

Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE
February 9, 2009

APPROVED

- PRESENT: Monika Brannick, Valerie Chau, Ralph Ferges, Katy French, Marty Furch, Brent Gowen, Lawrence Hahn, Richard Hishmeh, Stan Levy, Jackie Martin-Klement, Linda Morrow, Sue Norton, Patrick O'Brien, Kathleen Sheahan, Diane Studinka, Judy Wilson
- ABSENT: Bruce Bishop, Fari Towfiq
- GUESTS: Claudia Duran, Diane Locke, Brandon Morales
- CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the president, Monika Brannick, at 2:00 p.m., in Room SU-30.
- Approval of Minutes:
- Motion 1 MSC Morrow, Chau: Faculty Senate approval of the minutes of February 2, 2009, as amended. The motion carried.
- Public Comments: None
- Announcements: Monika Brannick announced that she attended the memorial service for former Senator Bill Bedford on Saturday, February 7. Several members of the Palomar College community shared fond memories of Bill.
- Monika Brannick announced that Richard Talmo, Executive Director of the Palomar College Foundation, will attend the March 2nd meeting of the Faculty Senate to gather input on the Excellence in Teaching Mini-grants.
- Committee Appointments:
- Motion 2 MSC O'Brien, Chau : Faculty Senate approval of the following committee appointments:
- Basic Skills Committee
(07-09) Full-time Faculty Members, at-large
Debi Workman - EME/Career Tech
- Campus Police Committee
(08-10) Kalyna Lesyna - Behavioral Sciences Department/Sociology
- Curriculum Committee
(06-09) Social and Behavioral Sciences
Terry Humphrey - Behavioral Sciences Department/Sociology
- Instructional Planning Council
(08-10) Student Services
Sue Norton – Disability Resource Center
- The motion carried.
- Curriculum: Curriculum items dated January 28, 2009, were provided at last week's meeting.

Motion 3 MSC Gowen, Morrow: Faculty Senate ratification of the Curriculum items dated January 28, 2009. The motion carried.

Academic Standards & Practices Committee: This item will be addressed at the February 23, 2009, Senate meeting due to Bruce Bishop's absence.

Motion 4 MSC O'Brien, Chau: To suspend the agenda to return to "Public Comment." The motion carried.

Public Comment: Diane Locke of Aramark Food Services announced that the ASG is supporting the expansion of the Snack Shack. Its current location, size, and layout do not sufficiently meet the needs of Palomar students, faculty, and staff.

Motion 5 MSC O'Brien, Gowen: To resume the agenda. The motion carried.

Cultural Change Statement: Copies of the amended draft of the Cultural Change statement were provided. Senators have discussed the document at previous meetings, and this draft reflected some minor changes from those conversations:

A member of the Palomar College Community recently received several very disturbing messages through the mail. These messages contained sexually explicit language and were suggestive of hate mail. Due to this incident, which is not the first of this kind or only one, we are compelled to make the following statement.

We at Palomar celebrate diversity in people, philosophies, cultures, and beliefs. We emphasize this value in our Mission Statement. We want to add, clearly and strongly, that we also respect and honor each individual's sexual orientation. We embrace the civil rights of all members of our community and condemn the abuse of those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.

A group of faculty and students have come together to form a committee, and this committee will work actively to promote tolerance and acceptance of all. We shall assure that each and every one of us is as safe as possible on our campus. We no longer shall stand by when any of us is being targeted because of her/his sexual orientation. We urge all of you to become a part of this change.

You'll hear back from us soon about ways to become involved.

Motion 6 MSC Chau, Gowen: Faculty Senate approval of the Cultural Change Statement. The motion carried.

Monika Brannick added that the members of the group formed to discuss ways of bringing positive cultural changes to Palomar's campus met on Wednesday, February 4. Several faculty members attended the meeting and had a very positive discussion on potential awareness campaigns, as well as possible future campus activities. The group will meet again on February 11, at 3:00 in room SU-30. All are invited to attend.

Policies & Procedures Task Force: Brent Gowen indicated that the faculty workgroup of the Policies & Procedures Task Force will bring several items from Chapter 4, Instruction, to the February 23, 2009, Senate meeting.

Faculty Manual
Update:

Monika Brannick reminded Senate members that a Senator is needed to assist in the revision of the Faculty Manual. Due to the magnitude of this task, Brannick noted the possibility for some amount of reassigned time.

ASG:

Claudia Duran distributed copies of two resolutions recently passed by the ASG: one on the Snack Shack expansion, and one on adding a Class Cancellation link to Palomar's homepage.

ASG Senator Brandon Morales reported to the Faculty Senate on the ASG's support of the Snack Shack expansion, or possible relocation, due to its insufficient size and its failure to meet the needs of current and future students, staff, and faculty. Morales indicated that the Snack Shack is currently located in room RF-2 and shares a common wall with room RF-1, which is currently a classroom. He added that Aramark is willing to pay the costs for the expansion.

Some Senators expressed concern with losing a classroom, citing the already insufficient classroom space on campus. Senators suggested that the ASG research and consider relocating the Snack Shack, rather than expanding its current space.

Most Senate members agreed that they support the ASG's recommendation for expansion, but they suggested further discussion with the appropriate constituencies on possible alternate locations for the site.

Claudia Duran stated that the ASG is recommending that class cancellation information be posted on the Palomar College homepage. This would provide a reliable and consistent way to notify students of changes to the schedule.

President Deegan:

Monika Brannick stated that discussion at her weekly meeting with President Deegan focused again on the district's budget. There was also a discussion on the status of intercession. This year's intercession will occur as scheduled, but next year's session is uncertain.

President Deegan also asked that the Senate discuss, "A-G For All," a proposal to require all high school students in California to meet the rigorous and relevant A-G Curriculum of California Universities. A-G requirements can be met through traditional academic courses or through career-technical education (CTE) courses, both of which teach essential skills.

Brannick stated that she would place this item on the agenda for further discussion and/or action at the February 23, Senate meeting.

Governing Board:

The next meeting of the Governing Board will be held on February 10.

Strategic Planning
Council:

Brent Gowen reported that at the recent Strategic Planning Council (SPC) meeting, members reviewed the Annual Implementation Plan, which now includes the Accreditation Self-Study Planning Agenda. In its review, the Council recognized the need for new or revised budget plans in a variety of areas, as well as a need for a "grand" planning model that incorporates all of the various sub-models.

Members of SPC also discussed ongoing budget challenges, and President Deegan re-emphasized the college's commitment to its fulltime employees.

Monika Brannick noted that President Deegan welcomes suggestions from faculty and staff on ways to trim the district's budget. Those with ideas should contact him via email.

Finance/Administrative
Services Planning
Council:

A Senator is needed to serve on the Finance/Administrative Services Planning Council.

Human Resources
Planning Council:

Sue Norton reported that members of the Human Resources Planning Council continued to discuss the EEO Plan at their last meeting, and that they are working with UCLA's Research Department to incorporate data.

The council also discussed how Palomar's number of classified staff members is below the Gooder College's numbers, especially in our Human Resources department.

There was also discussion on the need for departments to obtain confidentially signatures from student workers and volunteers.

75/25 Workgroup:

Brent Gowen stated that the 75/25 Workgroup continues to meet. If increasing the number of fulltime faculty is to be a priority, the development of a plan should continue, even through these challenging budget years.

Budget Committee:

The next meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on February 10.

Palomar Faculty
Federation:

Jackie Martin-Klement reported that the Palomar Faculty Federation continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in room SU-30. All are invited to attend.

Members of the Senate expressed their gratitude to Judy Dolan and Joni Moreland for their distribution of all the recent election materials.

Learning Outcomes
Council:

Marty Furch reported that the Learning Outcomes Council (LOC) met on February 5. The group welcomed some new members, but it is still has one fulltime faculty vacancy for a member from the Languages & Literature Division, and one part-time faculty vacancy for a member from the Career & Technical Education Division. She added that a survey of part-time faculty was done at the recent plenary, revealing that 90% of part-timers surveyed know what a Student Learning Outcome (SLO) is, but 68% of those surveyed have never had a department-wide discussion on SLOs. Furch indicated that she reported these results at the recent Department Chair/Directors meeting in hopes of improving this second statistic.

A report was provided to the LOC on a WASC Assessment, Level One Seminar, attended by Judy Wilson, Terry Cannon, and Colleen Weldele. The seminar focused on Assessment Components. More information will be forthcoming via emails and workshops.

Professional Development workshops will be offered on the 2nd Friday of each month. The first is scheduled for February 20 and will focus on writing SLOs. Furch reported that completing the identification of SLO's for 600 courses is this year's goal.

Service Learning staff now have office space and a computer on campus. Four core programs have been identified:

- Habitat for Humanity
- San Diego Office of Education Tutoring Program
- Interfaith
- Michelle House

Lastly, Furch reported that a blog has been created under Learning Outcomes on Palomar's web page. Faculty are encouraged to contribute suggestions.

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend the weekly Campus Explorations sessions. This week's session is a showing of "An Inconvenient Truth" (part 1).

Workforce & Community
Development
Advisory Group:

Diane Studinka reported that the Workforce and Community Development Advisory Group met earlier in the day. Teri Safranek, Director of Workforce and Community Development, provided a description of the program and its budget. It was reiterated at the meeting that the classes are not for credit and are for-profit. The college is reimbursed for its indirect costs. Studinka added that students receive a Certificate of Training, which is distinct from a Certificate of Achievement or Proficiency.

The Spring 2009 Venture Catalog is now available, and the group will preview the summer catalog at their next meeting.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Equal Employment
Opportunity Advisory
Committee:

Monika Brannick reminded Senators of a copy of a draft letter distributed to the Senate last month regarding the Spring 2009 Diversity Event for Palomar on Gender Equity. The Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory (EEOA) Committee is scheduling the event on Thursday, April 30, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Student Union. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to attend.

After brief discussion, Senators agreed that although they support holding such an event, there is no need for a formal action by the Faculty Senate.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Hishmeh, Secretary