WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE
WINLOCK LOUNGE
April 13, 2010
12:45– 3:00 PM
Approved
“Pursuit of Excellence and Opportunity in a Time of Challenge”

Present: Patterson, Rod, President; Thomas, Lloyd, Vice President; Sweeney, Joyce, Secretary; Simone, Yvonne, Treasurer; Anders, Bruce; Barragan, Norma; Blustein, Bonnie, Butler, Marcus; Chow, Judy; Jacobs, Betty; Hagar, Robert; Kamibayashi, Lisa; Leonard, Fran; Lin, Ken; Nicholas, Vanita; Riesberg, Curt; Williams, Cory; Young, Helen; Dubois, May; Foster, Adrienne; Yan, George; Young, Helen; Dubois, May; Foster Adrienne

Absent: Bucher, William; Crippens, Eloise; Chiang, Ana: Elahi, Faz; Feinermann, Scott; Floyd, Suzanne (excused), Haley, Thomas; Siever, Patricia;

Guests: Dr. Mark Rocha; Rebecca Tillberg

The meeting was called to order at 12:51 P.M. by President Rod Patterson, with a quorum present.

I. Confirmation of an amended agenda to hear an SLO report from Business replacing Real Estate; and that the Spanish/Humanities SLO report has been postponed to the next Senate meeting in May. MSP Minutes of March 9, 2010 were approved. MSP

II. Dr. Mark Rocha, reporting for Administration, stated that the Mission and Values Statements for the college were completed, and then were approved by the College Council. They will be presented to the Board of Trustees at their meeting on our campus in May. At the joint council of Vice Presidents and Chairs, it was requested that Basic Skills bring a comprehensive plan to the Senate. The concern is that students in our Basic Skills program will have access to classes needed to advance to completion of the program and then to graduation. The most effective programs in the District are those that measure completion. The access road from Jefferson has been completed and one can now walk along it. Several things need to be worked out before it may be driven by the public. Issues of correctly placing smoke detectors needs to be addressed before the Math/Science building complex buildings are opened. These problems should be remedied shortly and these facilities will be open for our college.

Questions were posed about General Council Camille Goulet’s presentation at the College Council regarding e-mails from and to campus computers. She had stated that the college's e-mail system must be used solely for college business. A reading of the Brown Act dictates, that with a public entity, everything that happens is a matter of public record. Since e-mail communication is an extension of a Senate meeting – which includes all committee meetings – e-mails are governed by the Brown Act. Everyone must have access to the information requested and/or gathered from the e-mails as transparency must prevail and discussions must be participatory. Public notice of all meetings must be made in a timely manner. This notification may be made through Michelle Long-Coffee in the campus newsletter. Any further questions concerning emails should go the College Council to be heard at their next meeting on May 6, 2010. Dr. Rocha recommended that the Senate request Ms. Goulet attend a Senate meeting to discuss the Brown Act.

III. There were no public speakers at this meeting.

IV. There was no ASO report at this meeting.

V. OFFICER’S REPORTS

1. Rod Patterson – President
The Senate held a Senators' orientation last month to review the Senate's power and actions. Leslie Kawagochi, the District Senate's representative, made the presentation. It was remarked that such future orientations should be held at the beginning of the college's year, instead of at the end.

The State Legislature is considering passing a law concerning what is to be called a Transfer Degree and is designated as SB-1440 Padilla. This degree would be granted to anyone who has finished a program at a Community College. Some arguments that have been voiced against such a degree are that it is a slippery slope in that it by-passes the Academic Senate concept where each campus holds to their local standards. Mr. Patterson shall email either a link or a copy of the proposed bill to our Senators for review.

2. Lloyd Thomas – Vice President

Mr. Thomas requested that the chair of each Division check the courses in EDC to ascertain which courses in their Division need up-dating this year, as this is a necessity, especially with Accreditation approaching. Currently, West is at the bottom of the list in the District for keeping courses current. It appears that some faculty members are reluctant to do such work if not paid for the doing. Those faculty members must be reminded that such tasks are part of their regular duties as instructor. However, there are provisions in the Contract for adjuncts to be paid when there is no full-time faculty member in the department to do the up-date. April 19th will be the next Tech Review and anyone may attend to brush up on how to do this task.

2. Yvonne Simone - Treasurer

The Senate's bank account now holds $1,506.49. Ms. Simone announced that the next Faculty Senate Forum will host a talk by Steve Aggers and Jawell Samilton. Everyone is invited to attend.

VI. Vanita Nichols, chair of the Election Committee, reported the slate of nominations for the upcoming Senate elections on April 19th to the 23rd, as follows:

1. Senate President – Adrienne Foster
   Eloise Crippens
   Joyce Sweeney

2. Senate Vice President – Judy Chow
   Claire Norris

3. Senate Secretary – Ken Lin
   Marcus Butler
   Fran Leonard
   Melinda Smith
   Corey Williams
   Helen Young

4. Senate Treasurer – Yvonne Simone
   Nikki Jacobsen
   Buck Stapleton

5. Senators-at-Large – Bonnie Blustein
   Peter Miele

There were no further nominations from the floor, and the nominations were closed.

A further election slate was announced for Academic Rank Committee members as:

Judy Chow
Nikki Jacobsen
Ken Lin
Buck Stapleton

There were no further nominations from the floor, and the nominations were closed.

The motion was made and seconded to have a second ballot box available in the Library second floor circulation desk for evening faculty members’ convenience. MSP

Fran Leonard remark that the campaign season is now open, and requested literature from those running for the various offices.

It had been moved that the Senate approve the recommendations of the Curriculum Committee from its March 24th meeting. MSP

Curriculum Committee's work on SLO assessment reports was continued at this meeting by Vanita Nicholas, Chair for Accounting and Business Law. Representative papers had been assembled to
show work for each grade category. It was noted that Accounting papers were written by hand and not in Excel. It was explained that the Accounting faculty's philosophy was that if the accounting work cannot be done by hand, it also cannot be done in Excel. There were no SLO's in the accounting presentation, therefore these must be added. The Business Law presentation included case briefing, and also including papers for each grade level. Since the department does not give a grade lower than a "C", there were no papers for a "D."

Accreditation update report was given by Fran Leonard. The various committees working on the individual Standards have begun meeting on a regular basis and writing of answers to the AJCC's questions has commenced. The next Steering Committee shall meet in Winlock on April 22nd at 2:30 P.M. Google Docks will be used to collect all papers needed for the Accreditation Report. Training on this software will be held for the committee members. Marcus Butler reported Standard 3 will have a meeting soon. Standard 4 is to be co-chaired by Rod Patterson and Olga Shewfelt.

Educational Policies Committee will be presenting the final reading of the proposed Educational Master Plan Update, first reading; today April 13; second reading and vote to accept; May 11, 2010.

ARCC Report & WLAC Data was reported by Dean Rebecca Tillberg. These reports have data on degrees and certificate programs for all nine of the LACCD's colleges. New programs initiated have helped West and our numbers are up. A statement from Ed Policies regarding West's definition of advanced classes is needed. Many classes have been cancelled that are needed for various programs to be completed for degrees. There is contractual support for retaining courses deemed as advanced, so it would benefit West to have a clear statement included. The report of Institutional Effectiveness shows WLAC in a more favorable light. The average class size at West is larger than others in the District as a whole, but those others have a larger rate.

An announcement by Eloise Crippens was made that reimbursement for tuition and conferences attendance is almost depleted for this year. The books will be closed by June. Most of the monies have gone to adjuncts this year.

IX.  ADJOURNMENT at 3:10 P.M. - Next meeting: May 11, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Sweeney, Secretary