



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE
ACADEMIC
SENATE

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

11:15am-12:35pm, Business Building Room 144

[Attendance and Voting](#)

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Equity and Diversity Report—TABLED

Motion: M. Moassessi

Second: M. Strathearn

Passed unanimously at 11:19 a.m.

II. Public Comments:

The president of the FA relayed news on issues related to negotiations and the passage of noncredit classes.

Laura Zwicker, Student Trustee, announced an AS event to bring awareness on how to be more active in the community. The event will also focus on advice on how to go forward after the election, and support of faculty would be appreciated.

III. Major Items of Business

A. Basic Skills Report, R. Gonzalez

Current state of basic skills—the transition from precollege to college is the most pressure issue to community colleges

SMC currently receives funding based on head count and enrollment. We used to receive \$800,000, but in 2009-10 there were fiscal issues and the budget was cut by 50%. Now funds are spent on supplemental instructions and summer programs (FYE).

Next year there will be a new funding formula. It will be based on the transition from precollege to college courses. It will also look at how well those who transitioned are doing in course two years out and will take into account enrollment and financial aid.

Changes: The state awarded additional money for basic skills students; launched transformation grants (60 million to all colleges). The SMC grant focuses on pathway development and are working with the CTE dept. The grant focuses on summer programs. About 25% of freshman came in at a college level, while 75% was pre-college, and 44% were precollege for both math and English

Question: Is there data on multi-measures?

Answer: Data will be examined in spring.

Question: What is the trend of the number of college students rising?

Answer: It's a steady rise.

Question: Is the data used to influence what happens at the K-12 level?

Answer: They're working towards it, and SMC is working with its local feeder.

B. [First Read: AR 4111.1 and AR 4314](#)

AR 4111.1 Auditing courses—Only changed revision date

AR 4314 Credit by Examination—language was changed to say “credit by exam” instead of “challenge exam”. Departments will still have the challenge option, but they can also choose “credit by exam”.

Question: Does credit by exam have a grade attached to it?

Answer: No, and it will not affect their GPA. It will count toward AA units, but not graduation.

Question: What does the transcript look like?

Answer: It will say “by exam”.

M—Credit earned will be posted by exam at the end of the semester

2. CLEP—Changed “associate” to “degree”. Added language for CLEP exam and aligned it to the two other tests, AP and IB. The only difference is that there is a 30 unit limit for CLEP that will go toward the Associates degree.

AP—tried to make language consistent with other exams; score must be 3, 4, 5 to get credit

IB—Students will get credit if they pass with 5, 6, or 7.

Suggestion: Don't place too much detail in the AR. For example, the Curriculum committee decided not to put a lot of detail in the AR and they simply state "according to college catalog".

Scores were placed in the AR because students were confused on how to get credit for their exams.

Question: Does the Academic Senate have any authority of what goes into the catalog?

Answer: No, we are not asked to proof or look at it.

Question: Can the date and scores be left out? The AR can say to refer to the catalog.

Concern: Leaving the scores out of the AR means that passing scores are not determined by the Senate.

However, IB passing scores are approved by Curriculum and those are brought to the Senate, so the Senate does have a say in passing scores.

Suggestion: Can say passing score is "as approved by Curriculum committee"

Motion: Exec

Second: K. McBride

Passed unanimously at 11:49 a.m.

C. Curriculum Report

G. Del Piccolo briefed the Senate on non-credit courses that will come to the Senate for approval in the next meeting.

SMC does offer noncredit, but mostly through Emeritus and ESL

AR 5150 needs to be reviewed first because existing AR says that noncredit courses are not graded and noncredit classes need to first be approved by Chancellor's office before they offer it.

It's still not decided if these classes will be placed on the transcript.

Discussion needs occur with the FA about the compensation aspects—maybe .6 load factor courses

Concern: The Senate needs to be careful with making basic skills classes noncredit courses. Faculty teaching these classes will work twice as much to make the same as a faculty member teaching credit courses.

Minimum qualifications for noncredit are established by Title V and for credit it's established by Academic Senate

Concern: To get a course through curriculum is premature without discussing the load factor, and the FA won't be able to negotiate or stop the non-credit classes because the load factor is determined by past practice (which is .6), so those non-credit courses will be offered with load factor of .6. The load factor is one of the hardest things to change. The language in the faculty contract does not require FA agreement for load factor to pass.

These courses are important for people who are looking to go back to work.

There is a push for non-credit because the state will generate revenue as if it's a credit course. The state realized that students need the classes, and the state is looking at training the workforce to a college level.

Question: Can a category be added for preparation and grading time?

Question: Are other colleges paying their adjuncts at .6?

Answer: Most colleges are at .6.

Question: How does teaching noncredit affect associate status?

Answer: Faculty need to teach more classes to keep their associate status.

D. Distance Education Committee Report

The Accreditation visit went smooth, so now they're waiting to see what their report says.

Reviewed existing language in ARs and Curriculum committee forms

Developed its best practices resources as the canvas transition continues

Focused on resources tied to canvas transition, particularly Canvas Central. Canvas Central has been cleaned up quite a bit, so it's more user friendly. It includes an area called best practices.

Starting winter, Canvas will be the only online system used.

There have been inevitable problems, but overall it's been a smooth transition.

There will be no more migration team after this semester, and the District is reluctant to renew more hours. However, there are three who will be continuing in the spring. Why? Because all online faculty have gone through training and Canvas is user friendly.

There are a lot of online tools showing how to use Canvas, so the committee won't need to hand hold.

K. Graziadei is leading workshops for the next two Fridays, so Canvas support is not being quickly pulled.

The committee is still looking at best practices.

- E. Professional Ethics and Responsibilities Report—Deferred
- F. Student Instructional Support Committee Report—Deferred
- G. Items Pulled from Consent

Motion to move E and F to first Senate meeting to February

First: M. Moassessi

Second: J. Beardsley

Passed unanimously at 12:33 p.m.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. [Minutes of 111516](#)
- B. [Second read: AR 5110 Curriculum Committee Structure, Functions, Responsibility, and Curriculum Approval Process, G. Del Piccolo](#)

Motion to approve consent agenda items: Exec

Second: M. Strathearn

Passed unanimously at 12:35 p.m.

V. President's Report/Information Items

- A. New Full-Time Faculty Ranking Committee Schedule
- B. New Full-Time Faculty Ranking Committee
- C. Fall Plenary
- D. Challenges and Opportunities

VI. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn meeting: C. Tran
Second: K. McBride
Passed unanimously at 12:37 p.m.