Minutes of the 20 Oct. 2009 AS Executive Committee Meeting


Excused: Jamey Anderson, Jinan Darwiche, Terry Green, Laura Manson, Marina Parise.


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 October 6, 2009
   

   Accepted as amended.

2. FERPA AR - Greg Brookins

   AR 4134 and 4135 have been updated. Replace with a new AR 4135. The Student Affairs Committee worked with campus council, Bob Meyers on the AR regarding FERPA. It now combines two ARs into 1 and concerns information we are allowed to obtain for students and share about them. The committee took previous board policy BP 4134 and 35 and made it follow current law. FERPA is more lenient than CA rules. Key
changes: current definition of education record and rules regarding access to those records have been deleted. Definition of student records has been expanded.

Q: are a faculty members notes on students considered student records? A: If it's added to the system, they are part of a student's educational record. If they are temporary notes for the instructors use only, they are not. Students can review their own records, not other students. The can look at exam they have taken, but they cannot take the exam with them.

Access to student records will be granted only if it is for a legitimate educational interest.

Greg would like to invite Bob to talk to the Assembly.

Q: Are there substantive changes? A: It is primarily a reorganization. There will be online training on the new AR.

Motion for Eric to bring the changes to the full senate next week for the first of 2 reads.
(M/S Berman/Merlic)

VOTE: unanimously approved.
Per Greg, SMC is currently out of compliance with high school articulation agreement.
The Student Affairs Committee meets Tuesday at 2:15pm.

3. By-laws Changes – Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

http://www.smc.edu/Projects/37/By-laws_Revised_Spring_2009.pdf

Eric would like to present intended changes to the full senate. Comment: The Equity and Diversity Committee would like to add changes to bylaws. Per Eric, the Senate will take that up when it's ready. Richard would like this to go to Assembly next week. It will need 2/3 vote of the body.

There are minor changes to the bylaws, like changing the Dance Dept. from Kinesiology and Dance to Dance; Modern Languages Dept. will be changed to Modern Languages and Culture; the SLO Committee is called a task force. These are nonsubstantive changes.

There are also substantive changes:
Members of Academic Senate for California Community Colleges are ex officio members of our Senate Exec. Committee. This is a benefit to the local Senate; it will be added to the section on Exec. Com.
Other substantive change: the Global Council will be organized into 4 areas of focus: students, study abroad, curriculum and professional development.
Subcommittees of the Global Council would function as subcommittees of the
Senate.
Their work would be accomplished via Senate. Committees; e.g., the Global Council curriculum subcommittee would work with the Senate Curriculum Committee. There would be a formalized relationship between the Global Council and the Senate. Chairs of subcommittees would sit on Senate committees. Students on the subcommittees would sit on the Student Affairs Committee. Recommendations for Salzburg and Turkey would go through the Senate Sabbaticals Committee.

Study abroad should be linked to the Curriculum Committee, which worked with the Global Council last year to establish competencies. Curriculum Committee would not be involved in financial or logistical aspects of current courses offered with study abroad, only curricular aspects.
The Senate needs to change bylaws so that subcommittees and Global Council work will be linked to the Senate. The intent is to strengthen the Global Council.

Suggestion: Changes will be forward to the Senate, than back to the Executive Committee, which will consider controversies; then the proposal will go back to the Senate for vote.
Suggestion: more language should come to the Executive Committee before moving forward.

III. Information Items:

1. President's Report - Eric Oifer
   a. Campus Vote is a new tool to run campus elections; SMC would call the company and they would do the work. District will split the cost with us, $360/360. Campus Vote provides more flexibility than the current system. Any group on campus can use it. Departments can use it for surveys, Chair elections, etc. Email Richard for contact info.

   b. Zero Waste

   The Senate approved the AR and Board Policy, which went to DPAC. There was no vote in DPAC, because there was resistance to broadness of the language. The Senate does not need to go to DPAC for vote. We have mutual agreement on this policy already. It will not get to board by the November meeting.

   Changes suggested: re: "required for all campus events"--event logistics create unnecessary language. If we use the word "required", it's a mandate and must be enforced.
c. Further Discussion on Illness and Students
Eric would like to invite Gloria to help us discuss whether we should do anything regarding students missing class. When we have harsh policies, we have sick students in class. Is the discussion worth having at the Senate? Should Gloria be advising us, or is this a faculty issue? Suggestion: It would not create a best practices, but is worth talking about.
Suggestion: Invite Gloria to the Chairs meeting for discussion. Then it's the Chairs' responsibility to transmit info.

d. AET
Architects met with the campus last Friday. About 20 people attended. All of EAC’s questions were asked. Architects are taking their lead from the campus. The College is planning for NOW. It's a debate at the campus level. Parking structures for 500 spots will be obsolete before the building is obsolete. When it's obsolete, there's not much you can do with the space.

Suggestion: if SMC plans to reinvigorate architecture, interior design program, a wood shop required for accreditation. There is nothing in the plans for this. It's a curriculum question. Eric will talk about this in the Leaders' meeting.

2. Committee Reports:
a. New Full-Time Faculty Position Ranking Committee - Eric Oifer

The Committee met. A method to evaluate proposals has been worked out. It seems fair and viable. It will use objective criteria. The Committee will do nothing but receive it. Equivalent faculty. Number of hires needed to get 60% (midrange goal) number that this percentage represents of full time faculty in the dept. Smaller programs need to use a percentage, not a number. Ranking will be used by combining the requirements. Add to the objective ranking. Subjective criteria include questions regarding how will new faculty impact your program? How will they help you to achieve your department goals? How will this position help the College achieve its goals. Combined score will produce a ranking

Committee will need one more meeting to decide on the criteria. Final ranking? No one is directly responsible for the scores.

Q: Will everyone be zero (worst case) or plus 2 (best case)? What about the perennial losers? Math and English departments always get someone. A: this process addresses this. A viable proposal addresses "what do we need?" In the past, it was a matter of how good a case the Chair could make. This process is not dependent on the persuasive abilities of the Chairs.
Part 2 is about how you relate to the campus goals.

b. Personnel Policies – Jamey Anderson—no report

c. Legislative Affairs – Tina Feiger—no report

IV. Old Business Discussion:

V. New Business Discussion:

VI. Announcements

   Mid-November Senate Dinner at Rhoda Tuit’s or Terry Green's home.
   Bring Your Own Beverage. Date TBA

   Dec 4th – SMC Planetarium – “Winter Solstice” 8pm – $5 p/p
   Join us at 7pm for coffee and dessert in HSS 261 (The Academic Senate Office)

VII. Adjournment 12:37