

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Monday, September 16, 2013

- I. Approval of the Agenda: **M/S/U: Wirig/Lambe**
- II. President's Report – Sue Gonda
 - **Public comment** on behalf of Raul Sandelin: Professor Lee Sandelin, Raul's mother, passed away on Wednesday August 21, 2013. She was the head Art librarian at San Diego State "College" and University for nearly 30 years. She also worked as a librarian for the San Diego County Libraries in the 1950s and early 1960s. Sandelin had strong ties to Grossmont College and knew many of its faculty in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. Many faculty members even took Art History classes with her, and some interned for her, at San Diego State.
 - **SDCCD is Hiring 30 FTF** this semester. Colleges are hiring, but the high number in this case is to be compliant with the 50% law—California colleges must have at least 50% of the budget devoted directly to instruction. Adjuncts in your department may be applying. Don't forget about the AFT adjunct database at their website: http://www.aftguild.org/searchsite/searchsite_homepage.php
 - **Who is Grossmont hiring? Update about our positions.** Positions currently in recruitment (on the intranet) http://intranet.gcccd.edu/dspbc/documents/staffingplans/Status_of_Aproved_Recruitments.pdf
Additional hires going to District Strategic Planning & Budget: 2 faculty (Media Comm. and Counselor for Transfer Center) for this academic year, in addition to the 6 already hired, and the following, all of whom are necessary for critical threshold of supervision, services, or legal and accreditation requirements: Admin. Asst. for Academic Senate; A & R Asst; Art Gallery Specialist; Assoc. Dean, Special Programs (EOPS/CalWorks/CARE, DSPS); Business/Communications Supervisor; Counseling Supervisor; Creative Services Design Specialist, Grounds & Maintenance Supervisor, Network Specialist; Student Services Specialist, Transfer Center; Tutoring Supervisor or Tutoring Center Assistant. (The attempt to hire a Counseling Dean is in the third round of a search process.)
 - **GCCCD Annual Report** – see our students, faculty and staff highlighted. The theme of the report is student success:
http://issuu.com/anneekrueger/docs/gcccd_2012-2013_annual_report
 - **Resolution proposed by AFT** regarding the ACCJC – to be brought to Senate after our accreditation is complete.

- Faculty Professional Development Committee is always looking for good **keynote speakers**. If you know of someone, can you find out how much that person would charge as a fee and send the information to Rochelle Weiser in the Professional Development office? If getting good keynotes is of interest to you, the FPDC is considering a task force.
- **FYI: AP 4250: Probation, Dismissal & Readmission of students** – under consideration – students who will be dismissed after either two or three semesters on probation; appeal and readmission will be possible. (BOG waivers are not allowed after two; we currently have two types of probation and dismissal after three semesters.)
- **Winter Intersession Dates:** January 6-24. Our first winter session since 2009.
- **Accommodating as many students as possible:** The tide has turned because we have a bit more money from the state for students. We are offering more classes. However, there are fewer graduates from the high schools, students have been turned away from the colleges for years, and now we are also competing with the other community colleges who are also offering more sections. We cannot get below our CAP – the number of students we are allotted by the state. Good news: we're on track. We wanted to serve as many students as possible, so we're budgeting for our CAP + 1.5% (because other colleges may not meet their CAP, and that money gets distributed among the other colleges). We've budgeted for 12,244 FTES for the year; total summer + fall = 6,382; need 5,862 for Spring (winter + full semester).
- **Smartthinking Pilot:** We had a gap in our tutoring service to online students, and Smartthinking is providing it this semester. Per accreditation and Title 5 mandates, we needed an online tool for student equity of tutoring services. We'll assess it at the end of the semester and see how it works for both online and on-campus students.
- **Online accessibility issues** – expect to see more information and resources for our online faculty--to ensure that our online courses are compliant with the ADA law. Our DSPS office is terrific for providing accommodations to students. We're learning about standards and practices from the State and from the US Dept. of Justice – Civil Rights Division, who oversee ADA compliance.
- In the works, FYI: **improvement of our Grade Challenge Process**. Right now, the Board Procedure sends the student to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. This is an instructional matter, and we need a better spelled-out process for the student to work with the instructor, department chair, dean. VP Katrina Vanderwoude is working on this.
- **Budget Allocation Task Force** – There has been a consensus about how to change it to mirror how the state allocates funds to the district. The challenge now is how to allocate growth funds to the colleges. The consultant, former LA Chancellor Rocky Young has made suggestions about best practices, and there are data studies about our service areas in the works right now.

- There was a first sale of **bonds for the Prop V funding**, and it went very well. The District bond rating, for those of you interested in these things, is “AA.” That is a “Prime High Grade category: 3rd of four Prime grades. There were more people who wanted to buy than there were bonds to sell. One thing to improve our rating: have a bit more in our General Reserves to cover OPEB: Other Post Employment Benefits – those other than pensions, such as medical, dental, vision. So, the district is gradually increasing our reserve over time by taking 10% of the ending balance and putting it into the reserve. (OK, I’ve been at this job too long when I’m reporting this level of detail to you!)
- There are task forces up and running to set some over-arching **standards for rooms** in our future new buildings. Faculty are on those task forces.
- **Update about College Hour:** The Task Force made some recommendations for a college hour last semester, but that was before we began to fall short of our target # of students last spring. So I’m working with GC Leadership Council and SOC to see what is feasible and will come to you with a modified proposal. If we create a College Hour, it should maximize what we do for students and faculty at the college – training, student skills workshops, college events (such as the moving 9/11 one attended by only about 30 people recently!) – things that can be a selling point in our community to attract students to GC and improve student success. One argument not to do it – use the time for classes in a time when we’re trying to increase our number of students.

III. **COMMITTEES**

Committee Chairs – Let Sue know of vacancies!

IV. **ACTION ITEMS**

None

V. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. Transparent process for appointing faculty to hiring committees.** A draft of the process (attached to the Agenda) was reviewed, including an edit provided by Oralee Holder. Senators liked the process and suggested additional wording for the process when more than one person volunteers. This will come back for action next meeting.

ATTACHMENT A – Information Item 9/16/2013 – with suggested changes after 9/16 Senate

PROCESS FOR PLACING FACULTY ON COLLEGE-WIDE HIRING COMMITTEES

Draft: 9/16/2013

It is the purview of the Academic Senate to approve and place faculty on hiring committees. When the hiring committee is for a departmental position – faculty or staff – the chair of that committee will consult with the department chair, and inform the Academic Senate president of departmental faculty with the expertise and availability to serve on the committee. The Senate president follows up with any necessary communications for approval.

When the position serves the entire college or district, such as administrators, classified staff, or a faculty member performing college-wide duties, then the process is as follows:

1. The hiring committee chair notifies the Academic Senate president of the need for a certain number of faculty.
2. The Senate president will send out a communication to all faculty of the need, as follows:

Faculty members are needed for the screening committee for (position title). By (date), please provide me with a brief statement indicating your availability to participate and your awareness of the time and commitment required of hiring committee members. Your statement should include your interest in and knowledge of the position as well as whether or not you currently report to the position or work directly and frequently with the position.

3. If more than one person volunteers, then the hiring committee chair provides feedback to the Senate Officers via the Senate President as to which person is the most qualified individual for the committee.