
RIO HONDO COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE**AGENDA****October 21, 2008****Board Room****1:00 p.m.**

Present: Frank Accardo, Lupe Alvarade, Robin Babou, Robert Bethel, Ada Pullini Brown, Brian Brutlag, Marie Eckstrom, Jennifer Fernandez, Thersa Freije, Rebecca Green, Jorge Huinquez, Mike Javanmard, Melissa Rifino Juarez, Doreen Kaller, Barbara Keith, Matt Koutroulis, David Lindy, Mark Littrell, Juana Mora, Jennette Noriega, Catherine Page, Vann Priest, Gil Puga, Beverly Reilly, Lisette Rhi, Barbara Salazar, Henry Saucedo, Kendra Seiler, Jody Senk, Lorraine Sfeir, Shelly Spencer, Gisela Spieler-Persad, Julius Thomas, Bianca Urquidi, John Whitford,

Absent: John Frala, Alfred Forest, Jim Zaharek

Guests: Loretta Cannel-Bailes, Jim Newman

I. Call to Order

President Reilly called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

III. President's ReportAccreditation Report

- President Reilly reported that the WASC team wanted to know how Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), Program Review (PR), and institutional planning are interconnected, how they are assessed, and to whom they report. The college is striving toward this interconnected goal: the SLO process and Program Review are new processes and are in the developmental stages. With Strategic Planning in process as well, that goal should be met.

Board of Trustees Retreat

- The Board of Trustees had a retreat on Saturday, October 18, 2008. It was reported that the Board reviewed the Brown Act, the Code of Ethics, and evaluation for CEOs and administrators. They plan to discuss a new policy about CEO selections
- Local Senates' Visit to Rio Hondo College
- On Saturday, October 18, 2008 the Rio Hondo College Senate hosted representatives from out local community college senates to discuss common concerns. One major topic of discussion was the fact that there are 41 new community college presidents in the state this year. Other topics of discussion included Brown Act compliance and SLOs for facilities services (which is termed Administrative Services Outcomes, ASOs).

Board of Governors

- The application due date for the California State Senate Board of Governors has passed.

Bellweather Outstanding Programs Award

- There is a call for application for the 2008 Outstanding Program Award. See President Reilly for more information.

Electric Power Shut Down Scheduled

- There will be an electric power shut down on campus from Thursday, December 18, 2008 to Friday, January 2, 2009. We are switching over to a new electrical system.

Mascot and Logo Task Force

- There is a new task force specifically to investigate the uses (or misuses) of the Rio Hondo College mascot (roadrunner) and logo (wavy river lines). Susan Herney, Director of Marketing, is working on this.

IV. Old Business

Virtual College Task Force Report

- The ad hoc Virtual College Investigative Task Force met today (10/21/08) for the first time. The discussion focused on bylaws, standards, organizational rules, technical support, and training. Instructors often have questions that the technical support staff cannot answer; thus, it was suggested that there be a designated instructor to answer such questions. The Virtual College needs to have a definitive mission, vision, charge, and bylaws. December 5, 2008, is the target date for completion of these tasks.
- There are three VC committees at this point: Distance Ed, Virtual College, and the ad hoc task force. These three committees will merge into one committee, and it is expected to be brought to the Senate before December 5, 2008.

Articulation Concerns

- Loretta Canett-Bailes, Rio's Articulation Officer reported to the Senate her findings concerning four-year institution's acceptances of our online courses. She distributed a sheet detailing the following points:
 1. Presently, online oral communication courses are excluded California State University system breadth transfer.
 2. Presently, online science labs that are already approved for online delivery may continue to offer them in this mode, and they will be accepted in transfer.
 3. Presently, the University of Southern California (USC) does not accept any online foreign language courses, nor do they accept any online science courses with labs.

Basic Skills

- The Associate Dean position under Basic Skills has been flown.

Printing on Campus

- There has been no further action in this regard.

Recycling

- The Associated Student Body (ASB) vice president is interested in talking about this issue.

V. New Business

VI. Committee Reports

A. Academic Rank: Gisela Speiler reports that the Academic Rank Committee will accept application for academic rank until November 15, 2008.

B. Bookstore. No report.

C. Curriculum. Jennette Noriega reports that the December 3, 2008, is the deadline for submission of courses to the Curriculum Committee for fall 2009. Please refer to the Curriculum website for appropriate forms. Many departments are asking about the deadline for degree applications. There is no definitive deadline at this point, but departments are urged to complete the process as soon as possible.

D. FLEX. Katie O'Brien reports that staff development applications for grants are due on November 24, 2008. There will be a reflections staff development session on November 14, 2008 at the Clark Estate. Please refer to the website for specific details on all aspects of staff development and FLEX.

E. MIS. Mike Javanmard reports that the new MIS will have portals to ask students to do surveys. The system will "go live" in winter 2010

F. SLOs. Matt Koutroulis reports that SLOs are in the "developmental stage," and that SLOs should be operated by committee (a Learning Outcomes Committee), much like the Curriculum Committee. He also reports that standardized testing is a very real possibility in the not-so-distant future.

G. State Awards. Belen Torres-Gil will forward the information of state awards to the Senate.

H. Virtual College. Jim Newman reported that online courses were accessed by the WASC Accreditation team. Blackboard is beta testing several models of authentication of online students. And Jim Newman resigns his position as Chair of the Virtual College as of the end of the semester.

VII. Announcements

- Sabbatical applications are due by October 31, 2008. According to the Faculty Contract, the college can award up to five sabbaticals.

- Applications for teaching abroad in the spring in London are due on October 31, 2008.

VIII. Public Comments

IX. Adjournment

- President Reilly adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.