

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Grossmont College

Thursday, August 14, 2014, 10:00-12:05 in Rooms 26-220 and 31-370

I. Welcome and Introductions – Sue Gonda and Alicia Muñoz (10 MINUTES)

- A. Acknowledgement of Senate Officers:** Sue Gonda and Alicia Muñoz asked all Senate officers stand and be acknowledged.
- B. Introductions:** In addition to the round of self-introductions, Distinguished Faculty from both Cuyamaca and Grossmont were acknowledged: Patricia Santana (Full Time, Cuyamaca College); Yolanda Guerrero (Full Time, Grossmont College); and Michael Lambe (Part Time, Grossmont College). Tyler Dranguet, new Admin Assistant to Grossmont’s Academic Senate was also introduced.

II. State of the District – Chancellor Cindy Miles (30 MINUTES)

Dr. Miles, first and foremost wanted to express how much she values GCCCD’s faculty and how proud she is of them. One of her main focuses right now is helping all students to be prosperous as part of a strategic, statewide initiative.

SB850: At latest update, the bill has passed the Senate and gone to House Appropriations, undergone some changes, and was headed back to the Senate where it will hopefully be passed and sent to the Governor to be signed. SB850 would allow for a six (6) year pilot program at 15 community colleges to each offer one workforce oriented baccalaureate degree.

Accreditation: Accreditation was successful. There will be a follow-up site visit on October 27th and things are expected to go very well. As a part of the statewide CEO Board and a part of the executive committee on that board, Dr. Miles and her colleagues have been very vocal for CEOs in California over the last year in expressing their frustration and expectations about how the colleges expect to be treated and how they need to collaborate at a deeper level, particularly in regard to the treatment of City College of San Francisco. Three letters and two face-to-face meetings have occurred since Spring 2014. The City College of San Francisco was to lose its accreditation on July 31st, but there was a Stay, pending the lawsuit in October. A new status has been created by ACCJC called “Restoration Status” for institutions facing loss of accreditation. The CEOs wanted a straightforward extension from the Commission. The extension was not granted and Restoration Status was created instead. CCSF applied for Restoration, but the language used in the Restoration Policy is worrisome and has some issues with its wording. She said that we do not want to lose a regional accrediting body altogether. “We do not want to lose our regional accreditor, because the alternative to this is the federal government accrediting our colleges.”

Prop V: This new bond funding has allowed for many improvement projects to begin. The goal is to use these funds with a long-term sustainable view. The recently-finished lighting upgrade project will reduce long term costs by 75%. Architects have been selected for the Art and Communication Complex project at Grossmont College. A project manager is currently looking into options of moving District Services to a more suitable location—possibly off-site within the next several years. “Workday” should be active within the next eighteen months. This is a massive change of new software affecting Human Resources, Payroll, and Business Services.

Strategic Staffing: Currently, GCCCD does not have a strategic staffing plan. On recommendation from the accreditors, a two-part plan is currently being implemented which will help with future needs and gaps, succession planning, training, etc.

III. Introduction to Accreditation Follow-Up Reports – Alicia Muñoz (5 MINUTES)

Sixteen colleges in California were visited over the last year. Fifteen of those colleges were reaffirmed including Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges. The colleges need to correct deficiencies or provide proof for the standards that they were meeting but could not prove at the time. A team will be coming back in October to see how these issues have been addressed by our colleges so far. The follow-up report will be submitted October 15; the follow up visit on October 27; and then the Commission will decide which action(s) to take in January.

IV. Introduction to the Student Success & Support Plan – Scott Thayer

It's the goal in California that all first-time students attend assessment, orientation, and counseling for educational planning. Rules for the SSSP money stipulate that Student Services at both colleges are required to track these services, as those numbers will be used as a baseline for receiving Counseling and Student Services funding from the state in the future. Both colleges are already involved with these activities; it's just a matter of keeping records consistent and accurate and building up the number of students receiving the services. (Many studies have shown that students receiving these matriculation services are more likely to complete their education.)

V. Breakout Session, Grossmont College – Room 31-370

A. Student Success & Support Plan – Chris Hill (40 MINUTES)

Background: In 2012, the Student Success Act was passed. The SSSP formula is based on FTES and performance, but requires 2:1 matching funding by the colleges. Beside the assessment, orientation, and counseling requirements, the Board of Governor's Common Assessment will be implemented in approximately eighteen months.

Grossmont's Pathways Project: Start Strong, Keep Moving, Reach the Goal: "Start Strong": The allocation of SSSP funds focuses on our plans to help students start strong, but other areas such as technology, institutional research, policies, and professional development will see impacts from SSSP funding.

Orientation & Assessment: Campus open house, high school outreach programs, student/parent information nights, and online orientation all aid students to "Start Strong." New facets of Assessment include pre-test preparation, facilitation in the use of exemptions, examination of course retake policies, etc. These are items that can be funded by SSSP.

Education Planning & At-Risk Students: Cynosure online will help students with short term planning, along with transfer workshops for students on campus, advising workshops, etc. Counseling appointments will provide long term planning for students' long term goals and course mapping. Students considered at risk will receive improved referrals to tutoring, counseling courses, and probations and disqualification will continue to be enforced where needed. Communication between instructional faculty and Student Services will continue to be developed.

Next Steps: The SSSP Plan will be posted on the Intranet for review. Feedback on the Plan must be submitted by September 5 to be utilized effectively. The Plan will be presented to the board on September 5 and then to the Academic Senate on September 15. After, it will be submitted to the State Chancellor's Office in October.

VI. 2014 Accreditation Plan – Chris Hill

A. Grossmont Commendations

The College received high marks in its institutional effectiveness and focus on improvement; its instructional programs which promote student success; its physical resources and facilities; and its leadership and governance for being transparent, open, and inclusive at all levels.

B. Recommendations

Recommendation #1: The College must identify future benchmarks and target actions. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been developed and posted to the college website; we now have targets for improvement.

Recommendation #2: The College should continue working on its consistency in providing information on all major policies affecting students.

Recommendation #3: The College needs to assess and analyze its current and future workforce requirements and needs. This is expected to be completed by April 2015.

Recommendation #4: This recommendation is **to correct a deficiency**, rather than to merely improve. The college has two years to fix its deficiency according to Standard III.A.1.C. The District must find a way for faculty and staff members to formally acknowledge in their evaluations that they participate in SLO assessment. The Chancellor, President, Vice President, and Deans' evaluations currently have language in them addressing SLOs. Language for faculty members' evaluations is currently in negotiation.

Recommendation #5: The District and Governing Board must regularly evaluate their policies and procedures. The District Executive Council (DEC) will be reviewing and bringing all board policies and procedures up to date with the GCCCD reviewing cycle.

Recommendation #6: The College needs to broadly and consistently communicate its delineation of the operational responsibilities and functions of the District and College. Currently, a supplement to the District Function Mapping Document is being created to assist with this recommendation.

C. Next Steps

On September 5, a review will be conducted of the Accreditation Plan. After that, the plan will be presented to the Board on September 9. The Accreditation team will be back to Grossmont on October 27.