Minutes of the 6 Oct. 2009 AS Executive Committee Retreat


Excused: Simon Balm, Jinan Darwiche, Terry Green, Marina Parise,

Absent: Laura Manson, Eleanor Singleton,

Guest: Howard Stahl

I. Call to Order  President Eric Oifer called the meeting to order 11:19 a.m.

II. Action Items:

1. Approval of the Minutes for September 22, 2009
   Accepted as presented

2. Budget/Categoricals (ARRA Funds)

   3 scenarios will be presented by district to the board meeting. Many
categorical fund programs for at risk students. DSPS is a mandate—we
must provide service whether we have money or not.
Two scenarios involve additional backfills from academic funds or from
reserves.
ARRA funding was originally set at $170 mil. to Calif. Community colleges; it is now at $35 mil.
Per Lesley, the info keeps changing. We need to make a decision based on principle. What is our position vis a vis UC, CSU, whose students are now coming to us. Do we need to backfill to 50%?
What direction should the Senate take?
Richard said there are many dilemmas: the target is moving, and there is no idea what midyear cuts will be. Will categoricals survive next year's cuts even if they do survive this year?

What IS the principle that should guide us?
What direction is the state going to go? According to the CCC Vice chancellor, the state cut our base because of the expected monies from ARRRA.
What is the mission of the college?
How can we cut our most at risk students? We have a commitment to them. We also have a commitment to be financially viable. We have an operating deficit.
What if the state decides to cut these programs next year?

The money needed for hiring 10 faculty equals the money needed for backfill. Is this coincidence? Can we afford to give up our new hires?

We can't destroy DSPS. Money needs to come from somewhere else. It feels like we have the choice of waiting till the state pulls the rug out from under our students or cutting them before the state does. If they are cut next year, they will at least have completed one more year of college

Another option—backfill at the $805,000 level. (505) do we want to suggest a 4th option—maintain the programs?
Best proposal so far is to backfill only 50%.
Is there a way to use the Asian American Pacific Islander $2 mil grant to integrate some of these items? The grant is very broad. This could be a recommendation. We could do something other than bring in speakers, etc. Can we use the funds more holistically? Mike Tuitasi was asked, but it's a temporary fix. Best to use within guidelines instead of building another program from scratch.

The Faculty Assoc already took a stand to backfill to 50%--$805,000. (This means a $805,000 cut).
FA plan would include 0 cuts.

Some categorical funds are for equipment. Talk about the programs. ARRRA started at $40 mil. We had a $805,000 additional loss when the ARRRA funds went to $35 mil.
If we support a recommendation like FA, there’s a shot at least to get more funds. Board assumption is scenario 3, additional backfill from fund balance $402,589. Because the board did not engage, we would be able to make further recommendations via budget committee (to DPAC).

(M/S Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein/Tina Feiger) Move that we recommend to the budget committee that there be a scenario entailing backfilling to the full 50% of the ARRA allocation from reserves. Send to or to budget committee. (=total of cuts.

Discussion: We will add half of what would have been cut. This would give half of the money back.

What is the fiscal impact of 10 fulltime hires? Maybe we should say 8, not 10. Decision to hire was not from reserves. With retirements, we might just be replacing, not adding. Senate sees these 10 as growth. Don’t tie new faculty to balance the cuts.

VOTE: 18 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions.
Motion carried.
The motion will be taken to the Budget Committee by the Senate rep.

Suggestion: when this is presented to the full Senate, make the chart easier to understand.

III. Information Items:

1. President’s Report – Eric Oifer
Meeting with AET architects(10/16/09)) at 1:30 at AET. EAC would like a representative to talk about global citizenship. Building sustainable buildings does not have to be seen as building uncomfortable buildings. The college does not include sustainability in their RFPs, but tries to add it later.

Q: when is reconstruction of kinesiology and dance projected to start? A: 2011 is expected start date.

a. ASCCC Fall Plenary - November 12-14, 2009- Ontario, CA
Eric will make another announcement to full Senate. The program is posted: http://www.asccc.org/Events/sessions/fall2009/program.html

Eric will send announcement with new info. We’re very much connected at the state level. The Senate has the budget to send people.
b. Accreditation – Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein
The SMC team continues to work. In early March the Accreditation Team will be on campus.
Please read over the drafts and give input. Drafts can be found on the website for Accreditation.
Two town hall sessions will be scheduled this fall and will cover standards 1 and 4, and 2 and 3.
Toni Randall and Erica LeBlanc have done a wonderful job.

c. Full-time Faculty Ranking – Eric Oifer
Committee will meet this Friday. They will discuss standards to be used to evaluate requests. There will be both objective and subjective components (e.g., FTE ratio, number of faculty needed to get to 60%, info on historical faculty changes, plus/minus. Subjective components may include assessing SLOs and basing the request on this.
Methodology will be discussed Friday.
Meeting will start at 10, can go 2 or 3 hours. Lunch will be provided by Eric and Senate. Chairs made recommendations on criteria; committee will decide. What will be used.

d. Global Citizenship Initiative Faculty Leader
Jeff and Eric have recommended Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein to Dr. Tsang. Richard is looking forward to incorporating the work of the Global Council with the Senate. It will tie directly with 4 Senate committees. Sabbaticals Committee should decide who goes to Istanbul and Vienna. Make sure we have a signature event every spring relating to global citizenship.

2. Committee Reports:
a. Personnel Policies – Jamey Anderson
Will meet on Thurs to go over students evaluations. After looking at AR, everyone seems to be happy with the reg. The contract does not require student evaluations. The Administrative Reg says student evaluations do occur each fall and spring for fulltime faculty. The Committee will put together a subsection; they will need to change some language to reflect the change in reg. This should not be confused with peer evaluations. It should be for own personal benefit. We are all out of compliance with this AR. Every assignment (every class) should be evaluated.

There are also issues on implementation. The Committee will meet with MIS, HR, FA, etc. next week (Oct. 15) to discuss this. They will ask for a commitment to a plan. There is a written agreement done by Human
Resources and the Faculty Association and the Senate. Senate wants both sides of the form (objective and subjective data). Online evaluation does not work now. Security issues and rate of return are issues with online evaluation. Confidentiality is an issue with using Ricoh machines, which were used in the pilot to capture data from the back of the form. We don’t meet the standard set by Accreditation.

Personnel Policies Committee will clarify the process.

Eric will include this in his board report tonight.

A meeting with Scantron determined that a $30,000 machine could do the job. We could ask the Accreditation Team to help us to force the issue.

b. Legislative Affairs – Tina Feiger -No report
c. CTE - Laura Manson -No report

IV. Old Business Discussion:
   1. Town Hall Debriefing -No report

V. New Business Discussion:
   1. Dr. Tsang to address Academic Senate on October 13, 2009

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment 12:35 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting: October 20, 2009