

Academic Senate Minutes: MSP-2/15/07
Ventura College Academic Senate
Thursday February 1, 2007

Executive present: Kathryn Schoenrock, Becky Hull, Lauri Moore, Deborah Ventura
Senators present: Karen de la Pena, Marian Carrasco Nungaray, Dan Kumpf, Joe Selzler, Tesi Low, Terry Morris, Nancy Mitchell, Randy Ringen

- I. Call to order at 1:37
Kathryn introduced student representative Akym Rinkovsky
- II. Approval of minutes with the addition of Tesi Low to senators present
- III. Guest: Gary van Meter discussed the protocol for grant applications. We follow a process for submitting grants that was created for the entire district. Gary's office is charged with overseeing competitive grants that come through outside sources. Because the college doesn't have enough money for everything, the grant process can help get seed money for projects that we may later want to institutionalize. Now deans have to approve the idea. Some problems that might occur in any grant process are: Partnership grants might require a commitment from the college that would have to be weighed at Vice President's level. It is important not to sign anything that commits us before it has been looked at. General support letters are ok. Letter of commitment is different because it can create a partnership.. District needs to approve most proposals one week prior to the date the grant has to be sent. Gary will work with faculty to find funding and help with moving through the process. Senate members said it is important for faculty to make sure that projects are not lost on someone's desk. Council members also talked about the problem when grants look like they have faculty approval but do not come from the department. Gary is going to look into putting grant opportunities on our web site.
- IV. Action Items:
 - A. People Admin: Becky Hull reported on an email request from Senate Exec asking the district to hold off on running the totally electronic faculty selection process until issues that faculty were concerned about could be addressed. Instead the district continued and it went on line. The senate agreed that Kathryn should go to Chancellor's Consultation and formally express our concerns. We also agreed to have an emergency meeting to create to a resolution to the district asking for an opportunity to consult on the process and pilot the electronic People Admin for one faculty position, so hiring will move forward and we can address problems that may occur.
 - B. Responses to final list of new faculty positions: In calculating the full-time obligation, the District has required Ventura College to hire more faculty positions. The Academic Senate is concerned about the process of selecting which faculty positions will be filled.

V. President's Report:

- A. DCSL/Curriculum Committee: Kathryn reported that the Chancellor has said if we don't discuss and agree on the structure and process of curriculum review at the district level, he will again block curriculum from moving to the board. The Senates are concerned about giving up local approval of curriculum and our ability to address the unique needs of our students through curriculum. Kathryn presented the language for the charter for DCSL the Oxnard and Ventura Academic Senates have also agreed on which would permit us to continue in our professional obligation in the area of curriculum. Moorpark agreed to the changes in concept.

- B. Administrative Council Report: The full-time faculty obligation and professional development money was discussed. In the past, people with proposals have gone to the committee for approval. The suggestion was made to separate out the pools of money, so there is a pool earmarked for faculty. The Academic Senate will discuss this possibility at our next meeting.
Tom Kimberling talked about a potential allocation model based on base funding and FTES which will leave VC funding the same.

- C. State Academic Senate Spring Plenary: Area C meeting is coming up. Please let Kathryn know if you have any issues to bring up.

- D. State Basic Skills Committee will meet at VC on March 3.

VI. Treasurer Report:

- A. Senate Membership Drive: Dues are \$20.00. The money goes to student scholarships and Academic Senate recognition dinner.

- B. Save date for Faculty Recognition Night: This year the dinner will be April 27.

VII. Committee Reports

- A. District Council on Human Resources: didn't meet to review People Admin, so there is no report.

VIII. Items for Information/Discussion

- A. Starfish Award: the number of nominations has gone down and many times faculty members are going unrecognized. We should make the effort to nominate

- B. Division Reports: Encourage students to enroll for late start classes. Some have not turned in grades and this is a problem for students. Counseling invites everyone to High School Counselor Exchange Conference Day on March 9 in Guthrie Hall, 9-12.

IX. Adjournment: MSP at 3:40.