

# *Academic Senate*

## Grossmont College

### **Minutes of the Meeting – February 26, 2001**

**PRESENT:** Cathy Harvey(President), Mary Rider(Vice President), Beth Smith, Jerry Buckley(Senate Officers at Large), P.J. Ortmeier(AOJ); Ron Tatro (Art); Ben Newkirk (Behavioral Science), Dave Wertlieb, Diane Merlos(Biological Sciences), Rick Kirby(Cardiovascular Technology), Cary Willard, Tom Olmstead(Chemistry), Sonia Gaiane, Barbara Chernofsky (Child Development), Diane Mayne Stafford, (Computer Science), Bonnie Schmiede, Mary Rose(Counseling); Joe Orate(Culinary Arts); Marlene Jansky (DSPS), Mike Matherly(Earth Sciences); Gary Phillips, Nelson Paler, Julie Cardenas (English), Chuck Passentino(ESL); Joyce Sake, Laura Burger, Bushra Jonna, Laura Burger, Colleen Suwara (Exercise Science); Jerry Baydo, Mel Amov(History); Zoe Close, David Arthur(Humanities); Patricia Morrison(Library); Dave Lunsford, (Math); William Snead(Media Communications); Jane West(Nursing); Michael Piotrowski,(Part Time Representative); Dennis Collins(Physics, Astronomy & Physical Sciences); Nancy Tendal(Respiratory Therapy); Sheri Sjoberg, Roxane Tuscany(Speech Communications); Beth Mallet-Anderson, David Kievit(Theatre Arts).

**ABSENT:** Rick Michelson(AOJ), Jeff Irwin, Les Lawrence,(Art), Gregg Robinson, Leilani Holmes, Israel Cardona(Behavioral Science), Jed Ashley(Business), Sandy Sikes(Business Office Technology), Don Ridgeway(Cardiovascular Technology), (Child Development), Wayne Allen, Janet Gelb(CSIS); Cassandra Evans (Community Service Learning); Peggy Shepard(Counseling); Tom Gamboa(Cross Cultural Studies); Cathy Meyer(Dance); Jane Nolan (DSPS); Tim Cliffe(Earth Sciences); Sydney Brown, Janice Bellinghiere(English); Pat Bennett(ESL); Sylvia Montejano(EOPS); Antonio Crespo, Paul Vincent (Foreign Language), Lee Raymond(History); Gene Britt(International Business); Curtis Stevens (Library); Jim Tarvin, Jim Hilton (Math); Evan Wirig(Media Communications), Steve Baker, Fred Benedetti (Music), Susan Wild (Nursing), Marcelle Karlin(Occupational Therapy); Laura Mosier(Part Time Representative); Patti Tsai(Physics, Astronomy & Physical Sciences), Bill Cummings, Mary McKenzie(Political Economy), Henry Jordan, (Theatre Arts).

**GUESTS:** Ted Martinez, Jr., Dean Colli, Peter White, Mark Facer, Jennifer Carmean, Michelle Blackman, Mel Amov, Pat Bradley, Casandra Evans.

**RECORDER:** Martha Garcia

## **I. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

**A. Cathy Harvey called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.**

**B. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 5, 2001**  
The minutes will be approved on the March 5, 2001, meeting

**C. Approval of Agenda**  
M/S/U Schmiede/Smith

**D. Nomination Committee for Senate Officer’s Election and Part-time Representative**  
Cathy Harvey asked for the senators to participate in the Nominations Committee for the senate officers and part-time representatives elections.

**E. Governing Board Policies Update**  
Cathy explained that at the beginning of last semester, the chancellor sent two packets of policies to the senate officers for review. She spoke with Paul

Carmona from Cuyamaca College, and they decided to put the process on hold until the CCLC forwards additional information.

**F. CATL/Professional Development Position**

Cathy Harvey reminded senators that the closing date for the CATL/Professional Development Position is March 2, 2001. Mary Rider encouraged them to apply for this position, and Zoe Close clarified that the position is not a job opening but has reassigned time.

**G. District General Education Taskforce**

Cathy informed senators that the reassigned time request for DGET members was not approved and that DGET members intend to reassess their roles with the possibility of a committee composition change.

**H. College Level Examination Program**

Cathy Harvey explained that Cuyamaca College has passed its CLEP procedures without an agreement with the Grossmont College's Curriculum Committee; therefore, the possibility exists that CLEP procedures at the two colleges might differ.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

**A. Drop Rosters**

Brad Tiffany gave a brief report on drop rosters and informed senators that compliance in turning them in was 97% this semester. He thanked faculty on behalf of the students and the institution.

**B. University Transfer Studies Degree (UTSD)**

Cathy Harvey explained that the University Transfer Studies Degree has been brought to the senate for consideration due to its importance and its controversial nature. She requested senate guidance to address the situation since the Curriculum Committee had already approved the degree.

Cary Willard explained that the UTSD was developed to provide students with the general education requirements of the four-year institutions. She referred to a UTSD handout attached to the agenda that shows the degree requirements,

which were approved by the Curriculum Committee during its December 5, 2000, meeting.

Laura Burger expressed her department's strong disagreement with the approval of the package because they believe that it should have a physical fitness component included.

She explained that extensive research has found that exercise can prevent, reduce or treat heart disease, cancer, strokes, diabetes, osteoporosis, arthritis, obesity, anxiety and depression; therefore, exercise, activity, or physical education should no longer be viewed as leisure time, recreational oriented experiences. Exercise Science courses are not included in all degree packages, and students will not learn how and why exercise saves many lives and unquestionably improves the quality of life.

Laura also explained that Americans spend over \$30 billion a year on weight loss diets that fail 90% of the time. Health care costs exceed \$1 trillion annually, much of which is spent fixing diseases that could have been prevented or delayed by exercise and proper nutrition. Statistics show that only 15% of Americans get the recommended amount of exercise; 60% get significantly less than the recommended amount; and 25% do not exercise at all. As an example she explained that most Americans have adequate dental hygiene because they were systematically exposed to the techniques and purposes in elementary school; their parents reinforce the behavior because they value the importance; and the behavior has become a habit that has been infused into daily routine. Unfortunately, this is not happening with exercise at the elementary or secondary levels or at many four-year institutions; therefore, the community college may be the only educational environment for students to be exposed to practical applications of health.

Joyce Sake offered an additional perspective about why physical activity should be included in the degree package. She explained that one of the functions of an associate degree is to educate students about what the institution considers important areas for study. Every program at Grossmont College has always included a physical activity component, which is the only one in the entire curriculum that addresses the human body. To eliminate this is like telling the students that this is not an important area. Unfortunately, thirty years ago the physical education requirements and programs were better than they are today. They are now deteriorating, and there are not enough funds for them. Yet funds are available for medical costs and problems, which could have been avoided if colleges took their physical fitness programs seriously.

Joyce explained that although universities should promote physical activity, regular exercise, and health resources, they do not require students to take these courses. With her experience in the General Education Committee, she believes universities have failed in this area.

Finally, Joyce added that Americans need to learn about health through the most effective way, which is education, and they must not wait until they have their first by-pass surgery to be reminded of this area.

Bonnie Schmiede explained the Curriculum Committee's actions. She emphasized that the Curriculum Committee weighed closely every aspect of the degree in making the decision to support the degree and reported that ten members voted in favor, zero against it, and two abstained. She added that the Curriculum Committee has members appointed by the Academic Senate to represent it and make sure that the best decisions are made for students.

As the UTSD was developed based on what is believed to be best for students, Bonnie shared with the senate some of its important features. First, a degree is important, and there are many students who are taking very rigorous courses of study to transfer to UC, CSU, and independent schools; those students usually do not leave the community colleges with a degree. They do not receive a document stating that they have accomplished something at Grossmont College. For this reason, the UTSD was developed. In a study from last June, out of 74 students who would have been able to receive a degree, only 29 of them met the requirements; the remaining left the college without proof of their accomplishments at this college.

Second, the UTSD is important because it is an educational planning tool. Unfortunately, students do not all go to counseling, and they only guide themselves by reading the complex catalog.

Third, Bonnie added that the ten community colleges in the region have already implemented the degree and that the chancellor of CSU wants to do a pilot study with the region, which could guarantee admittance to students who complete the degree into the CSU system. Without this degree, we would not be able to be part of this pilot project, which will be a disadvantage for students at Grossmont College.

Finally, Bonnie explained that schools that already have the degree in place have found that the enrollment in Physical Education and Speech has remained the same. Further, the number of students getting this degree has increased significantly.

Additional questions, comments, and concerns from senators were raised to either support the implementation of the exercise component in the UTSD or to disfavor it.

In conclusion, one senator recommended that senate officers bring a motion that directs the senate to endorse the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to implement the University Transfer Studies Degree.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.