

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Grossmont College
Monday, October 5, 2015 in Griffin Gate, 11:05 – 12:15

Attendance: Randy Abshier, Joan Ahrens, Ken Ard, Nemie Capacia, Patricia Cardozo, Jennifer Carmean, Brian Carter, Joel Castellaw, Zoe Close, Judd Curran, Gareth Davies-Morris, Beth Duggan, Nadra Farina-Hess, Janet Gelb, Angie Gish, Sue Gonda, Oralee Holder, Tate Hurvitz, Beth Kelley, Helen Liesberg, Pearl Lopez, Lisa Maloy, Kathy Meyer, David Milroy, Domenica Oliveri, Michele Perchez, Shirley Pereira, Clifton Quinn, Terry Reilly, Gregg Robinson, Priscilla Rogers, John Scholte, Denise Schulmeyer, Robin Sepulveda, Scott Therkalsen, Renee Tuller, Diana Vance, Paul Vincent, Evan Wirig, Jessica Woods, Tina Young. **Guests:** Augustin Albarran, Javier Ayala, Dave Dillon. **Recorder:** Tyler Dranguet.

I. Call to Order

A. Public Comment – Clifton Quinn

Clifton is still working for course descriptions to be added to WebAdvisor. The reason that course descriptions are not already available is that both colleges do not always agree on the wording that should be used for every course description. Because of this, the following process has been suggested:

- Begin uploading course descriptions for departments that are only on one campus, such as AOJ;
- Then, upload course descriptions for departments where both campuses already agree on the courses descriptions;
- And then departments that disagree on the wording of their course descriptions can work together to come up with something that works for both campuses.

Clifton will continue to update the Academic Senate on the progress of this issue with IS and across committees.

B. Approval of Agenda

M/S/U Wirig/Kelley

C. Approval of Minutes from September 21

M/S/U Robinson/Ard

II. President's Report – Tate Hurvitz

A. Canvas

Kerry Kilber is putting together a working group of beta testers to look at Canvas. Both Colleges' Academic Senate Presidents are currently working together to create a volunteer process of interested individuals. A call for volunteers should be coming out in the near future. It is important to note that the discussion of Canvas is driven by the totality of its potential benefits, not just its cost-savings.

B. East County Education Alliance

Last week, the East County Education revealed its new Higher Edge Scholarship. Working group sessions also took place at the event led by the Institute for Evidence Based Change (IEBC), which received mixed reviews. Feedback has been sent to appropriate individuals to improve on

subsequent working groups. It was suggested that future events have more input from groups such as Achieving the Dream, M2C3, and the general student population.

C. Cross-Disciplinary Requisites

Cirriculum chairs at both Colleges want to begin discussing cross-discipline prerequisites again. Currently, they are proposing a small working group to delve into this discussion and bringing other key individuals into the conversation as needed. The question of how much the data will be a driving force behind this discussion is among the topics that will be considered carefully. Chris Tarman will be part of the main working group involved with this work.

D. Part-time Faculty Recognition Award

The SDSU Community College Leaders Alumni Chapter is sponsoring an award for adjunct faculty at its SDICCCA Adjunct Faculty Recognition Reception on November. Department Chairs are asked to nominate a part-time faculty member and then submit their nominations to their Deans. A vote will then be held for each Division and nominations submitted to SDSU by the October 11 deadline.

E. Online Certification Course

The next @One certification for online teaching will begin on October 19. The program is four weeks long and there are currently five seats left in the course. For more information, interested individuals should contact Janet Gelb as soon as possible.

III. Information Items

A. Calendar Committee

The Calendar Committee has met and has created a working draft of a 2016-2017 Academic Calendar. The most significant changes to the calendar are in regard to semester start dates, as the District's current start dates do not align with other local colleges. By pushing back start dates, GCCCD will begin classes at the same time as SDSU. Because of the short Thanksgiving holiday in our district, Fall end dates will still align with regional colleges. By pushing Spring semester dates forward as well, the College will be able to align with SDSU's calendar, but will also allow for an extra week of classes during intersession. Having a four week intersession would allow more flexibility for departments to offer courses, including 4.0 unit classes that otherwise cannot be offered during this time. Our Spring end dates will be later than other schools.

Discussion also took place in regard to whether or not the "hanging Monday" during Finals Week should be retained or moved to a different day such as Saturday. Many individuals were in favor of this idea, but concerns were raised in regard to students' ability to take course finals that were scheduled on weekdays outside of their regular meeting times since many students have responsibilities off-campus such as work or family.

Whether or not the College wants to move Spring Break is also under discussion. Currently, GCCCD's spring break falls exactly at the half waypoint during the semester. Other local community colleges currently have agreements with SDSU to align their Spring Break sessions (typically during the week of March 31), but Grossmont does not have a similar arrangement. Also, due to the fact that Grossmont's Spring Break does not align with other local colleges, students and faculty who are on multiple campuses do not have an opportunity to take a full Spring Break.

In the absence of a compressed calendar, Grossmont will always be out of alignment with other local colleges' start and end dates, particularly in the spring semester. A compressed calendar is the only way to align perfectly with the other schools in the region, as they have all moved to the compressed calendar.

B. Compressed Calendar

The topic of converting to a compressed academic calendar has been a recurring conversation. It has resurfaced again, this time as a topic of enrollment strategies. Grossmont is currently the only local college that is not utilizing a compressed format. By converting to the compressed calendar, Grossmont would be in alignment with other colleges which could positively impact enrollment. Transitioning from the traditional calendar to the compressed calendar would take approximately three years, since it would have to go through the approval process with the State Chancellor's office before taking effect, and it would require substantial reworking of the schedule by departments as well as in Instructional Operations.

C. President's Corner – Dr. Nabil

As part of the decision and discussion of potentially moving to a compressed calendar, the president expressed the importance of looking at others' experiences with like events. The experiences of students and faculty members who are currently involved with compressed calendars should not be overlooked in the process.

The president also wanted to stress that although Cuyamaca and Grossmont are two separate colleges, they are two sister colleges within the same District with similar goals. Both presidents are looking forward to better serving students by building service with the local community.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

Upcoming Events:

Next Meeting: October 19, 2015 in Griffin Gate from 11:00-12:15pm.