

Thursday March 15, 2007
Academic Senate Minutes: MSP
Ventura College Academic Senate

Executive present: Kathryn Schoenrock, Lauri Moore, Deborah Ventura

Senators present: Joe Selzler, Tesi Low, Mayo De la Rocha, Ollie Powers, Nancy Mitchell, Randy Ringen, Karen De la Pena, Dave Oliver

I. Call to order: 1:40

II. Approval of the minutes MSP

III. Action Item:

A. Basic Skills Committee: It is a good idea for colleges to have a basic skills committee because of many things that are happening at the state level. The senate approved having the Academic Alliance serve as the Senate's committee.

B. ORAP: MC had said that their hiring pool was not as large or as diverse as they have been. When they rechecked their numbers they withdrew their complaint. Kathryn asked our diversity facilitators to investigate whether ours have been affected.

IV. President's Report:

A. District Council on Student Learning (DCSL)/Curriculum Committee: As the council had asked, Kathryn met with the Chancellor regarding the behavior of the president of Moorpark College at the last meeting. The Chancellor indicated that he wanted her to remain on, but when Kathryn protested, he said he would think about it and get back to her. He has not yet contacted Kathryn.

B. District Council on Administrative Services (DCAS): Kathryn passed out a document, which was produced after the recent allocation meeting. Recommendations are divided into the categories of District-wide support, college-wide services, utilities, district administrative center, college initiatives, class schedule delivery, and base allocation. The District Office will have the same percentage of revenue it has had in the past, and VC and OC will receive stabilization funding. Money will be given to the colleges based on how much it takes to deliver their current schedules. DCAS looked at other model options but members think this model is the best. We are concerned that it might be difficult to grow a schedule with this model, that while we have large classes in some areas because we have lower FTES we are hurt, this model doesn't allow us to increase our full time faculty to student ratio, and that non teaching faculty are not included in the full time faculty allocation and yet are an ongoing cost.

C. Administrative Council Report: very short meeting

D. Strategic Planning:none

E. Board Report: The board pulled the item related to tenure in the third year. President Larry Miller assured faculty that this does not affect employment status. A board member is asking for a review of how the district wide school newspaper is working. At the board meeting, Kathryn discussed professional development and the high cost for faculty to try to attend conferences and asked members to reconsider the 50% they take off the top.

F. State Basic Skills Committee: State basic skills committee met at VC on March 3. Groups are working on a resolution from Citrus College which ask for a review of how colleges establish competency in reading, another group is working on a bibliography of materials related to basic skills, and what are best practices in non credit

basic skills and how to provide training in them. Funding may be allocated to campuses based on a self-assessment of basic skills programs.

G. Board of Governors: The board met to discuss the gap in skills among students in California and passed a motion to implement the feasibility of a common assessment of basic skills of all students. We need to discuss how we feel about this.

V. Treasurer's Report: none

VI. Committee Reports: none

VII. Items for Information/Discussion

A. Division Reports: none

B. Other

VIII. Adjournment MSP 3:00