feasibility of California community colleges awarding bachelors degrees, Faculty Obligation Number (FON) considerations, the California Academic Senate president's proposal to abdicate California Academic Senate's role in determining course identification numbers, and removal of by laws which allow for the California Academic Senate's executive board meeting closed sessions from the California Academic Senate's constitution and by-laws.

3. California Community College Academic Senate—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen informed the Senate that actions taken by the current president of the California Academic Senate had created controversy at the state academic senate level which has led to leadership issues which could, in the long run, effect local academic senates, including IVC's.

4. Academic Hiring Ad Hoc Committee—Marion Boenheim

Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Marion Boenheim informed the Senate of the following changes to the procedures of academic hiring committees: Committee members shall be allowed to review the entirety of applicant’s application packages, Curriculum Committee Chair shall be part of academic hiring committees, and new equivalency procedures shall be implemented.

5. Environmental Health and Safety Committee—Daniel Gilison

College Council Co-Chairman Daniel Gilison informed the Senate that he has been requested by the chairperson of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee chair to request faculty replacement for non-attendees at said committee meetings, but that initially he would need to determine who the non-attendees are.

6. Fund for Other Post-Employment Benefits—Kevin White

President Lehtonen pulled this item from the agenda due to the excused absence of Kevin White and referred all in attendance to the report given on said item by himself on behalf of Past-President Kevin White during the agenda item “Reports: Past-President.”

G. Action

1. +/- Grading Survey—Second Reading—Caroline Bennett

M/S/C (Gilison/Leon) to approve the wording and format of the +/- Grading Survey as presented.

**Imperial Valley College
Grading System Faculty Survey**

The following questions are proposed survey questions that will be used to gather information regarding the proposal to institute a +/- grading system at Imperial Valley College:

Please note that Title 5 specifically outlines which +/- grades may be adopted. The grade of “C –” is not an option.

1. I think this grading system should be available as an option at Imperial Valley College.

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

2. If this grading system was available, I would probably use it for one or more of my classes.

- Yes

- No
- Undecided

3. I am okay with my colleagues using +/- grades, even if I choose not to use those grades.

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

4. I am a:

- Part-time faculty member
- Full-time faculty member

5. I have taught at Imperial Valley College for _____ year(s).

6. Specific concerns about +/- grading that I wish to have discussed at the Academic Senate:

Senator Caroline Bennett informed the Senate that an attached link to Title 5 language regarding grading had been added to the survey.

2. Response to Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges—Kathy Berry M/S/C (Nunez/Leon) to approve for recommendation to the IVC Board of Trustees the proposed “Response to Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges” as presented.

Discussion ensued, including a summary of the contents of the document by Dean of Economic and Workforce Development Efrain Silva.

H. *For the Good of the Order*

There were no “For the Good of the Order” items.

I. *Adjournment*

M/S/C (Heumann/Leon) to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the IVC Academic Senate shall take place on 16 April 2014 at 1:30p.m. in the IVC Board Room.