

**Pierce College Academic Senate
Minutes of February 13, 2006
College Services Conference Room**

Members Present: B. Adajian, B. Benne, J. Binsley, P. Brown, J. Cohen, R. Follett, I. Goodman, B. Hart, G. Hobbs, K. Holland, C. Kocs, L. Koller, D. Levine, B. Logan, S. McHargue, M. Moran, K. Oborn, B. Odello, R. O'Neill, D. Phoenix, C. Rooney, J. Rosenberg, T. Rosdahl, S. Schneider, D. Schutzer, P. Stein, L. Thouin, M. Weiser

Guests Present: C. Kozeracki, M. Pracher, A. White, B. Garber, E. McCormick

The meeting was **called to order** at 2:18 pm by Barrie Logan. The **agenda** was adopted by consensus. The **minutes** of December 5, 2005 were approved by consensus with one change by Pam Brown to reflect her contribution to the discussion about Myspace.com in the library.

Treasurer's Report—David Schutzer

We now have 79 paying members. In addition to dues, this academic year faculty members have donated \$670 for the scholarship fund.

Introductions – Barrie Logan introduced David Phoenix, a new at-large senator and Abraham White, the new ASO representative.

Bob Garber, the new president of Pierce College, was with the college for 20 years as a faculty member and administrator. He has been away for 9 years and we are happy to welcome him back.

College Administration Report—Bob Garber

- President Garber introduced himself and commented on some of the things he has seen in the two weeks he has been at Pierce.
- He attended the Chancellor's cabinet meeting last Friday. We are the only college with enrollment growth; right now we are up 1 percent in headcount and 1 ½ in FTES. We will have to decide whether to claim the growth in this year, which will raise our base and have to grow again in the next year. He is leaning toward this idea because that will give us additional funds to offer more courses to students.
- The process of hiring a new VP of Academic Affairs has been initiated. The goal is to have a permanent person in place by July 1.
- We have been asked to shift Graduation Day to June 7 because June 6 is an election day. A decision will be made soon.
- His main areas of concern are about:
 - Accreditation
 - SLO's
 - Student Success Initiative (from Rocky's office) A consultant from Valencia College (Florida) is being brought in to do a workshop on their model program. It will affect the way in which student service building is designed to help students.

Articulation Officer/Transfer Center Director—Elizabeth McCormick (see attachments)

Courses Offered on a Credit/No Credit Basis

Why are some courses not offered as Credit/No credit? Elizabeth did a survey of other colleges and many colleges (such as Pasadena City College) offer that as an option for all courses. At Pierce it's a department decision; there is a list in the Schedule of Classes of these classes available for Credit/No credit.

Phil Stein: Anthropology 101 and 102 are not offered that way because a student taking them, who later decides to major in anthropology would have to retake the course for a grade.

There was additional discussion about the rationale for different departments' policies.

Elizabeth feels it is advantageous for the student to have the option of taking credit/no credit classes as a strategy for keeping the GPA up. She will make a list of those disciplines that are not on the list of Credit/No credit classes. Any changes in this regard need to go through curriculum committee.

Accreditation Standard II. Student Learning Programs & Services A. Instructional Programs 1.C.—

Mark Pracher

- The institution identifies student learning outcomes for courses, programs, certificates, and degrees; assesses student achievement of those outcomes; and uses assessment results to make improvements.

Q. What student learning outcomes has the institution identified for its courses, its programs, its certificates, its degrees?

Richard Follett: We have identified the General Goals of the College.

Betty Odello: The department of Philosophy and Sociology has used these General Goals to redo the course outlines of record.

Beth Benne: The health office has identified cardio-vascular health as an important learning area for all students with which they come into contact. But they are uncomfortable with giving this information to those who have come in for other health problems.

Colleen Rooney: The Counseling Dept. is working on how to assess the outcomes of the individual counseling session.

- How and by whom are student learning outcomes and strategies for attaining them created? How and by whom are student learning outcomes and program outcomes assessed? How are the results used for improvement?
- Are student learning outcomes verifiably at the collegiate level? What assessments are in place for measuring these outcomes? How effectively are the assessments working?
- What dialogues have occurred about using assessment results to guide improvements to courses, programs, etc?

Q. What improvements have resulted?

Speech and Political Science have done these assessments.

Jennifer Rosenberg: The Speech Dept randomly chose students from each of their classes assessing them on three functions. They determined that the students needed more instruction on the research component. They will formally document the changes in the outcomes.

Mark Kay Moran: The nursing outcomes are linked to the State Board test results. They have instituted more computerized instruction, more instructor changes, grant funding for additional instructional modes.

Barrie Logan: The political science dept identified civic involvement as a key component of their courses. All sections are offering extra credit to students who take a service learning class doing voter registration.

Kathy Oborn: SLOs in Criminal Justice were based on State standards for CSU's.

Pam: Economics SLOs have been developed in connection with CSUN. They have started by doing Econ 1.

- Old Business
Update: State Senate Recommendation Regarding English & Math Requirements for Associate Degree
The State Senate recommends that the requirements be raised. (See possible timeline in handout.) The CIO's are opposed, but in all previous cases the Board of Governors has followed the recommendation of the state senate.

Pierce College Council— Pam Brown, Greg Gilbertson, Tom Rosdahl, M. Weiser

- Our college budget is in great shape and continues to grow. (We have a surplus.)
- A new position for Vice President of College Development has been approved. Tom Oliver will fill that position. He will oversee the “Enterprise Division” – Bookstore, food, Pierce Foundation and fundraising, etc.
- Two bond construction Task Forces have been merged: North of Mall and South of Mall. This new mall renovation task force will need representatives from various departments. Be prepared to volunteer.
- Block grant applications will need to be more carefully and fully completed in the future. Incomplete applications will be returned to the departments for completion.
- We will be prioritizing remaining bond projects this spring.
- A PCC charter revision task force is being planned.
- The next PCC meeting is February 24.

Academic Policy—Izzy Goodman

- 5 new faculty members were hired in the Fall; 8 new faculty members were hired to start this spring semester. We also have 6 long term subs currently on campus and 1 tenured faculty member who was an administrative transfer from Mission.
- We are in the process of setting up a mentoring program; this will be tenured faculty outside of the department. The mentors will be paid according to the contract. We had a meet and greet before the semester started. It will be an ongoing process.

Curriculum—Lyn Koller

Decentralization – How much control does one college have over the offerings of another? The District Curriculum Committee is discussing whether there should be a veto or challenge power – which does not exist now. What if another campus were to offer a class that would take students away from our courses?

Constance Kocs: If given a choice between yes and no then she votes “no”; there should not be a veto power.

Educational Planning Committee—Izzy Goodman, Colleen Rooney

They had a productive last meeting; a model for the master plan has been accepted and a consultant has been hired as a facilitator for the document. A sub-committee has been formed, named the student success committee, its focus is to design help for under-prepared students, analyzing the services currently offered for students. 2 long term subs are currently working in the Learning Center until next fall when 2 tenure track faculty members will be hired.

Professional Ethics—Betty Odello

They will be meeting soon

Professional Development—Kathy Oborn

The term of all committee members has expired. Professional growth and development should be involved in the Mentoring program.

Technology Management Committee—Jill Binsley, Gail Hobbs

They met in December; Gail will bring her notes next time.

New Business

LACCD Board Rules 1204-1204.14, *Code of Ethics* (see attachment). All campuses must have a code by March 1, 2006. Pierce has a code of ethics; the DAS has a code of ethics. What if there is a

conflict? It is unclear which has primacy. The Board rule was passed with less than a month before deadline.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Levine