

# IVC Academic Senate

Approved Minutes

May 6, 2009

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by President Seivertson.
- II. **Roll Call and Announcements**

Present: Krista Byrd, Suzanne Gretz, Melani Guinn, Cesar Guzman, Michael Heumann, Rosalba Jepson, Russell Lavery, Carol Lee, Mary Lofgren, Jean Montenegro, Norma Nunez, Toni Pfister, Rosa Pitones, Norma Scott, Bruce Seivertson, Kevin White, Sherry Zobell, Dennis Carnes, Kathy Berry, Chantilee Mendenhall

Excused: Lianna Zhao, Thomas Paine

Absent: James Patterson, Kseniya Kareva

Visitors: Frank Rapp, Deirdre Rowley, Eric Lehtonen, Jane Higginson, Eric Jacobson, Sheila Dorsey-Freeman, Tina Aguirre, Travis Gregory, Frances Beope, Edie Harmon, Raymond Lutz, Montree Tsang, Jose Navar, Helena Quintana, Ashmi Ullal
- III. **Treasurer's Report**

\$3,084
- IV. **Visitor Comments**

Eric Lehtonen was worried that the retirements of people after the prioritization on March 5 of this year might put an undue burden on those planning schedules for fall. He urged the thaw committee to come to some resolutions regarding hires for the next year. Senator Gretz noted that the thaw committee has met many times and a final recommendation is nearly ready to go to Dr. Gould.
- V. **Consent Agenda**
  1. Minutes Academic Senate meeting of April 1, 2009
  2. C&I Committee's Recommendations dated 3-5-2009, 3-19-2009, and 4-9-2009

M/S/C (Zobell/Mendenhall) to approve the above items
- VI. **Reports**
  1. President
    - The fundraiser was a big success. There was a large turnout and a lot of items donated for the silent auction. \$3,931.92 was raised.
    - An email sent out regarding cost containment elicited many responses.
    - The Spring Plenary took place during Spring Break. Seivertson discussed the resolution on the equivalency change to Political Science.

- He passed out information on the Brown Act in response to complaints at the previous meeting regarding introducing resolutions without previously handing them out ahead of time.
2. Past President
    - No comment
  3. VP of Instruction
    - Berry attended Chief Romero's funeral today. He was a long-time instructor, and the ceremony was very moving. He will be deeply missed.
    - All at the college have handled the flu problem very well. It has raised an issue regarding extending our ability to communicate with students beyond the classroom. This discussion will continue well past this specific epidemic.
    - Dean Rapp is working on the Educational Master Plan. It should be complete by the end of the week. The Educational Master Plan Committee will vote on it soon.
    - The summer schedule is good. There are not an undue number of classes. The schedule is being printed this week. They will not be mailing schedules to everyone in the county. Instead, they will be mailing a card to tell prospective students where to get the schedule. This is a test; if it works, then they will continue this practice in the fall.
    - This summer, there will be a Basic Skills Institute for four weeks. The hope is to give students additional support to help them improve their basic skills.
  4. CFO
    - Not present
  5. BSI Coordinator
    - Dean Rapp stated that the main focus of the committee is the summer institute. Faculty, counselors, and tutors are in place. There will be a flyer available soon. They will be working together to ensure that the Institute goes well.
  5. SLO Coordinator
    - Senator Pfister notes that there will be a committee meeting on May 12. Right now, she is working with divisions to ensure that SLO identification forms are complete and to fix any potential problems or omissions. There will be a best practices seminar at some point in May; volunteers are needed to help lead this seminar.
  6. ASG President
    - There was a debate today, and the two candidates presented their arguments for why they should be President. The election will be held on May 11 and 12.
    - Life's a Beach will be on May 20 from 10-2:15.

**VII. Academic and Professional Matters**

1. Resolution to recommend that IVC retain the Winter Intersession to benefit the students
  - (M/S) Pfister/Lee to approve the resolution.
  - Senator Gretz supports the resolution, and she suggested that we add the student survey information that shows a high percentage of students in support of the winter intersession.
  - Gretz does not support the language in the final clause urging the bargaining unit the work with the district to keep Winter Intersession open. She read the language from the CTA Contract that states that a Winter Intersession must be included; when the district asked to reopen to negotiate the contract, the faculty voted against this. Therefore, the language of the resolution suggests something that the bargaining unit has already discussed and rejected.
  - Lee suggested that we strike the phrase “to work with the respective bargaining units” from the resolution. Pfister agrees.
  - Senator White suggested that we add the survey information.
2. Resolution to recommend that the Planning and Budget Committee continue to report to the Academic Senate
  - (M/S) White/Guzman to approve the resolution.
  - Eric Jacobson stated that the administration wants the Planning and Budget Committee to report to College Council. Jacobson noted that this would leave the Senate out of the budget “loop.”
  - Senator Heumann stated that he believed that both the Academic Senate and the College Council were recommending bodies, not policy-making bodies. Jacobson and Gretz both noted that the Senate had the power to bring resolutions directly to the board without first going through the President.
  - Berry noted that WASC did not like our committee structure because Planning and Budget existed on its own. The attempt to move this committee under College Council was an attempt to bring Planning and Budget into the larger committee structure.
  - Jacobson stated that members of the Planning and Budget Committee thought this change was an attempt to undermine the faculty’s role in the decision-making process at the college.
  - Gretz noted that she would support this resolution because she has concerns regarding the changes to the shared governance structure at the college.
  - Senator Guinn noted that this issue demands more discussion and more information from both sides. We need to hear about the problems WASC has with our current structure and why these changes are being proposed in the first place.
3. By laws modification to permit the two Part-Time Academic Senators to vote in the election of the Academic Senate President
  - (M/S/C) Montenegro/Scott to approve this change to the by-laws
4. Two Distance Education Committee Policy Statements
  - (M/S/C) Heumann/Pfister to approve the two policy statements

## **VIII. Discussion**

1. Wind Zero: Jane Higginson
  - She urges the senate to press the college to withdraw its support of Wind Zero.
  - Wind Zero is a special forces training organization that is proposing a 1,000-acre facility in Ocotillo that will have a racetrack and military and law enforcement training sections.
  - Wind Zero is offering its facility for our Administration of Justice and fire fighting programs. However, the company is threatening to severely harm the groundwater in Ocotillo, and there is an alleged connection between Wind Zero and Blackwater, a for-hire “mercenary” organization.
  - Edie Harmon, an Ocotillo resident, is an environmental activist. She spoke against Wind Zero and the adverse effects that this organization’s facility would have on the ground water basin in Ocotillo. If the water basin is harmed, then the city of Ocotillo would be threatened.
  - Many other members of the community were on hand to urge the Senate to fight against IVC’s involvement and support of Wind Zero.

## **IX. Committees**

1. Administrative Council: There was a presentation on Twitter and Facebook and their use for instruction.
2. College Council: There was a discussion of Wind Zero, along with updates regarding the flu pandemic, the budget situation, and the nomination of Jessica Waddell as Vice Chair
3. Curriculum and Instruction: There was a quick meeting last week, and most curriculum issues have been finalized. The catalogue will be wrapped up for this year at the next meeting.
4. Distance Education: Many policies have been discussed, including a policy on making Etudes the official platform for distance education classes, a policy on distance education terminology, and a policy on evaluation of online courses. At the May 4 meeting, Dr. Gould came to thank the committee for supporting his nomination to the Etudes Board of Directors and to offer support and encouragement as we move into the next phase of the DE program. At the Etudes Users Summit, several people pointed out that IVC is the model for developing and supporting a distance education program.
5. Equivalency: No meeting
6. Planning and Budget: There is a meeting on May 13. Information on cost containment will be discussed.
7. Policies and Procedures Review: No meetings

## **X. M/S/C (Zobell/Scott) to adjourn the meeting at 3:08 pm.**