



Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE
October 12, 2015

APPROVED

PRESENT: Richard Albistegui-Dubois, April Cunningham, Jenny Fererro, Joel Glassman, Sergio Hernandez, Barb Kelber, Greg Larson, Teresa Laughlin, Lawrence Lawson, Jackie Martin, Pam McDonough, Lillian Payn, Travis Ritt, Seth San Juan, Chris Sinnott, Fari Towfiq

ABSENT: Melinda Carrillo, Shannon Lienhart

GUESTS: Kelly Falcone, Marty Furch, Fern Menezes (Telescope)

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President, Greg Larson, at 2:00 p.m. in Room SU-30.

Please note: All votes are presumed unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes presented for approval.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

Announcements: Barb Kelber invited all to attend the retirement celebration for Melissa Kloz on Wednesday, October 14, from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. at the San Marcos Brewery.

Teresa Laughlin reminded Senators of several activities occurring for Political Economy Days on October 14 & 15. She noted the performance of “From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks,” a one-man show about the labor leader Harry Bridges, which will be held on Wednesday October 14 at 2:00pm in the Howard Brubeck Theater.

Sergio Hernandez announced the Tarde de Familia event scheduled for Friday, October 16, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Designed to bring together students and their families with Hispanic professionals, this biannual event also showcases the many programs and resources available to assist underrepresented students at Palomar College.

Strategic Planning
Council:

Greg Larson shared information with Senators on the creation of CIE, or Comet Information Exchange, a website where summaries are provided of Palomar’s planning council meetings and other Palomar committee meetings. It includes links to full minutes, and tags for numerous committee meetings.

Senators were also provided with copies of the Palomar College Strategic Plan 2016. Larson asked Senators to review the document as it will be placed on next week’s Agenda.

Interim Vice

President Sourbeer:

Greg Larson stated that he met with Interim Vice President Sourbeer earlier in the day. There was discussion on AB288, which was signed by the Governor on October 8, 2015. This bill authorizes the governing board of a community college district to enter into a partnership with local high school districts with the goal of developing pathways from high school to community college for career technical education, preparation for improving high school graduation rates, or helping high school pupils achieve college and career readiness. High School pupils can enroll in up to 15 units per term if certain conditions are satisfied.

Palomar Faculty
Federation (PFF):

Teresa Laughlin reported that the eBoard meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 8 was rescheduled for Thursday, October 22.

Learning Outcomes
Council (LOC):

Marty Furch indicated that an October 30, 2015 deadline is in place for SLO facilitators to run their planning tools and provide that information to the LOC.

Members of LOC met on Thursday, October 8 and reviewed the 2014-15 Goals, which will be utilized to initiate discussion for next year.

Work will continue with General Education Institutional Learning Outcomes and actions following those assessments which have been completed.

The group also discussed creating methods to effectively assess interdisciplinary programs.

Student Success
and Equity Council:

Reporting on the Student Success and Equity Council, Greg Larson stated that there is a new group being formed titled "Tarde de Familia Grupo Magnifico," an outreach group for Hispanic students, particularly first-generation students.

Academic Technology
Committee:

Lillian Payn stated that she attended a Learning Summit on Distance Education on Friday, October 9. There were two useful sessions on Canvas which provided insight on importing courses from Blackboard. Feedback from other users of Canvas was reassuring, as it addressed many of the common concerns with the potential switch in platforms.

Human Resources
Planning Council:

Chris Sinnott reported that HRPC is reviewing the current 6 Year Staffing Plan, with the understanding that the SERP may result in a need for a new staffing plan.

There was also discussion on the transition from a large to medium-sized campus, and the impact of the Supplemental Early Retirement Plan (SERP) on departments who have fewer employees and an increased work load. Replacements will be examined to ensure that the district is using resources effectively.

Sinnott shared the number of positions that have been filled since the SERP:

Classified Positions

10 positions filled to-date

20 positions in progress

11 positions on hold due to the classification study

Administrative/CAST Positions

2 positions filled to-date

5 positions in progress

5 positions filled as interim assignments

23 new full-time faculty positions and 2 new full-time counselor positions for 2016-17 were also approved at the last Instructional Planning Council (IPC) meeting.

Committee

Appointments:

Travis Ritt reported that a targeted call will go out soon for committee divisional representation for the Tenure & Evaluations Review Board (TERB), Curriculum Committee, and the Learning Outcomes Council (LOC).

Motion 1

MSC Hernandez, Towfiq: Faculty Senate approval of the following committee appointment:

Student Success & Equity Council

Gary Sosa/ESL (through December, 2016)

The motion carried.

Senators also discussed absences from committee meetings. Each Committee or Task Force should determine their own policy for allowable absences at the beginning of the semester. Ritt did indicate that he would do some research to see if there are any formal policies in place for this.

Curriculum:

Jenny Fererro stated that no Curriculum Committee meeting was held on October 7 due to a very short agenda, as well as both co-chairs being involved in Presidential Search Committee interviews. In lieu of the meeting, Cheryl Kearse provided a workshop-type meeting which several faculty attended to work on curriculum. Fererro reminded faculty to follow up on any curriculum they currently have in the pipeline.

Tutoring Committee:

Several weeks ago, Senators reviewed a Governance Structure Group Request for the Tutoring Committee. Some minor amendments were recommended by Senators, and at today's meeting Fari Towfiq distributed an updated version of the document.

Motion 2

MSC Towfiq, Glassman: Faculty Senate approval of the Governance Structure Group Request for the Tutoring Committee, as amended. The motion carried.

Part-Time Faculty
Online Application
Process:

Barb Kelber indicated that she has been in contact with Lisa Hornsby regarding the request by the Senate that Human Resources provide a written outline of the Part-time Faculty Online Application Process. Hornsby is currently working with Monique Dumbrique to respond to that request.

Faculty Hiring
Procedure:

Members of the Senate have been working on updating the Faculty Hiring Procedure for several months and approved the document at the September 28, 2015, Senate meeting.

At today's meeting, Senate members reviewed BP 2510, Participation in Local Decision Making, specifically the section which notes: "Pursuant to rules adopted by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Governing Board elects to rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Faculty Senate on academic and professional matters..." and discussion followed on the Senate and faculty's role in the Faculty Hiring Policy, Faculty Hiring Criteria, and Faculty Hiring Procedures as outlined in the 10 + 1 + 1.

Kelber shared a proposed amended version of the Faculty Hiring Procedure on the overhead with minor changes reflecting discussion at the Policies & Procedures Committee meeting related to the role of the observer at the president interviews. In addition to those changes, Kelber and Ferro noted that administrators on the committee have expressed that they would like an administrator present on first-level interviews as a participatory but non-voting member. Administrators also feel that the teaching demonstration on the second level should be at the discretion of the chair of the second level committee, who is a dean. Lengthy discussion followed and the Senate was not in support of having an administrator on the first level committee, or of changing policy that could result in mandating a second level teaching demonstration against the wishes of the department. Senators again affirmed the wording of BP 2510, and expressed their resolve to protect against the erosion of faculty expertise and influence over faculty hiring.

Senate members supported accepting and utilizing the document as approved at the September 28, 2015 meeting.

TERB:

Barb Kelber stated that discussions on evaluations continue as some administrators continue to push for the requirement of a faculty observation by a dean, thus raising the number of observations from three to four. An option can be in place to allow for an additional observation, but there needs to be a clear policy in place in the fall. Kelber is asking that Dean Sourbeer begin attending the TERB meetings to participate in these discussions. As outlined in item 17.2.2 of the contract, all policies, procedures, and forms will be developed by TERB, who will then make their recommendations for implementation to the district and PFF. If the district and PFF do not agree, it will be negotiated. All forms shall remain in place unless altered by TERB (Appendix K).

Teresa Laughlin noted that in instances where the contract is silent, that does not mean that the contract can be interpreted to reflect permission for changes such as these. The district and the PFF negotiations team must come to an agreement.

Accreditation:

Richard Albistegui-Dubois indicated that the Tutoring Committee has begun sending out drafts of their progress to-date. Fari Towfiq added that the hours of the Tutoring Center have been expanded and training is being provided at some of the centers on utilizing the services.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Ferro, Secretary