The De Anza Academic Senate
Approved Notes of the meeting of
November 1st, 2010

Senators and Officers present: Anderson, Hanna, James, Lathers, Lee-Wheat, Karst, Maynard, McNamara, Mello, Nickel, Pesano, Schaffer, Setziol, Stockwell, Swanner, Tao, and Yang
Senators and Officers Absent: Annen, Beckum, Botsford, Cruz, Glapion, Guevara, and Hertler

DASB: Ali Masood  Classified Senate:
Administrative Liaison: Rich Schroeder and Rowena Tomaneng  Guests: none
SLO coordinators/Staff Development: Toño Ramirez and Mary Pape
Curriculum Co Chair: Anu Khanna

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

I. Approval of Agenda and Notes: The agenda was approved as distributed with the addition of an Item IIIb, Courses Into Disciplines and FSAs. The notes of the meeting of October 25th were approved with correction of the attendance portion.

II. Needs and Confirmations: Becky Roberts, Jen Mhyre and Jim Nguyen were confirmed for service on the DARE taskforce.

IIIa. Vice President’s and President’s Reports: Anderson presented a list of resolution titles listed as being under consideration for the Fall Session of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) and referred Senators to the ASCCC website for the full texts of those resolutions. Any that seem of interest can be discussed at the November 8th meeting. Anderson and Lee-Wheat reported on a fund balance expenditure proposal by the Campus Budget Committee. Given the large amount of money involved, the Executive Committee had numerous questions about process, proposals, and decision making. In response to a question, Anderson said the monies available for discussion did not include the $2.3 unexpected money for the District in the state budget. Anderson was asked to provide more specific information in particular about the definitions and conditions involved with the $800,000 proposed to go to the college President. The group turned its attention once again to the classified staffing situation and “Escrow I” and “Escrow II” and Anderson laid out the complex situation. Anderson ended the item by reiterating that the Senators should review the budget proposal and, if discussion at the November 8th meeting
revealed the need, someone will need to represent the group at the College Council meeting November 11th in the absence of all three officers.

IIIb. Courses Into Disciplines and FSAs Report: Setziol called for the Counseling, Library, and Applied Technologies reports and asked several questions of process and contents. [NOTE: At the end of the meeting, the Counseling and Library reports were turned in. ALSO NOTE: Child Development, Social Sciences, and Special Education are due November 8th]

IV. Report from Curriculum Committee: Anu Khanna presentation began with an introduction of the Curriculum Committee website and an iteration of data regarding the work of the committee in 2009-2010. She then turned to a reminder of a shift in the deadlines for five year review approved by the Executive Committee several years ago which calls for submission of revised course outlines in the spring quarter rather than the fall. This is the year for full implementation.

Next, Khanna spoke about integrating SLOs into the course outline and curriculum review process and looking for the alignment (or lack thereof) of those SLOs with stated Course Objectives, Assignments, and Methods of Evaluation. Responses by the committee to initiators about SLOs are recommendations and not requirements for approval of curriculum.

She then turned her attention to the review of General Education currently in process and once again reminded the Executive Committee that it has complete responsibility for the remaining work. The changes first proposed in May, 2010 were projected on the screen in the room and there was increasing interest in discussion of it throughout the remaining available time.

The main point emphasized by Khanna was that the committee, working over three years, had reviewed the General Education requirements with the purpose of simplifying and clarifying the overall descriptive text of each General Education Area in light of the new Institutional Core Competencies (ICCs). The underlying reasoning was to help students and readers from the public to understand what a student would be learning as a result of taking courses in a specific Area. It was further explained that if the consensus of the faculty was to accept the new overall descriptions of each Area, the Academic Senate would be responsible for ensuring that further delineation of the descriptions would be laid out in the future. Several people voiced a concern about the fact that the concepts of “hands on” and “activities” were proposed for elimination. Khanna responded that there had been no intent to eliminate the concept, that the contents of broader new or remaining general statements were intended to include the concepts contained in stricken
language, and that modifications could be made or, if more appropriate, included in yet to be added language aimed at being more implementable detail.

A second topic was the proposal for a new requirement of Information Literacy.

A third topic presented by Khanna was that all prerequisites and corequisites listed on course outlines will now be enforced as of Fall 2011. Because of this, faculty are encouraged to reconsider existing requisites. If they wish to eliminate one or change a requisite to an advisory, the committee will be looking for concomitant changes in course content or methodology. There is a January 26th deadline for proposing changes and to establish processes for “clearing” existing or newly proposed requisites. A description of the process should be available to students and the college will need to determine the best way to do this college wide.

V. State Senate Resolutions: Anderson told the group to look at the resolutions on the ASCCC website and contact the officers if they or the group they represent wish to have an Executive Committee discussion of any of them Monday, November 8th.

VI. Local Governance Resolution: Stockwell distributed and presented a draft resolution calling for the College Council to review and produce a description of shared governance processes and decision making at De Anza. He asked for feedback. There was some preliminary feedback but more work needs to be done on the language of the resolution prior to serious consideration by the group. No one spoke in opposition to the basic concept of review and description.

VII. SLO Update: The item was held over.

VIII. For the Good of the Order: Anderson encouraged voting in the election November 2nd.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.