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**RIO HONDO COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE****MINUTES****November 4, 2008****Board Room****1:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Frank Accardo, Lupe Alvarado, Robin Babou, Robert Bethel, Brian Brutlag, Marie Eckstrom, Jennifer Fernandez, John Frala, Theresa Freije, Rebecca Green, Jorge Huinquez, Make Javanmard, Melissa Rifino-Juarez, Doreen Kaller, Barbara Keith, Matt Koutroulis, David Lindy, Juana Mora, Catherine Page, Vann Priest, Gil Puga, Beverly Reilly, Lisette Rhi, Barbara Salazar, Henry Saureda, Kendra Seiler, Jody Senk, Lorraine Sfeir, Shelly Spencer, Julius Thomas, Bianca Urquidi,

**Absent:** Ada Brown, Alfred Forest, Mark Littrell, Gisela Spieler, John Whitford, Jim Zaharek

**Guests:** Katie O'Brien, Jennette Noriega, Adam Wetsman

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

A correction to the minutes included removing Alyson Cartegena's name from the "Absent" members, as she is replaced for this semester by Blanca Urquidi. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**III. President's Report**

- **IEC:** An Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC) is being formed, subject to final approval by the Planning Fiscal Council (PFC). The IEC's specific duties and responsibilities will be fleshed out by a subcommittee of the PFC, but generally speaking the IEC will consider the information submitted by Program Review, Unit Plans, Facilities, and other institutional reports and documents; the IEC will then report back to the PFC with recommendations. The IEC will consist of three faculty, three administrators, three classified, and student positions.
- **Rapid Response Committee:** An accreditation response team is being formed to address the recommendations meaning from the WASC report.
- **WASC Exit Report Summary:** The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) exit summary report is now available.
- **Earthquake Drill:** There will be a statewide earthquake drill on Thursday, November 13, 2008, starting at 9:50 and will continue until noon. Everyone will receive information in their mailboxes concerning this event. The information will include what everyone's role and responsibilities will be.

- Campus Presence on Sundays and Holidays: President Reilly reported that if a faculty member comes to campus on a Sunday or holiday, s/he should inform the appropriate supervisor, manager, or dean. Discussion ensued; President Reilly will clarify this issue and report back to the Senate with specific directives.
- Area C SLO Assessment and Accreditation: Catherine Page (Nursing Department) reported that the nursing program could be expanded significantly in the future due to the increase in demand for health care professionals, such as dental hygienist, OB/GYN technician, surgical technician, and the like. However, such expansion is currently hindered by the limitations of the nursing department's current physical plant facilities. Ms. Page will address the Board of Trustees at the Wednesday, November 12, 2008, meeting on this issue.

#### IV. Old Business

- Committees Under the Academic Senate:

**MOTION: It was moved that the Academic Senate clarifies committees that fall under its purview as outlined in 10+1 to include but not be limited to the following: Curriculum Committee, Learning Outcomes Committee, Virtual College, and Program Review.** Rufino-Juarez.

Motion Tabled.

- Basic Skills: The assistant dean position will soon be opened outside the campus. A question about retreat rights for non-tenured faculty who may be interested in the dean position was asked. The contract does not specify that such a situation would be possible.
- Recycling: Dave Lindy reported that he is meeting with ASB representatives to form a combined campus-wide recycling effort.

#### V. New Business

- SLO Assessment Workshop: Leslie Kawaguchi, Area C representative and assessment/SLO expert will be coming to Rio Hondo on Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 1 p.m. She will address the WASC areas regarding SLOs that need attention. The location of the workshop is not yet determined.
- Area C Pre-Plenary Report: The California statewide Academic Senate Plenary meeting will occur on Thursday, November 6 through Saturday, November 8, 2008, at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. Every college sends a delegate to vote on resolutions. Our delegate, Melissa Rufino-Juarez, briefly explained the contentious resolutions and provided the Senate with a link for further explanations and commentaries. The Senate advised Ms. Rufino-Juarez on their consensus votes.

- Program Review: Marie Eckstrom briefly explained that program review has almost completed its task for the academic year. She indicated that this committee should be under the purview of the Academic Senate as it deals directly with academic issues.
- Academic Dishonesty: President Reilly reported that an incident from Pasadena City College resulted in a California decision that if a student cheats on “something” that s/he cannot be failed for the entire course as a result. The statewide academic senate is proposing a resolution to deal with this issue. The crux of the issue deals with the definition of “egregious” cheating. This is an issue that must be clarified.
- Umoja Project: Julius Thomas briefly spoke in favor of supporting this project for equity and diversity, which is similar to the Puente Project. The Umoja Project is specifically targeted toward African American students, with an objective to improving their completions and transfer rates. He urged us to support beginning such a project on our campus.

## VI. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Rank No report.
- B. Bookstore No report.
- C. Curriculum Jennette Noriega asks that all curriculum forms be submitted as soon as possible; there are three meetings remaining in the semester.
- D. FLEX No report.
- E. MIS No report.
- F. SLOs No report.
- G. State Awards No report.
- H. Virtual College No report.

## VII. Announcements

- Adam Wetsman reported for the Faculty Association on bargaining. that the district wants to change one aspect of faculty evaluation. This consists of the fact that the Academic Senate must be consulted. The district proposal is to have procedure so that administration is able to evaluate tenured faculty. Currently we have a peer review every three years. But the District asserts that extraordinary events occur which sometimes results in tenured faculty no longer performing up to standard. Their proposal is that upon determination of the supervising administrator they would intervene and evaluate the faculty member as if there were a first-year contract member.

The Rio Hondo College Academic Senate unanimously supports our current faculty evaluation process and are against any proposed changes to the existing policy.

**VIII. Public Comments**

None.

**IX. Adjournment**

President Reilly adjourned the Academic Senate meeting at 2:28 p.m.