The De Anza Academic Senate
Approved Notes of the meeting of
April 18th, 2011


Senators and Officers Absent: Betlach, Botsford, Buchanan, Annen, Lathers, Lee, and Mello

DASB: Kevin Trinh
Classified Senate:
Administrative Liaison: Rowena Tomaneng
Guests: Anne Argyriou, Randy Bryant, Stephen Fletcher, and Donna Jones-Dulin
SLO coordinators/Staff Development:
Curriculum Co Chair:

[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 2:33, a quorum being present.

I. Approval of Agenda and Notes: The agenda was approved as distributed. The draft notes of the meeting of April 11th were not ready for review owing to the officer’s unusual schedule. The notes of both April 11th and April 18th are to be ready for review and action at the meeting of April 25th.

II. Needs and Confirmations: David Gray was confirmed for service on the Ram Subramaniam Tenure Review Committee replacing Gary Fisher. Kevin Glapion was approved for service on the District Professional Development Leave Committee.

III. Vice President and President’s Reports (including election dates): Anderson began by asking past Academic Senate President Anne Argyriou to report on her experience running for State Academic Senate office. Argyriou said that, although she was unsuccessful, she was encouraged that she got as much support as she did considering that she is not well known at the State level. She intends to try again next year.

Next, Anderson acknowledged Maynard who, speaking on behalf of the Elections Committee, proposed to announce openings for President, Executive Secretary, and one Part Time Representative Monday, April 25th, having candidate statements due May 6th, and holding the annual election May 17th and 18th. The proposed were all approved without objection.
Anderson then reported on his having presented a paper on assessment at the Research and Planning Group conference April 14th. The convocation day at De Anza April 15th was said to have gone very well by Anderson and several attendees. Anderson concluded by asking people to stay in touch with developments in SB1440 transfer degrees at the State level and to contact one of the officers if they or their department wanted help in aligning their courses with the model.

IV. Budget Update: Lee-Wheat mentioned that, for divisions to get to their target reduction levels, some departments may have to cut more than others because some departments have more part time faculty, the most obvious place to cut. A renewed call for some kind of furlough days system to save money statewide was heard. Legislative action would be required to enable local colleges to have this option. Lee-Wheat reported that she and Christina Espoinosa-Pieb had visited several divisions. She attempted to simplify the budget picture, saying each division was prioritizing its own reductions based on a 20% reduction to the 2010-2011 allocation to their division. She noted that it is likely many divisions will reduce course offerings which will greatly impact part time faculty and overload assignments. Divisions should be considering all areas of their budgets; B budget and A budget. Rowena Tomaneng emphasized that alternate funding such as grants are being investigated. She also asserted that we have a strong shared governance structure for which we should be grateful. She encouraged the faculty to participate in the process whenever the opportunity arises to speak out for their students’ needs. The item ended with a discussion about the complex relationship between maintaining enrollment and planning to cut enrollment. The timing of the current predicament suggests that the college would be wise to try to reach the current enrollment cap.

V. Proposed General Education Changes: Anderson walked the group through his recommendations for action April 25th. These recommendations were based on a large amount of thoughtful input from faculty across the campus. The cross currents of feedback, much of it negative, will prompt Anderson to recommend no change in the mission portion of General Education (Part III). Although there was some controversy over the library orientation portion of the proposed information literacy requirement (Part II), he was prepared to recommend adoption. There appeared to be widespread support for name and description changes for Area E (Part I).

VI. ASCCC Plenary Outcomes: Most of the positions announced prior to the session were upheld during the voting on resolutions April 16th. The most contentious debates were regarding repeatability of certain courses. Setziol turned out to be the De Anza point person speaking against multiple resolutions seeking
to end or severely curtail repeatability and characterized it as very arduous and disappointing to debate colleagues casually willing to make debilitating changes for faculty and students in areas other than their own.

VII. Faculty Responsibilities in a Disaster: Randy Bryant distributed and spoke to a handout outlining faculty responsibilities during a disaster. Perhaps most arresting was the reminder that the responsibility is both philosophical and very real in that all faculty, as public employees, have signed an oath to carry out duties during disasters and other emergencies.

VIII. Good of the Order: Julie Lewis was introduced as a new Senator representing Intercultural and International Studies.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30