The De Anza Academic Senate
Approved Notes of the meeting of
February 14th, 2011


Senators and Officers Absent: Annen, Betlach, Hertler,

DASB: Ali Masood
Classified Senate:
Administrative Liaison:
Guests: Laurel Torres (FA), Juile Ceballos, Byron Lily, Fred Sherman, Edmundo Norte
SLO coordinators/Staff Development: Jackie Reza
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 after a description of the approach to the day’s agenda by Anderson. The notes of the meeting of February 7th were approved as distributed. [Note: After the meeting, Setziol saw minor editing suggestions by Stockwell which were easily incorporated.]

II. Needs and Confirmations: Karen Chow was confirmed for service as the Basic Skills Initiative Coordinator. Michelle Fritz, Byron Lilly, Dan Salah, and Sandra Spencer were confirmed for service on the Business Instructor Search and Selection Committee. The need for an additional faculty member or two for the Diversity Coordinator Search and Selection Committee was announced. Senators were asked to solicit volunteers and get volunteers to submit a simple one paragraph statement to Anderson by February 22nd as to why they want to serve.

III. Vice President and President’s Reports: Anderson reported that the first Forum on general Education and SB1440 Implementation was well attended and went well. He mentioned that several departments appear to be ready or very close to being ready to sign on to a Transfer Model Curriculum for an Associate for Transfer in their discipline. He mentioned the possibility of perhaps as many as
six being ready for Fall and the hope for many more to follow since it may be an important way to attract students to the college in the future. A question was raised as to how high school students would know about this. The answer given was that it was a little premature to be moving on this before we had any degree ready to go but that the point was a good one. Anderson highlighted where information about General Education and SB 1440 could be found on the Academic Senate website and that there will be a special page for SB 1440 Implementation information. An appeal was made for all abbreviations and acronyms to be spelled out somewhere on the website material. The topic then turned to enrollment and suggestions made on how faculty can help. Senators were asked to facilitate getting the faculty in their areas to entertain the recommendations to look for ones they may be willing to take on. Next, Anderson iterated some of the items on the agenda of the most recent meeting of the District Academic and Professional Matters committee. “Active Attendance” definition (especially for distance learning courses), putting dismissal and or probation on student transcripts, and adoption of the WF grading mark were all explained and said to be in early stages of discussion. Anderson also asked Senators to recruit a new Part Time Faculty Senator to replace Jennifer James, who Anderson thanked for her service.

IV. Course Studio Rollout: Julie Ceballos distributed and presented two documents outlining Course Studio and a testing period during which faculty are encouraged to try out this new system facilitating online communication among the students and between an instructor and the students in a particular class. There is a workshop scheduled for March 10th.

V. Tech Task Force Update: Byron Lilly gave the group an update including its history and transition to a new charge. He also spoke to clarify the relationships among and relative roles of the Tech Task Force, a De Anza group, and the Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC), a Central Services group.

VIII. District Tech Update: Fred Sherman, District Vice Chancellor for Technology, was present and described the situation facing the District technology services people. There are many more projects proposed than time and personnel can address, forcing the District entity to focus on the larger, higher priority projects. Therefore, a new process is being developed wherein a “College Review Authority” on both campuses will bring recommendations which will join any Central Services recommendations to be prioritized and ordered accordingly.

VII. DARE Update: Karen Chow from the Developmental and Readiness Education Taskforce (DARE) distributed a bulletin from that group and very briefly asked for the support of the Executive Committee.
VI. Resolution on Democracy: Anderson introduced the item, reminding the group that a resolution, by its nature came as a motion already moved and seconded and announced that the item was a first reading. Stockwell and Beckum spoke briefly and there were a few comments in support with none in opposition. It was pointed out that costs associated with participation in events regarding “The Democracy Commitment” would be paid for by the national organization sponsoring this initiative.

IX. Long Term Institutional Planning: Edmundo Norte was present and introduced an exercise which was immediately engaged in the group. Working in small groups, the Senators and officers and guests engaged three questions relating to approaching the near future with its severe budget prospects while keeping a perspective of the longer term mission of the college. Response to the process was positive. Concern was expressed about the wording of one of the questions since it seemed to predict a particular future, limit the scope of discussion, and presupposed fundamental decisions about budget shortfall solutions which have not been presented.

X. Good of the Order: Trang Nguyen announced a climate change event scheduled for February 23rd and a flyer promoting it was distributed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32