

Los Angeles Southwest College
Academic Senate
Minutes of December 8, 2009
SSC 315; 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Members Present, Executive Committee: Allison Moore, President; Sabrena Turner-Odom, Vice President; Reggie Morris, Chair of Chairs; Linda Larson-Singer, DAS Representative, 1; Joanna Mrava, Treasurer; Darren Cifarelli, Secretary; Hassan Elfarissi, Part-Time Faculty Representative.

Members Absent, Executive Committee: Kathi Cliff, DAS Representative, 2; Al Reed, Jr., Past President; (Vacant), Parliamentarian.

Members Present, Departmental and other Representatives: Pat Lewis, Arts and Humanities; Nouha Toure & Majid Haghgoo, Business; LaShawn Brinson, Child Development; Ne'Keya Billingslea, English; LaVerne McField, Learning Assistance; Gabrielle Arvig, Library; Guadalupe Ramos, Math & Engineering; Igor Daza, Counseling; Catherine Azubuike, Nursing; Sioban Dillon, Full-time Representative, 1; Ernest Young, Part Time Representative, 2.

Members Absent, Departmental and other Representatives: (Vacant), Behavioral and Social Science; Robert Stewart, Natural Sciences, Health and PE; (Vacant), Full Time Representative 2.

Other Faculty Present: Erika Miller, Darlen Wooten, Mylo Egipciano, Sheila Johnson, Celeste Phelps, Glenn Yoshida, Leonard Apenahier, Rupa De, Akram Esmaeili, Alistair Callender, Philip Jones-Thomas, Paul Doose, Shelly Werts, Sandra Lee, Felipe Pagan .

Guests Present, Administration: Dr. Jack Daniels III, President; Dr. Mary Callahan, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs; Patrick Jefferson, Dean of Student Services.

Other Guests Present: Sylvia Scott-Hayes, LACCD Trustee.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm by Allison Moore, President of the Academic Senate.

2. Guest Speaker – Sylvia Scott-Hayes, LACCD Trustee

- Sylvia Scott-Hayes thanked us for inviting her and stated that she had no set agenda. She said that one of her favorite campuses is LASC, that she is a former English teacher, and had 10 years on the Board of Trustees. She remembers LASC when it was an enormous mound of dirt. She said that these are difficult times with the state budget and that there may be mid-year cuts. Experts disagree about what should be done, but there will be a decision by the end of the year. Tough choices have to be made. Larger colleges are complaining that they aren't allocated a larger share of the money. She is Chair of the Student Success Committee. She advocated hybrid classes and modularizing Basic Skills classes so that students are constantly moving forward, and can retake a component of a course that they fail, rather than retaking the whole class. Remediation in basic skills courses discourages students and leads to an increased failure rate and low retention. Regarding accreditation, she is proposing that California unify its standards. The number of sanctions in California is too high compared to the rest of the country. She thanked everyone who worked on accreditation for their hard work and for being an integral part of the campus and district.

3. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:

- The agenda was approved unanimously.
- Minutes from November 10, 2009, were approved unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report – Joanna Mrava:

- The report was approved unanimously. Our savings account revenue earned \$0.00. The CD earned \$0.23, bringing our balance to \$5274.80. If you have not already done so, please pay your dues.

5. Noticed Motions

A. Noticed Motion: Amendment to SLO Handbook (SLO Committee)

- The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Noticed Motion: New Course Approvals (Curriculum Committee)

- Music 116, Music 650, LRNSKIL 59 (New), Environmental Science 1, Environmental Science99A/003, Environmental Studies 101, VOC ED 3CE (New)
- All courses were approved unanimously. Linda Larson-Singer pointed out that these courses were forwarded using the new ECD system and that the course outline blitzes are working. Mary Callahan commended us.

6. Senate President's Report – Allison Moore:

- Allison stated that an SPC task force was established to accomplish several things. In accreditation, planning and budgeting are not linked. Budget used to drive planning, but they need to be synchronized. ICOP was targeted to start a planning guide in September. It is approved, but the budget started in July. The budget should be developed based on the plan; therefore, the majority of the work in planning should occur in the Spring and be finalized by Fall to get the ICOP done by December. The process is in revision. Allison distributed a handout on the LASC Planning Process. Ideally, plans should be delivered to the Budget Committee at the beginning of the fiscal year. Email her feedback or discuss it with her in person if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. We will vote on this revised process in February.

7. Standing Committee Reports:

A. Committees, Academic Senate, Sabrena Turner-Odom

-Sabrena distributed the LASC Committee membership list for 2009-2010.

B. Student Learning Outcomes, Dr. Glenn Yoshida

-Glenn distributed the SLO Committee meeting notes from November and reported that the SLO Committee has adopted the changes to the Handbook and most have been implemented. Assessments are occurring now, and many embedded questions in final exams will occur next week. The results are to be included in the Program Review document. Glenn is available to work one-on-one or with departments to help out with this. Remember, the upcoming Accreditation requires that we show SLOs have been through 1 full cycle.

C. Curriculum Committee, Linda Larson-Singer

-Linda Larson-Singer thanked us for our progress on the course outline updates. Mary Callahan has said that courses without updated course outlines will be removed from the Spring schedule, so "update yours." Linda said that she would send out the needed course outline list again.

D. Chairs Committee, Reggie Morris

-No report given.

E. District Academic Senate, Allison Moore, Sabrena Turner-Odom, Linda Larson-Singer, Kathi Cliff

-No report given.

F. Travel Committee, Kathi Cliff

-No report given.

G. Facilities Planning Committee, (Vacant) Summary given by Allison Moore

-Charettes are in progress. There are three finalists proposing for the Career and Applied Tech building and for the Visual and Performing Arts building. Cox and LL are next; then, the Middle School. Allison noted that it is interesting to see how people work at these meetings. Also, it's important to show up to the meetings regarding your buildings. Construction moves forward regardless of your presence, and decisions have to be made. In order to ensure that your input is incorporated, be there—or live with the changes made on the spot forever.

H. Technology Committee, Carolyn Magee

-No report was given.

I. Budget Committee, Paul Doose

-The district budget committee meeting is tomorrow. It has been “quiet” regarding budget info, so perhaps no one wants hear the next bad news. There is one issue: there has been a strong move to force campuses to live within their budgets. Last year, we spent 24.5 million. We were given 22 million. We covered our debt; our current budget is 21 million. According to Paul, this is not possible.

J. Program Review Committee, Philip Jones-Thomas

- The ESL viability study is moving forward. Their goal is to be done by next month. They are conducting and reviewing interviews, student forums, notes, and writing. They will continue in January and make a presentation in February.

K. Distance Education Committee, James Hicks

-The DEC met yesterday and updated the new dean. James suggested that the Academic Senate prepare a proposal for Administration detailing the needs and support required for Distance Ed. There will be a new Moodle platform for Spring which will enable instructors to populate their own shells, and download their own shells from previous classes. Sandra Lee stated that more control leads to more responsibility for faculty, yet the online environment has no support. We need training for faculty, online support, and support from administration. Paul discussed funding priorities and funding for Distance Ed, suggesting that funding has been too short-sighted. West’s program was founded on soft money and grants; we are working on grant applications now too.

8. Old Business:

-None.

9. New Business:

A. District-Wide Accreditation Response Project Presentation: Sabrena showed the district-wide accreditation response project presentation on powerpoint, explaining the purpose of the surveys to assess district-level governance & decision-making, and district/college roles & functions assessment. See her forwarded email from Gary Columbo to complete your survey.

10. Announcements:

- Gabrielle Arvig and Shelly Werts informed us that the State is cutting funding for the TTIP funds (which pay for the library’s databases) and other funding that supports the library’s electronic databases and netLibrary, which we rely heavily on. 85% of our circulating print collection is over 10 years old. Paul Doose said that all funding will be frozen in January according to Dr. Daniels. The plan, for all LACCD Libraries, is to request support from their academic senates and to go to the District Academic Senate and request grants. Sandra Lee asked for more detail about the funding and costs, stating that departments should verify the need for resources and then to look into the possibility of allocating funds from other sources, like CTE.

- Dean Jefferson discussed DSPS (Disabled Students Program Services). He said that there have been cases where professors were not accommodating to disabled students. Wooten and Phelps identify and collect documentation and create the accommodation needs. Accommodations are required by federal law. Refusing to comply can result in trouble for LASC as well as personal liability for the instructor: it’s a violation of civil rights. DSPS can provide help—administer tests, proctor exams—and they will support you. One student rights violation jeopardizes all federal funding and results in federal audits of all SFPs (Specially Funded Programs). He also stated that online training is offered online (type in DSPS to campus website search engine). The process is that students deliver the documentation of their disability to DSPS. It’s not retroactive. In February and March, Student Services will offer seminars on working with disabilities. 50% of

students in local high schools have been identified as disabled. 4% are identified at LASC. They are undisclosed. Phelps will make visits. The new term for “disabilities” is “learning differences.”

11. Departmental Reports

- No reports given

12. Adjournment

- President Allison Moore adjourned the meeting at 3:36 pm.

Minutes prepared by Darren Cifarelli

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2010.

History:

Distributed by email and posted, 2/4/2010

Minutes 12.8.09

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