A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College Budget Planning Committee, a subcommittee of the District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 2:03 p.m. at Santa Monica College, Drescher Hall Loft, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, California.

I. Call to Order 2:03 p.m.

II. Budget Planning Committee Members
    Mitch Heskel, District Representative
    Chris Bonvenuto, District Representative
    Roberto Gonzalez, District Representative
    Laurie Mcquay-Peninger, District Representative
    Bob Isomoto, District Representative, Co-Chair
    Mario Martinez, Academic Senate Representative
    Eve Adler, Academic Senate Representative
    Matt Hotsinpiller, Faculty Association Representative
    Howard Stahl, Faculty Association Representative, Co-Chair
    Martha Romano, CSEA Representative (Absent)
    Dee Upshaw, CSEA Representative
    Robert Villanueva, CSEA Representative
    Rassheedah Watts, CSEA Representative
    Sam Ross, Associated Student Representative
    Jesse Randel, Associated Student Representative
    Chang Guo, Associated Student Representative (Absent)

III. Review of Minutes: February 3, 2016 accepted as presented

IV. Agenda:

   A. Meeting Schedule

       Committee members discussed the current twice-a-month meeting schedule year-round. While there might be some concern with certain cancelled meetings, many members felt it important to reserve the day and location on their schedule. Many members felt the committee is working well and did not believe we needed to worry about unused meeting dates.

   B. Trends in Enrollment

       Vice-President Rodriguez addressed the Committee to discuss the continued softening of enrollment and the steps the District is taking to address the problem. Statewide, many community colleges are reporting lower enrollment. SMC’s top feeder high schools are graduating 14% fewer students than in the recent past. This reduction in our typical demographic group is prompting the District to reach out to new markets, evaluating different ideas to grow enrollment in new ways.

       Vice-President Rodriguez shared enrollment information with the Committee. The report showed, that although student headcount is up in 2015-2016, the number of units taken is down and fill-rates are returning to the more normal level of 75-90% after a few years of much higher levels.
At the present time, the District is considering a 6-week “early summer” session starting May 16 and ending June 24. The idea is to allow 4-year university students to pick up an additional class, since they cannot earn credit when concurrently enrolled at their university. It is believed that this new term would be welcomed by USC and LMU students trying to pick up an extra class after their Spring term ends at their 4-year school. Additionally, existing SMC students could enroll in these new offerings as well. Since the college facilities are all in-use with Spring classes, the “early summer” session would be all online classes. The goal of this new session is to capture additional state FTES growth dollars.

V. Adjournment at 3:05 pm