

Academic Senate Meeting
Thursday, May 4th, 2006 (1:30)
Minutes

Present:

Members of the Executive Committee:

Kathryn Schoenrock, Becky Hull, Luke Hall, Robert Porter

Members of the Council:

Terry Morris, Lauri Moore, Donna Beatty, Nancy Mitchell, Mayo de la Rocha, Tesi Low, Karen de la Pena, Maryann Carrasco Nungaray, Ollie Powers, David Oliver, Peter Sezzi

Senator Emeritus: Edith Conn

Guests: Dan Kumpf

- I. Meeting Called to Order at 1:36
- II. A motion was made to remove item IV (D) from the agenda. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- III. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Approved with two abstentions.
- IV. Action Item – Policy on Eminence for Equivalency to Minimum Qualifications. The vice-president read the proposed policy on eminence and a discussion of this issue followed. The issue of ‘equivalency’ was also brought up and discussed. A motion was made to approve the policy relating to equivalency and eminence. Approved unanimously.
- V. President’s Report. The president reported on the State Academic Senate Spring Plenary Session. She passed out some handouts relating to this Plenary Session as well.
- VI. President’s Report. Council members available in the summer. The president asked who would be available during the summer so that the Senate can conduct business during the summer if need be. A sign-up list was passed around for senators who would be available.
- VII. President’s Report. Issues for the Next Year: The president reported on the budget and a discussion of this issue followed.
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report. The treasurer reported on the Faculty Recognition Night. He noted that he will transfer \$800 to the Foundation to sponsor a student in the “Ventura Promise” program.
- IX. Committee Reports. Staffing Priorities Committee: Mayo de la Rocha reported that the president has decided to approve hiring full time faculty for Math, Biology, and English for the upcoming academic year. A discussion of this issue followed. During the discussion of this issue, the council agreed, by consensus, to approve the following statement: “The Academic Senate would like to register its disappointment with the recent decision made by Dr. Calote regarding the faculty staffing decisions for 2006-2007. We believe that the process used by the president, and the communication of her decision not to

support the Senate Staffing Priorities Committee's recommendations, illustrates flaws in the participatory governance structure at Ventura College. For faculty leaders to hear the decision "through the grapevine" seems quite inappropriate. The Staffing Priorities Committee devoted many hours in developing a process that was fair to all programs regardless of size and staffing needs. The rubric and the process used were communicated to all faculty and staff, ensuring transparency. The Staffing Priorities Committee process provided a comprehensive and wholesome evaluation of faculty staffing needs in programs and disciplines. The Senate Council was especially concerned about the lack of transparency of the Administrative Council's process and the communication of the final decision. The hiring of faculty is part of the "10+1" academic and professional matters under the purview of the Academic Senate. We believe that faculty should be the primary recommending body for faculty staffing needs. Although we are disappointed in the way the process worked this year, we look forward to improving the process next year."

- X. The president announced that Deborah Ventura will be replacing Bob Porter as Academic Senate secretary for Spring 2007, as he will be on sabbatical.
- XI. The vice president reported that the deadline to apply for the Great Teachers Seminar this summer has been extended to May 15th. Faculty are encouraged to apply.
- XII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:32pm

Notes taken by Bob Porter