

# Academic Senate Grossmont College

Monday, April 6, 2015  
11:00 – 12:20pm in Griffin Gate

## I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Public Comment – *Each speaker will be given a maximum of 4 minutes to address the senate about a non-agendized item or items, with a maximum of 15 minutes allowed for public comment. The senate may vote to extend public comment at any meeting. Please contact the senate secretary before the meeting when wishing to speak at public comment. The senate welcomes all speakers to participate in the discussion on agendized items.*
- B. Approval of Agenda
- C. Approval of Senate Minutes 3/16/15
- D. Approval of Senate Minutes 3/30/15

## II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT 10 minutes

## III. COMMITTEES 25 minutes

- A. (1) Rank: Emeritus Rank for Les Lawrence (Art/Ceramics)  
(2) For next year--should there be a one-time grandfathering of adjunct contributions older than 5 years old?
- B. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Report – Joan Ahrens

## IV. ACTION ITEMS 20 minutes

- A. Board Policy (BP) 4030 “Academic Freedom” (no change)  
(Attachment A)
- B. Proposed Administrative Procedure (AP) 4110: Honorary Degree  
(Attachment B)

## V. INFORMATION ITEMS\* 20 minutes

- A. Proposal for Academic Renewal Policy Change – Counseling Faculty  
(Attachment C)

\*The Academic Senate may move information items to action upon a 2/3 vote.

{Section 5. Quorum“ A simple majority of Senators including Senator designees recognized by the Chair at the openings of meetings shall constitute a quorum. Senator positions not filled by departments will not be included in quorum determination.” Average number of senators attending the first three Senate meetings, Fall, 2011: 54}

## **BP 4030      Academic Freedom**

Reference:      ***Title 5, Section 51023; Education Code 76120;  
Accreditation Standard II.A.7;  
Board Policies 2410, 2510, and 4035***

Adoption Date:    December 18, 2001      Updated:    March 18, 2008

---

The Board shall promote public understanding and support of academic freedom for the implementation of the educational philosophy of Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District. Academic freedom is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the instructor in teaching, and of the student to freedom in learning. It carries with it duties correlative with rights.

1. Instructors are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching material that has no relation to their subject. The intent is not to discourage what is “controversial.” Controversy is at the heart of the free academic inquiry that this entire policy is designed to foster. Instructors should avoid persistently intruding material that has no relation to their subject.
2. Instructors are citizens, members of a learned profession, and may be viewed by those outside of the District as representatives of the District. When they speak or write as citizens outside of their roles with the District, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and instructors, they should remember that the public might judge their profession and Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the District.
3. As colleagues, faculty members have obligations that derive from the code of ethics (adopted by both the Grossmont College Academic Senate [11/16/92] and the Cuyamaca College Academic Senate [4/6/95]). Faculty members do not discriminate against or harass colleagues and students. They respect and defend the free inquiry of associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas, faculty members show due respect for the opinions of others. Such exchanges shall focus upon the substance and content rather than personal characteristics of individuals. Uncivil, intemperate, or abusive language and behavior is contrary to a productive and safe working and educational environment. This does not contravene academic freedom and free exchange of ideas and opinions, but requires accuracy, appropriate restraint, and respect for the professional expression of others.
4. Instructors are entitled to full freedom in academic research and publication, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties, but research and publication for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding consistent with the collectively bargained agreement between the District and the exclusive bargaining representatives.

## AP 4110 Honorary Degree

Reference: ***Education Code Section 72122***

Date Issued: XXX

---

### I. Guidelines

- a. The Chancellor, with support from a college's Academic Senate, recommends the awarding of an honorary degree to the Board of Trustees.
- b. The Board of Trustees shall approve recipients of all honorary degrees.
- c. The following categories of honorary degrees shall be recognized for conferral by the Board of Trustees:
  - i. Associate of Arts
  - ii. Associate of Science

### II. Purpose For Which Honorary Degrees May be Conferred

- a. To recognize excellence and extraordinary achievement in significant areas of human endeavor, within which are the mission and goals of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District.
- b. To honor meritorious and outstanding service to California community colleges; collectively, or to Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, individually; to the State of California; to the United States; or to humanity-at-large.
- c. To recognize women and men whose lives and significant achievements should serve as examples of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District's aspirations for its diverse student body.

### III. Criteria for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees

- a. Honorary degrees may be awarded to recognize achievements in all parts of the world. Honorary degrees awarded may represent a wide diversity of endeavors.
- b. Nominees for honorary degrees must be distinguished in their respective fields.
- c. Service or benefactions to the District itself do not in themselves justify the awarding of honorary degrees. However, nothing in these criteria shall preclude nominees who are in political life, or who are benefactors of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, or who have assisted the District in noteworthy ways.

### IV. Limitations on Eligibility

- a. Honorary degrees shall not be awarded to:
  - i. Incumbent members of the Board of Trustees of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District.
  - ii. Any current employee of the college district.

iii. Incumbent elected officials.

V. Procedures for Selecting Honorary Degree Recipients

- a. In all steps of these procedures, utmost care will be taken to ensure confidentiality. A breach of confidentiality could seriously embarrass the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District and those individuals under consideration for the receipt of an honorary degree. Recommendations of persons to receive honorary degrees are encouraged from any member of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District community, including Trustees, the Chancellor of the District, faculty, students, administrative staff, classified staff, alumni, campus Advisory Board members, Foundation Board members and other friends of the District.
  - i. All recommendations shall be submitted through the Chancellor of the District. The recommendations will be in writing and will include relevant backup material.
  - ii. The Chancellor will consult with the Academic Senate for selecting honorary degree recipients.
  - iii. The Board of Trustees, meeting in Closed Session, shall make the final determination and will, by virtue of its exclusive authority in this matter, "award" the degree to the nominees they feel are most deserving.

VI. Conferral of Degree

- a. Honorary degrees may be conferred during any Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District function that the Board of Trustees considers appropriate.
- b. Normally, the following will participate in the conferral ceremony:
  - i. The Chancellor of the District (or designee) will read the Citation.
  - ii. The President of the Board of Trustees (or designee) will confer the honorary degree and issue the diploma.
  - iii. The Vice President of Instruction or Vice President of Student Services will cap the degree recipient.

## GC Academic Senate 4-6: Info Item A, Attachment C

### **PROPOSAL TO REVISE ACADEMIC RENEWAL POLICY**

Motivated by the need to address an increasingly competitive and complex transfer process, the Cuyamaca College counselors reviewed the current Academic Renewal policy and found it to be restrictive and limiting in scope. For example, the current policy's definition of "semester" does not combine coursework from both colleges; only one college's semester coursework is disregarded for students going to both colleges simultaneously. In developing the proposed revision, Academic Renewal policies at a number of community colleges were studied, Title 5 was researched, and the current Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District (GCCCCD) Board Policy was reviewed. In the best interests of students, the counselors recommend that the GCCCCD Academic Renewal Policy be revised as indicated below.

#### CRITERIA

Substandard coursework may be alleviated subject to all of the following criteria:

1. The student has requested the action formally and has presented evidence that coursework is substandard and not representative of present scholastic ability and level of performance.
2. At least one year has elapsed and the student has completed, at any accredited post-secondary institution, at least 15 units of coursework with at least a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA).

Substandard coursework completed at Cuyamaca/Grossmont College may be alleviated from consideration in the computation of the cumulative GPA as follows:

The student may select Option I or Option II.

Option I: Any 15 units of substandard coursework may be alleviated.

Option II: Up to two complete semesters may be alleviated. Courses taken at Cuyamaca College and Grossmont College during the same semester shall be combined and counted as one semester as it relates to the maximum number of semesters of alleviated work allowed.

Courses used to fulfill the requirements of previously earned degrees are not eligible for academic renewal.

When academic renewal procedures permit previously recorded substandard coursework to be alleviated in the computation of a student's GPA, the student's permanent academic record shall be annotated in such a manner that all coursework remains legible to ensure a complete academic history. The academic renewal decisions are irreversible and permanent. Academic renewal procedures may not conflict with the District's obligation to retain and destroy records or with the instructor's ability to determine a student's final grade.

Petitions to request academic renewal shall be available in the Admissions and Records Office. Official transcripts of all academic work completed, from all accredited post-secondary institutions, must be on file in the Admissions and Records Office at the time of request for Academic Renewal.

Petitions will be reviewed by Cuyamaca and Grossmont College's Petition Committees.