
Rio Hondo College Academic Senate
Minutes
October 5, 2010
Board Room
1:00 p.m.

Present: Lupe Alvarado; Frank Accardo; Robin Babou; Ada Brown; Brian Brutlag; Tom Callinan; Fran Cummings; Joaquin Duran; Marie Eckstrom; John Frala; Alonso Garcia; Lydia Gonzalez; Rebecca Green; Dale Harvey; Jorge Huinquez; George Kimber; Matt Koutroulis; Kathy Lopez; Shin Liu; James Matthis; Juana Mora; Daniel Osman; Catherine Page; Vann Priest; Kathy Pudelko; Angela Rhodes; Henry Saucedo; Lorraine Sfeir; Gisela Spieler-Persad; Ralph Velazquez; Adam Wetsman; John Whitford

Absent: Katherin Brandt; Alfred Forrest; Mike Hinze; Mike Javanmard; David Lindy; Matthew Pitassi

Guests Manual Baca; Katie O'Brien; Colin Young

I. Call to Order

- The Senate was called to order at 1:03 pm.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- The minutes were approved as presented.

III. President's Report

- Stakeholder Meeting: A meeting designed to improve relations and communication among college stakeholders took place last Friday, October 1, 2010. Representation from Administration, RHCFA, Senate Exec, Classified, and Confidential participated. A follow-up meeting is planned.
- El Paisano Letter: Senate Exec will publish a letter to students regarding the financial aid issue.
- Task Force from Senate Regarding Grading Policies and Retention of Tests: Prior to implementation of Banner, all grade records that were submitted to Admissions and Records were stored. Because instructors are no longer submitting hard copies of grades, questions of vulnerability are being brought forward. The Senate feels impelled to intervene on this issue and make formal recommendations on time limits for grade changes, grade

challenges, the time limit for the “rolling” of grades, and the “housing” of grade ‘hard copy data.’”

- Board of Trustees/Academic Presentation: Computer Information Technology (CIT) and Virtual College (VC) have offered to present their programs at a future board meeting. All academic divisions, department, and programs are encouraged to showcase their programs for the Board of Trustees.

IV. Committee Reports

- Academic Rank: The first e-mail soliciting applications for advancement in academic rank has been issued. The deadline is November 15, 2010.
- Bookstore: Please refer questions concerning the bookstore to Catherine Page.
- Curriculum: The deadline to make submissions in the Catalog Addendum has passed; anything submitted from now will be available in next fall’s edition of the Catalog. AB1440 has been signed into law and legislates the formation of transfer degree. It does not permit any local requirements, and this may affect Physical Education and Reading. Interpretations of the law are forthcoming, but the law takes effect in fall 2011.
- FLEX/Staff Development: Reports will be issued in October.
- IEC: The deadline for Program Plans is Oct. 22, 2010.
- MIS: There will be a pilot test for the new portal very soon; those who have volunteered to participate will be contacted soon. Elizabeth Corea explained that 25 years of data, from 1985 to the present were moved into Banner causing some problems. For example, degrees that were previously offered but are no longer offered caused glitches and inconsistencies.
- Safety: All the meetings for the year have now been set; they will occur on the third Tuesday of the month including Intercession and summer.
- Program Review: All Program Reviews will occur during the month of November.
- SLOs: Next Thursday’s meeting will focus on quality control issues. Currently 98% of active courses have SLOs. Fourteen hundred sections have reported data. The follow-up Accreditation Report is largely about SLOs.

MOTION The Academic Senate moves to accept the follow-up Accreditation Report. It further commends and thanks Matt Koutroulis, Katie O'Brien, and Joanna Downey for their efforts compiling the report. (Julius Thomas, Gisela Spieler-Persad, MSPU)

- Virtual College: The VC has changed its website and added another page. There will be three days of training in October.

V. Unfinished Business

- Distance Education Task Force (Instructional Technology Council ITC): Continues to be tabled.

VI. New Business

- Library AV Materials: The library has been told to delete and discard all audio-visual material that is not closed captioned. The Senate wants a committee to investigate the matter, inform all affected parties, and evaluate the best method(s) to address the law concerning this issue.

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Academic Senate proposes the formation of a faculty Audio-Visual Task Force to investigate, confer, and evaluate Library media holdings before they are destroyed and/or removed from permanent circulation. (Matt Koutroulis; Joaquin Duran; MSUP)

A Task Force to investigate the proposed library audio-visual collection to be discarded is to be formed. Volunteers include Catherine Page, Joaquin Duran, Frank Accardo, and Robin Babou.

- Maximum Number of Units Students Can Take: Currently we do not have policy on the number of units a student can enroll in during a given semester. The current practice is to obtain a counselor's signature if a student requests more than 18 units. Henry Gee and Judy Pearson have set the limit at 26. This limit is problematic for several reasons: (1) the Fire Academy has changed to 24 units (one class); and (2) a lecture course presumes two hours of outside of class study for each one hour of class lecture. Perhaps certain exceptions may be made, but the Senate is asked to consider the "soundness" of such a practice. Consideration of writing a policy regarding this matter should entertained.

- CLEP: Last semester the Senate approved a standardized list of Advanced Placement (AP) courses for credit. Now we have a standardized College Level Examination Program (CLEP) list that needs to be addressed. Currently we use CLEP for Rio Hondo requirements; now it is permissible to use them for GE requirements. Divisions are asked to discuss this issue of accepting the CLEP scores.

VII. Announcements

- The Board of Governors will be addressing the issue of prerequisites in the near future. A full report will be given at the next Senate meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

- There were no public comments.

IX. Adjournment

- The Senate adjourned at 2:18 pm.