

**ACADEMIC SENATE
APPROVED MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2010**

Senators Present: Mike Adams, Kevin Alavezos, David Boley, Paul Cripe, Ellen Dambrosio, Bob Droual, Jennifer Hamilton, Jim Howen, Jill Lear, Allan McKissick, Estella Nanez, Jeff Netto, Adrienne Peek, Dale Pollard, Burt Shook, Travis Silvers, Brian Sinclair, Rob Stevenson, Theresa Stovall, Barbara Wells, Jason Wohlstadter, Layla Yousif

Senators Absent: Paul Brogan, Debbie Laffranchini, Belen Robinson

Guests: Carlos Fierros, ASMJC President of Clubs, Patricia Fierros, MJC student, Yashlee Nazi, ASMJC President, Laura Paull, Jim Sahlman (substituting for Paul Berger), Richard Serros, Karen Walters-Dunlap, Vice President of Instruction, Teryl Ward (substituting for Lisa Riggs),

I. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS

It was requested and approved that Item IV.A.1., Resolution FL09-C: Resolution in Support of the Council of Chief Librarians' Resolution Requesting Action by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to Support Continued Funding for Online Library Information Resources and Services Needed by Students and Faculty, be moved up on the agenda to immediately follow Item III., Consent Agenda.

The order of the agenda items was approved as amended.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (December 10, 2009)

The minutes of December 10, 2009 were approved as amended.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

AIE Committee Membership—Replace Bob Nadell with Martha Robles

It was requested and approved that this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda and placed under Item. IV. Action/Discussion Items.

IV. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Resolution FL09-C: Resolution in Support of the Council of Chief Librarians' Resolution Requesting Action by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to Support Continued Funding for Online Library Information Resources and Services Needed by Students and Faculty

The senate continued discussion of the resolution which states:

“Be it resolved, that the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate supports the Council of Chief Librarians’ Resolution Requesting Action by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to Support Continued Funding for Online Library Information Resources and Services Needed by Students and Faculty.”

M/S/U (Rob Stevenson/Allan McKissick) to approve Resolution FL09-C for a final reading.

B. AIE Committee Membership – Replace Bob Nadell with Martha Robles

After discussing the possible replacement of Dr. Nadell with Martha Robles on the AIE Committee, the senate decided that this matter should be brought back to the senate for further discussion.

M/S/U (Dale Pollard/Paul Cripe) to postpone discussion/action on this item definitely to the February 4, 2010 senate meeting.

V. STUDY SESSION ON PROGRAM DISCONTINUANCE

President Adams explained that a 20-minute small group study/brainstorming session would be taking place to discuss program discontinuance. Each of the seven small groups will review the current MJC Procedure for Program Discontinuance as well as the program discontinuance policy/procedure from one of our identified cohort districts and then share their observations and recommendations with the group. District policies/procedures that were reviewed are from the following cohort districts: Chabot-Las Positas, Contra Costa, Grossmont-Cuyamaca, Long Beach, and Palomar.

Some of the main observations and recommendations from the groups include the following:

1. Clearly defined faculty participation in the process is critical. This process is within the academic senate 10 + 1, so need clear and specific process to be laid out in the MJC procedure as to how the academic senate will review and ratify: 1) making the determination regarding program discontinuance; and 2) making recommendations to the board of trustees
2. Clearly defined criteria that need to be met in order for programs to be considered for discontinuance (i.e., curriculum considerations, program review, student retention/perseverance, etc.)
3. Student protections for successfully advancing and completing coursework are critical and should be *guaranteed* (this needs to be specifically outlined) not just “recommended”.
4. Procedure need to be aligned with the MJC Academic Senate Bylaws and Rules.
5. Specific and separate criteria should be defined for Basic Skills, vocational/career and technical education, and academic areas in order to provide uniformity and consistency.

6. The program discontinuance process should be pursued *after* measures are taken to *improve* a program. Emphasis should be on “revitalization”.
7. Specific timeline in which all steps of the process will be defined and due process will be served.

The senate decided to continue discussion on program discontinuance at their next meeting on February 4, 2010. At that time a task force and charge will be identified and work will begin on revising the MJC Procedure for Program Discontinuance.

VI. REPORTS

A. ASMJC

Yashlee Nazi, ASMJC President, reported the following:

- ASMJC sponsored a lunch fundraiser at Institute Day and wants to thank everyone for their support.
- Yashlee is representing ASMJC on the MJC Presidential Search Committee.
- ASMJC services and office staff are in the process of moving back into their space on East Campus.
- ASMJC is currently searching for a Vice President for Inter-Club Council as well as a Secretary and several senators, which are all stipend-paid positions. Faculty are asked to announce this in their classes and have interested students contact Yashlee at yashlee.nazi@gmail.com for more information and an application.
- ASMJC is co-sponsoring the Martin Luther King celebration activity on Friday, January 22. The Honorable Willie Brown will be the keynote speaker for the event, which will be held in the Performing and Media Arts Center.
- ASMJC is co-sponsoring the College Republicans to attend the Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 23.

B. Legislative Analyst Report

Rob Stevenson reported that H.R. 3221: Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009, which could provide over \$10 billion in community college aid, has passed the House of Representatives and is still in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee (one of the committees responsible for developing the health care reform bill.) No action has yet been taken in 2010.

On the state level, a Constitutional Amendment to increase higher education funding was proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger during the State of the State address. In his address, the Governor shared that California currently spends 45% more on prisons than it does on universities. He proposes mandating that at least 10% of the state’s general fund would go toward higher education and that no more than 7% could go toward prisons by the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Rob shared that it is really too early to know how, or even *if*, this would affect California's community colleges, but there does seem to be some opportunity here. With community college funding being tied to the K-12 system through Proposition 98, California community colleges already have a minimum funding guarantee. Chancellor Jack Scott said that he would ask that the UC and Cal State systems be required to accept a minimum number of transfer students as part of the plan. It is also worth noting that in this portion of his speech, Governor Schwarzenegger seemed to be even more focused on the reduction of prison costs.

C. Assessment Work Group

Adrienne Peek reported that the Assessment Work Group met during the week of January 18 and that President White had shared a timeline that was drafted to bring the Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness Committee, the Planning and Budget Committee, and the Assessment Work Group together to work on accreditation issues.

Adrienne also reported that program level SLOs are being sent to Letitia Miller, Curriculum Specialist, for inclusion in the new catalog. Divisions should also have a list of the courses in their area(s) that are to be assessed this year. There are still no representatives on the Assessment Work Group from the BBSS division. Adrienne enlisted help from senators to assist in recruiting representatives to serve on this work group and to take on/share the responsibilities associated with this work.

Vice President of Instruction Karen Walters-Dunlap shared that the Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness Committee has been working with Jenny Netto on MJC's accreditation self-study and is currently recruiting faculty, management, and classified writing team chairs and writers. ACCJC will also be providing on-campus training in the near future.

D. Planning & Budget Committee

Mike Adams reported that the Planning and Budget Committee has a plan for zero-based budgeting for the Spring 2010 semester. The plan will be detailed at the January 22, 2010 committee meeting and then approved by all constituent groups at College Council. If the plan gets the proper approval, divisions will be asked to prioritize all non-hiring expenses in February and early March, to be followed by an allocation meeting of the Planning and Budget Committee in late March. The committee also has several meetings coming up that are dedicated to review and revision of the MJC Strategic Plan.

Mike also reported that there has been some discussion regarding the inclusion of the committee in the grant writing process. This would allow broader input earlier in the process and more time for all constituent groups to reach a decision on approval. Some of the committee representatives, having discussed the current process, feel that because the process requires such quick action, it may be done too quickly to be done well.

E. President's Report

President Adams reviewed the following items:

IRB Task Force: A chair has been identified, but more members are needed. Interested faculty are asked to contact the Senate Office.

Presidential Search Committee: At this time, forty applications have been received. Committee members have been reading applications and ranking candidates. The committee will be meeting again on Friday, January 22 to begin identifying candidates that are to be interviewed for the position.

Senator Vacancies: The BBSS and SME divisions each have at least one senator position that is currently unfilled. Senators are urged to encourage their colleagues to participate in the Academic Senate.

SEED 2010-2012 Two-Year Technical Training Program Grant: The SEED 2010-2012 Two-Year Technical Training Program Grant Pre-Approval Application Form was received in the Senate Office this week for signature. Because: 1) the grant does not require any matching funds from YCCD and will not obligate the district or the college to hire or fund any position or program(s) once the grant ends; 2) because there have been no faculty concerns brought forward; and 3) the Planning and Budget Committee has not yet determined how it will be involved with the grant approval process, this grant will be treated in the manner of past practice. In the absence of any objections from senators, President Adams will sign the grant by noon on Friday, January 22, 2010.

VII. OTHER DISCUSSION

The following motion was made from the floor of the senate:

“The President of the Academic Senate is directed to communicate to faculty the Senate’s support of faculty responsibility to determine the curriculum in academic disciplines. The President will note faculty responsibility to work collegially with Division Deans to make sure that course scheduling decisions do not adversely affect the curriculum offered in a given academic area at MJC. The President will also recommend that faculty report any significant problems in carrying out such responsibilities to the Academic Senate through the Academic Senate President.”

M/S/U (Allan McKissick/Jim Sahlman) to approve the motion as stated above.

President Adams will e-mail this resolution to all MJC faculty and to IAC.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.