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, October 21, 2009 at 2:10 p.m. at Santa Monica College, Library Conference Room (275), 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, California.

I. Call to Order 2:10 p.m.

II. Budget Planning Committee Members

Chris Bonvenuto, Administration
Bob Isomoto, Administration, Co-Chair
Eric Oifer, Academic Senate Representative
Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Academic Senate Representative
Leonard Crawford, Management Association Representative
Erica LeBlanc, Management Association Representative
Mitra Moassessi, Faculty Association Representative
Howard Stahl, Faculty Association Representative, Co-Chair
Bernie Rosenloecher, CSEA Representative (Absent)
Tron Burdick, CSEA Representative (Absent)
Leroy Lauer, CSEA Representative
Connie Lemke, CSEA Representative (Absent)
Kyle Szesnat, Student Representative
Jennifer Barry, Student Representative
Cameron Henton, Student Representative
Reza Ayazi, Student Representative

Interested Parties:
Randy Lawson, Administration (Absent)

III. Review of Minutes: Minutes of September 18, 2009 approved with corrections.

A. Q1 Budget Report

Chris Bonvenuto and Bob Isomoto shared information with the Committee regarding the First Quarter. The Committee was supplied with a Summary of Changes from the Adopted Budget, the revised Vacancy List and the updated General Apportionment calculations. At this time, projected revenues have increased by $131,148 and projected expenditures have decreased by $157,298. The backfill of categorical programs will increase expenses from the Adopted Budget by $1,000,000. The Vacancy List now includes 22 positions, increasing expenses from the Adopted Budget by $1,054,507. The PERS PPO Premium Holiday scheduled for November and December will decrease expenses by $1,070,268.

Chris Bonvenuto also highlighted certain budget trends that Fiscal Services has noted so far this year. When compared to last year, Contract Services spending appears to be down, both in the number and amount of outstanding purchase orders. Supplies spending also appears to be down. At this point, income from Supplemental Taxes are trending more than five times higher than last year. However, revenue from Unsecured
Taxes is down 5%. Revenue from Prior Year Taxes is down 22%. In addition, Enrollment Fees are behind projections by $700,000. Anecdotally, it has been reported that more students have been deferring their enrollment fees. With the next release of financial aid checks on November 16, this situation will likely change.

The discussion ended with the following motion.

MOTION: “The Budget Committee receives the 2009-2010 Q1 Budget Report and acknowledges that the prepared report was the result of a transparent process which enabled all stakeholders to participate and provide input.”
Made: Moassessi Seconded: Oifer Vote: 12 For; 0 Against; 1 Abstain PASSED

B. Report Regarding “Under Consideration/Study” Budget Savings Recommendations

Bob Isomoto discussed the status of the “Under Consideration/Study” savings recommendations.

Retirement Incentive: Following a study completed by Human Resources in June, 2009, the District no longer believes that Retirement Incentives are feasible. The report claims that, since any separations would be replaced, savings would not materialize. Committee members have asked to be provided with copies of this report.

Healthcare Plan Change Incentive: The Budget Committee has proposed a voluntary program that could yield savings. The District would need to approach the employee unions to implement any program and negotiate the terms of such a plan. The Districtwide Benefits Committee is also evaluating options to reduce healthcare costs.

Adjournment at 3:43 p.m.