The De Anza Academic Senate
Approved Notes of the meeting of
May 6th, 2013


Senators and Officers Absent: Hamilton, Singh, and Swanner

DASB: FA Liaison: Laurel Torres
Classified Senate: Curriculum Co Chair:
Administrative Liaison: Rowena Tomaneng
Director of Diversity, Social Justice, and Multicultural Ed.: Veronica Neal

Guests: Mary Pape, Moaty Fayek

Faculty and Staff Development: Jackie Reza

[NOTE: Item numbers are reflective of agenda numbers in the order they are actually taken up at the meeting.]

The meeting was called to order at 2:34, a quorum being present.

I. Approval of Notes and Agenda: The agenda was approved as distributed. Chow asked for the group’s indulgence to allow a group of students to interrupt item II on the agenda to promote an event. She also thanked Donahue for bringing student made refreshments. The notes of the meeting of April 22nd were approved as distributed with a minor correction.

II. Needs and Confirmations: A group of student arrived to bring two items to the attention of the group. The first was a “Fly By” workshop about attempting to build community for online students titled “The future of familia online” Wednesday, June 12th in the MCC Conference room and the second was a “Fair Trade Fashion event in conference rooms A and B Wednesday, May 29th. Chow advised the group to be prepared for another group of students to appear, the group she had anticipated coming. Once again, Hanna passed around the sheet for Senators to sign up for hours monitoring the polling place for the Academic Senate election. Chow asked Senators to give feedback soon to the Values Statement revision draft now available online at deanza.edu/valuesfeedback

III. Senate Elections Update: Hanna announced that Mayra Cruz was the sole candidate for President and that Ed Ahrens was the sole candidate for the open part time representative position. She passed around, and around, and around the sign up sheet for working at the Academic Senate election and especially pointed out empty spaces in the Wednesday afternoon timeslots.
IV. OER Workshop: Chow distributed a flyer announcing an Open Educational Resources workshop said to be “Cheap, Free, and Open”. She described the workshop and requested that each Senator recruit at least one division faculty member to attend. Reza took the opportunity presented by the item to ask the Senators to remind untenured full time faculty that they will stop moving up the salary schedule after their fourth year unless they take action to find out what all is involved in continuing on up the salary schedule.

At this point the group of students expected earlier arrived and presented plans for supporting AB540 students who are interested in applying for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a new relief plan approved by President Obama in June 2012. The plan includes outreach to high school students as well as providing information and financial assistance to those already at De Anza. To that end, there will be a $5 raffle May 17th with the proceeds going to scholarships for students to help them afford the costs associated with applying for DACA. They passed around a sign up sheet for those who might be interested in donating money or participating in the raffle.

V. Cap and Gown rental Bookstore Request: Chow requested up to $400 on behalf of the bookstore to match President Murphy’s donation towards paying for Caps and gowns at graduation. It was MSC (Hanna Sullivan) to approve the request.

VI: Credit by Exam: Another lengthy presentation on the topic occurred including the addition of new information and perspective. Chow began by reciting material from Kent McGee, the highlight of which was the revelation that, should the credit by exam unit limit be reduced to 30, approximately 10 students would be affected. Another variable not previously considered was the number of units required in residence which is 24 units for an Associate’s degree. The officers recommended adoption of the proposed 30 unit District limit with the stipulation that the problem of limits put on credit by exam units by UC and CSU and any resulting further college unit limits be studied further in anticipation of a College policy. After Chow read her editing of draft Board Policy 6030 it was MSCU (Hanna/Leonard) to approve the draft as amended by Chow. It was then MSCU (Leonard/Sullivan) to approve the draft Administrative Procedures 6030 and it was MSCU (Leonard/Hanna) to empower Chow to conference with the Foothill Senate leadership without further action by the De Anza Executive Committee unless Chow felt it necessary. The officers will return with proposed college policy language.

VII. Materials Fees – Senate Response: Chow began by iterating the list of questions she had put to departments concerning their needs for things currently provided through materials fees. She then summarized and named department responses and said she and the other officers had come to the conclusion that some kind of B budget augmentation was necessary. It was noted that included in the augmentation should be items revealed by Letha Jeanpierre as being appropriate for B budget funding but which have been funded off budget for years because of the decline in B budgets. She then said that, although illegal all along to use materials fees for them, it was paramount that the college fund the printing of exams and quizzes. Many new and revisited comments arose, perhaps most poignantly reminders that 1) the so called digital divide is a reality that
can’t be ignored and 2) routinely touted technology alternatives, in addition to exacerbating the digital divide cost money, something routinely ignored by those proposing them. Chow summarized that she intended to call for a transitional year of budget augmentation accompanied by a review of needs and alternatives and a survey of what all would be necessary for faculty to move to alternatives. Finally, it was reiterated that some materials fees would continue to be appropriate and that the scope of these was yet to be determined.

VIII. Update on Course Equivalencies, AA-T/AS-T Degrees and Senate website:
Chow reported on the progress to date on establishing equivalent courses with Foothill College of Los Altos Hills, California. Next, she reported that the officers met again with the group of faculty, administrators, and staff directly affected by the implementation of AA-T/AS-T degrees and said that an informal plan was to slow down efforts to adopt new degrees until workload and other issues are worked out and to accept the fact that the college will fall short of the goals set by the state. Chow ended by saying that a group of students is working on both the ongoing Academic Senate website and the AA-T/AS-T degree information website and will be coming up with recommendations.

IX. ASCCC Spring Plenary Report: Again a lack of time prevented a full report. Chow did report on a breakout session on conjoint programs where two colleges might collaborate to create degree programs not found to be practical by either college individually. Which college would get credit for the student obtaining a degree and other problems remain as does the question of whether or not this would actually improve the situation for many students. Finally, the letter from the San Jose State University Philosophy Department declining to cooperate with a MOOC in philosophy was discussed.

X. Good of the Order – A “keep calm” stress reduction event was announced.
- Chow asked about possibly doing a Senate sponsored social event for all faculty.
- Donahue glowed about a participatory surfing event – see her for details.
- Mitchell mentioned a guitar ensemble event Thursday, May 9th.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30