MINUTES  
December 2, 2010  
4th floor, HLRC

Attending: Bruce Anders, Judy Chow, Eloise Crippens, Judith Fierro, Adrienne Foster, Sheila Jeter-Williams, Ahmed Mohsin, John Oester, Richard Olivas, Betsy Regalado, Olga Shewfelt, Bob Sprague, Scott Stamler, Rebecca Tillberg

Guests: Richard Block, Michelle Long-Coffee, Mister Searcy, Scott Stamler

1. Call to order and confirmation of the agenda
   Fran Leonard, chair, called the meeting to order at 3 pm, following the BPMC meeting.

2. Meeting minutes of November 4, 2010
   The meeting minutes of November 4, 2010 were approved as submitted. Judy Chow, Senate rep and Ahmed Mohsin, ASO President, will be added to the membership on the College Council agenda template.

3. Public speakers. There were no public speakers.

4. President’s Report

5. Chair’s Report – Accreditation
   Fran summarized the meeting held on November 30th here at West and chaired by Yasmine Delahoussaye and Deborah Kaye for the Seaside Colleges: LA Harbor, LA Southwest and West LA, whose comprehensive self study is due to the Commission in March 2012. Fran will email to standards' co-chairs, the handouts provided by Deborah Kaye. She also pointed out that one in particular, “Life in the SLO Lane” provides resources as well as cites colleges whose progress re. SLO assessment is noteworthy.

Review of “The College View of the Bond Budget Issues.” This document has been reviewed by the Building Program Management Committee and input received. Eloise Crippens, as well as other Council members, commented on how the College Council needs to focus more on the positive outcomes regarding the Bond Budget overcommitment issues instead of trying to assign blame. Eloise acknowledged that the BPMC and College Council have worked together well during the summer and fall months to address this pressing issue. Documenting the manner in which the college committees have worked together collegially should be documented in Standard IV, Governance and Leadership.

Fran reported that a Town Hall meeting will be held next Monday, December 6, at 2:30 pm on the fourth floor of the HLRC. At this meeting Dr. Joyce will provide updates on the Building Program, College Budget and other college issues to the entire college. The college should issue a report on a continuous basis, maybe three to four times per year, highlighting new developments as well as capturing previous points. Olga read two excerpts from the Silberstein memo that mentioned the extent of the overage. It also noted that West was the only college that did not avail itself of the technical assistance offered by the District. Fran reported that a small group has been invited to work on the bond budget documents with Lloyd Silberstein. If anyone is interested in
participating in this group, Dr. Joyce will announce a time and a date to work on this. Dr. Joyce confirmed that the group will be creating a new, updated report, not a revised one.

6B. Selection Process for the Permanent President
Fran reported that the search process for a permanent president will occur in the spring of 2011. The college will participate in selecting which consultants to use.

6C. Communication Process
Fran stated that she emailed Chancellor LaVista to fill him in on what occurred during the selection process this past summer for interim president, including the memo to the acting chancellor regarding the need to involve West’s Council from the outset of the selection process. Based on discussion that ensued, the Council chair, prior to initiating contact with the Chancellor or Board, and whenever reasonably possible, contact College Council members to inform them of crucial information relating to the selection of a permanent president. Fran reminded College Council members that during the winter there is no College Council meeting scheduled in January. The chair will email all Council members as more develops related to the selection of a permanent president for West.

Action Item: Judith Fierro to place Council Council Executive membership in lower left-hand column of College Council agenda.

Fran and Olga reminded College Council members to think of questions to ask the selection committee and to email these to Fran.

6D. College wide Committees
Olga stated that College Council needs to have clarity and move away from consensus to a majority vote. College Council needs to reach a total consensus or decide that a simple majority works best. When you make decisions based on a simple majority you’re counting heads and they can be counted and rearranged. When you’re voting through consensus then you engage everyone who is participating and it’s a higher level of agreement. Olga asked the committee how do we work to adopt a consensus and if so, in which manner? Rebecca stated it would be good to write up and document how we come to make and reach decisions and that it’s very exciting to educate ourselves to know how to structure the process so that it’s effective.

Fran suggested College Council could prepare a tutorial on what both consensus and voting, including the positives and negatives of each, as well as situations when one is preferred. Fran asked the committee if there would be any block of time between now and February for a small group to meet regarding this. The first meeting of the College Council is scheduled for February 3, 2011 before spring classes start. Olga suggested that we could begin the process by putting out a 2-page summary of each and schedule a meeting towards the end of February on these decision making approaches. Bob Sprague stated the kinds of decisions that we choose generally tend to be associated with certain issues and that a super majority may be more effective with other issues. We should take a look at this aspect as well.
6.E. Memorial Service for Gwen Thomas
Adrienne Foster announced a memorial service on campus will be held next Monday, December 6 at 12:30 pm in the Fine Arts Theater for students, staff and faculty who were unable to attend her funeral yesterday. Adrienne addressed concerns on how to handle grieving students as well as faculty and staff. Bob Sprague stated the college should work towards establishing a protocol for such circumstances. Subs were introduced to cover Gwen’s classes for the rest of the semester. Eloise suggested a letter could go out to some of her students and inform faculty to be sensitive to students who are grieving so they can attend the memorial services on Monday. There is publicity on the college website with announcement of the memorial service.

6.F. College Council Executive Committee role during intersessions
Fran has requested that, following the effective practice of the Academic Senate, that reports from committee chairs be submitted for emailing to all Council members in advance of the next CC meeting.
Dr. Joyce announced that Mr. Oester has put out updates on the budget committee for the college.

7.  Planning
Program Review -Rebecca Tillberg reported that almost all units have completed the validation of their program reviews. There are interim reports on the college website since they are in the middle of the process. Another campus climate survey is being planned in the spring. The Planning Committee is also working on developing a shared governance policy & procedures handbook. Rebecca looks forward to updating the college strategic plan where she will be able to take data from program reviews from Fall 2010. Bob Sprague acknowledged and thanked Rebecca for her outstanding work in research and planning at the college these last two years.

Transfer Honors Program
Richard Block shared with College Council that he attended a Transfer Honors event today with Judith Ann Friedman at CSU Dominguez Hills to increase the number of transfer students. Richard stated that the honors transfer program is a way for students to get admitted to particular colleges during this difficult time.
Bob Sprague will invite Richard to the next Divisional Council meeting on Tuesday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m. Olga made an announcement that next Thursday, December 9th the AFT Faculty Guild will sponsor the holiday celebration to be held in this room, HLRC – 4C.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m