West Los Angeles College
Meeting of the Academic Senate
Approved Minutes
October 26, 2010
Winlock Lounge

Present: President, Foster, Adrienne; Secretary, Norris, Clare; Treasurer, Simone, Yvonne; Senator at Large, Leonard, Fran; Language Arts, Jacobs, Betty (alternate); District, Dubois, May; Adjunct Faculty, Anders, Bruce; Senator at Large, Lin, Ken; Health/PE, Smith, Melinda (alternate); Senator at Large, Young, Helen; Social and Behavioral Sciences, Barragan, Norma; Administration of Justice, Williams, Corey; Senator at Large, Bonnie Blustein; Humanities & Fine Arts, Sweeney, Joyce; Physical Education/Athletics, Smith, Melinda; Allied Health, Kamibayashi, Lisa; Library, Learning Resources, and Counseling, Narez-Acosta, Alma; Learning Center, Tim Russell

Absent: Science, Haley, Thomas; Vice President, Chow, Judy; CSIT, Butler, Marcus; Adjunct Faculty, Morris, Pat; Physical Education, Hager, Rob; Senator at Large, Butler, Marcus; Language Arts, Floyd, Suzanne; Administration of Justice, Yan, George; Business, Harris, Lartee

Guests: Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sprague, Bob; Chair, Counseling Rouzan, Sherron.

Meeting Called to Order at 12:50.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS
   1. The agenda was confirmed as presented.  
   2. The October 12, 2010 minutes were also approved as presented.

II. ADMINISTRATION REPORT
None – No administrators were present. See below for VP Sprague’s report.

III. PUBLIC SPEAKERS: Speakers may speak no more than 2 minutes per speaker on any agenda item not yet discussed. None

IV. ASO REPORT TO THE SENATE – No ASO officers were present. See below for the officer’s report.

V. OFFICERS’ REPORTS – 5 MIN
   1. Adrienne Foster – President (No report)
   2. Judy Chow – Vice President
       1. Not present - on a non duty day
   3. Yvonne Simone – Treasurer
       1. The Senate budget is frozen. Senators should start thinking about how we will deal with meeting refreshments.

VI. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MATTERS – 45 MIN – INFORMATION


1. Curriculum Committee Report (Chow) — (No report)
2. Educational Policies Committee Report (Morrison/Foster) (No report)
   a. First meeting 11/5/2010 9:00am. - President Foster will temporarily chair the committee.
3. Accreditation Update Report (Leonard)
   a. The deadline for submission of drafts is Nov. 1.
   b. Some groups will post their drafts on Friday, Dec 10
   c. Many of the standards are in good shape well on their way to completion.
   d. Prof. Leonard and Dean Tillberg delegated some responsibilities for completing the Standard I draft.
   e. Training for Google Docs is still available. Dean Tillberg is creating a folder that will be designated for first drafts for easier navigation.
      i. Bonnie Blustein checked to make sure everyone has access to Google Docs, and Prof Leonard offered to contact Dean Tillberg and encouraged others to do the same to be invited to have access to West’s Google Docs even if they have not been trained on campus.
4. District Academic Senate Report (DuBois) (No report) Next meeting Dec. 9
5. Foundation Skills Think Tank Report (Leonard) (No report)
   a. Dr. Foster and Professor Leonard need to meet to discuss where the Think Tank conclusions are going.
   b. Bruce Anders noted that we are 2/3 of the way through the semester.
6. Building Program Management Committee Report (Witucki) (No report)
7. Budget Report (Keskinel) (No report)
8. Enrollment Management Committee Report (Lin) (No report)
9. Distance Education Report (No report)

VII. STATE ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS FOR THE FALL 2010 PLENARY SESSION

1. President Foster read the first few resolutions’ “resolves” related to Student Learning Outcomes and student Transfer pathways aloud, which led to some discussion.

VIII. The discussion of the resolves took a break while President Foster made copies of the senate resolutions. During the break, VP Sprague presented the Administration Report

1. A $4.5million settlement for the land under the new road has been finalized as a so-called “all in,” which includes all fees etc. LACCD lawyers agreed to that settlement. While this may not be the ideal conclusion for this long ordeal, the matter is finally closed, and the college can move forward. The owners tried to negotiate a higher price for the disputed triangle of land, but after 3-4 hours of negotiation, all parties agreed upon this simple purchase. Los Angeles County is concerned about potential erosion of the hillside onto the road. A wall needs to be built to mitigate a potential mudslide.
2. VP Sprague acknowledged the request at the October 12 meeting for differentiation of funding sources for class funding as opposed to Program100 funding or other funding. That information has been sent to President Foster. It may not have reached her because of this week’s system breakdowns.
3. Professor Leonard took advantage of that opening to ask why West’s email system is malfunctioning so frequently. VP Sprague responded that we have no backup server or
power source, and no protection from surge. Lisa Kimbyashi suggested that West
outsource our email system to Gmail or another supplier like other colleges such as Trade
Tech. VP Sprague suggested that the Senate make a recommendation. In the past, the
DL program chose not to depend on an outside system. Prof. Leonard pointed out that the
Technology committee is in the process of reforming, and it is the key committee to
address this problem to solution. Its co-chairs are looking for membership. VP Sprague
observed that the Technology Committee was originally set up to be all inclusive. The
Senate must determine whether it wants the committee to be instructional or not
instructional. Should it be administratively oriented or academically oriented? Currently,
Nick Dang is the IT director and reports to John Oester.

4. Attention was turned back to the issue of the road when VP Sprague was asked who
made the $4.5 million decision and whether it was a judge. Sprague responded that the
agreement was made between two parties and brokered by a judge.

5. Bonnie Blustein also checked to see if any contract courses would be offered at West
during the Winter session. Sprague responded that there would definitely be no Program
100 courses offered by the college on or off campus, but there might be some contract or
fee-based courses like Pharmacy Tech and Northrop.

6. Professor Blustein also asked about a rumor circulating among students that summer
classes would be offered mostly online, and VP Sprague assured the Senate that that rumor
is not true. Administrators will establish that allocation with division chairs.
The college is allocated 7045FTES; we will generate 7400 instead. Most people would
say we are spending too much money on instruction. West’s Summer session will begin
after July 1, 2011 in the new fiscal year.

VII. Back to STATE ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RESOLUTIONS

1. President Foster explained that because she will be representing West’s Academic
Senate at the Fall 2010 Plenary Session, she was looking for input on how to vote
on each resolution.

2. For resolution 6.01 concerning an overhaul of the financial aid system, the
consensus seemed to be in favor. There was some discussion about students
wasting time in classes they do not need for their majors, students being blamed
for class cuts, students taking classes just to make up units, and the need for
students to be directed to see counselors.

3. The Senate also supported Resolution 7.01, which pushes for “the basic skills
student” to be “a central part of the work undertaken by the SB1143.” There was
one suggestion that this resolution is inconsequential and that the Senate should
pay more attention to Basic Skills programs that have proven effectiveness.

4. President Foster also read Resolutions 7.02, 7.03, 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 9.04, 9.05,
9.06, and 9.07 with little discussion.

5. Resolution 9.08 brought up questions about the Credit by Exam Process. Senators
wondered how this resolution is distinguished from CLEP and IP whether
individual divisions should devise their own tests, and what are the standards or
criteria to develop these exams. For example, Pharmacy Tech classes are
approved for credit by exam, but the chair needs guidelines. There was debate
about whether the resolution is promoting the credit by exam process. Some
senators advocated for classroom instruction. Norma Barragan suggested
supporting the third resolve but striking the first two, which was the consensus.
Bonnie Blustein recommended this as a task for the Senate Educational Standards and Policies Committee to develop guidelines for using credit by exam.

6. The discussion around resolution 9.09 left questions about double counting unanswered. The consensus was that the Senate needs clarification.

7. President Foster continued with resolutions 9.10, which the Senate opposed, 9.11, 13.0, 13.02, 13.03, 13.04, and 16.06 with little discussion and mostly support.

8. In the discussion of Resolution 20.01, senators wondered how this resolution might impact undocumented students. One senator summarized it saying that it is designed to prevent colleges from prioritizing international or out-of-state students over in-state students as a way to generate revenue. One senator observed that West offers classes in which international students do get priority enrollment over local students. Another senator suggested that West’s international program might be offered through another entity instead of being funded through Program 100. One more recommendation was that the Senate call for a report from the International online program or other programs like Jumpstart and grant funded courses to ensure that academic and professional matters are all being addressed by the senate.

IX. ASO Report – Student arrived late

ASO members just returned from a conference where they attended workshops on leadership skills and other workshops. ASO is sending officers to General Assembly this weekend. Club rush last week was successful with high participation.

X. SENATE NOTICED MOTIONS

The Senate directs the Educational Standards and Policies Committee to research on and report to the Senate on issues associated with for-profit colleges recruiting at West Los Angeles College, including the presumption that the college has to grant full access to these colleges.

Discussion

1. Betty Jacobs shared her observation of a large, stylish Antioch University advertisement near West’s parking structure. The board was paid for by Antioch and gives West space on the back to post and advertise its own events.

2. Professor Leonard cited Coleen Moore and Nancy Shulock’s October 2010 report, “Divided We Fail: Improving Completion and Closing Racial Gaps in California’s Community Colleges” out of Sacramento State University, which contained a section about for-profit universities’ role growing while little is known about student outcomes and many students accrue high levels of indebtedness. The publication also reported that underrepresented students more likely to be targeted by for-profit institutions.

3. Professor Barragan commented that the Federal Government Accountability Office three months ago published report very critical of for-profit institutions. A recent episode of Frontline entitled “College Inc.,” also made scathing reports against these institutions for leading students into high debt and default rates.

4. While universities like USC are also private and are comparable in cost, they are not-for-profit institutions with long standing reputations.

5. Helen Young submitted a packet of documents to support an argument that Transfer Advisory Committee is the place to take up this issue.
6. Bruce Anders surmised that Professor Young was arguing to keep this issue out of academic and professional matters and keep in student services. However, he argued that it is not unreasonable for the Educational Policies and Standards committee to examine it. The issue is not completely in any one area. Students are suffering. He declared that he is not taking this on as a union issue. He is concerned about the question of whether students will be able to transfer for-profit institution credit to state university credit. Their academic degrees from these institutions may be reduced in importance. Ed Policies should look at this as an educational issue to get clarity on what the college is obligated to do versus what it does as far as allowing the for-profit institutions access to our students.

7. Prof. Blustein argued that students’ future plans are relevant to the Academic Senate. As she examined the documents submitted by Professor Young, she suggested that the Board Rule Article II, 7200.10 is not relevant to this issue and that 7200.11 should be enforced; West should identify visiting institutions by their tax status. She also recommended that the Senate add a designated rep to the Transfer Advisory Committee.

8. Sherron Rouzan pointed out that this issue has not been a concern in the counseling division. They have been comfortable with what’s going on in the transfer center. Their more pressing concern is the low participation of public institutions in West’s transfer fairs. The transfer center needs to give students options. Unlike the public institutions’ deficient presence on campus, the University of Phoenix came to campus today.

9. Yvonne Simone suggested that both committees address this issue together, and the senate seemed to approve of this suggestion.

10. President Foster may need to call an additional Ed Policies meeting to accommodate this discussion.

Friendly amendment: The Senate directs the Ed Policies committee to invite Transfer Advisory Committee to meet and join it in its research on and report to the Senate on issues associated with for-profit colleges recruiting at West Los Angeles College, including the presumption that the college has to grant full access to these colleges. MSP

One abstention

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INDICATIONS OF PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIONS

Noticed Motion for the 11/9/2010 meeting: The Senate moves that West LA College analyze the telephone and email problems that so far have resulted in four weeks worth of disruption in service and develop long-term solutions including but not limited to a back-up system and outsourcing the email system.

Action RFAA – FIPSE grant presentation at the 11/9/10 Senate meeting

Lisa Kamibayashi – Tenure review committee processing request

IX. ADJOURNMENT 2:50 - Next meeting: November 9, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
Clare Norris