

Rio Hondo College Academic Senate**Minutes****April 5, 2011****Board Room****1:00 p.m.****I. Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 1: 04 p.m.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- The minutes were approved as submitted.

III. President's Report

- Presidential Gala: Although the final results are yet to be tabulated, the Gala is reported to have been a success. The President extends his thanks to all who attended and especially to those who contributed to the raffle baskets. Anne Turner, the current Foundation director, has accepted a position with another organization and will soon leave our employ.
- Employee Training: Training workshops in conflict resolution, supervision, and performance evaluation will soon be available by an outside provider through the Office of Human Resources. The workshops will be available to all employees. In addition, the Office of Human Resources is assembling a library of books, videos/DVDs, and other materials that may be of interest to college employees.
- Integrity and Civility Value Statement: The President is interested in adding "Integrity and Civility" statement to our current list of college values. The interest in such a statement is a result of proposed legislation. A "working statement" will be distributed to the Planning Fiscal Council (PFC).
- TAACCT Grant: Rio Hondo, in collaboration with other colleges, is currently working securing a two-part grant focusing on re-designed mathematics delivery and career training.
- Developmental Education/Completion Rates/Transfer: A task force, assembled via the Basic Skills Committee, is looking at possibilities to

re-design, accelerate, or otherwise accelerate students through the development of their basic skills in mathematics, composition, and reading. Future aims will do likewise in exploring ways to assist students in completion and transfer to four-year institutions.

- Invest in Community Colleges: As a result of recent negative editorial about community colleges published in the Pasadena Star News as well as other negative public press, Russell Castenada-Calleros will be initiating a letter writing campaign directed towards our elected officials, with the specific intent to increase public awareness of the value and contributions of the community college system.
- Leadership Academy: The first year of Rio's Leadership Academy is coming to a close. New recruits for the second year are encouraged to apply. Those who participated in this year's program report positive experience.
- Director of Grants and Management: This year Rio Hondo contracted with Sunguard for a grant writer, and although our experience has been good, the President believes that a full-time grant director would be more advantageous rather than continuing to subcontract this service.
- Budget Update: The financial situation on our campus is good; nevertheless, it is of utmost importance to have public opinion on the side of the community college and education in general.
- Construction/Facilities:
 1. The upper quad will be under construction until at least the first week of the fall semester.
 2. Construction caused mishaps resulting in utility disruption in the L-Tower.
 3. The Student Union/Services building will be completed by mid to late fall semester.
 4. A retaining wall bid is currently being solicited.
 5. The Administration of Justice construction is experiencing some delays due to sub contractor problems. Completion of the building is expected this summer.
 6. New campus-wide signage is expected to be completed this summer.
 7. The blue light and emergency phone system will be installed in every parking lot and some buildings.
 8. Speed bumps have been placed in various places on school drives,
 9. There are plans to re-stripe Lot C.

10. The Safety Committee will conduct a walking evaluation of a separate area on campus during each their meetings.
 11. The ride share survey will be issued in late April.
 12. New parking permits will be issued to faculty and staff in May.
 13. The work order system, transportation request process, and event request process are currently under (re)consideration for improved service.
- Accreditation: Our midterm WASC accreditation report is due in October.
 - Governance Manual: There will be a special President's Council meeting on Tuesday, April 12th to review the Governance Manual.

IV. Unfinished Business

- Faculty Hiring Committee Report: They will meet in early May.
- Co-Requisite Drops: All courses that have co-requisites will require a double drop; when a student drops one of the co-requisites, s/he will be prompted to drop the other as well.

V. New Business

- Julius Thomas reviewed the statewide resolutions that will be voted upon at Senate Plenary next week.

VI. Committee Reports

- Academic Rank: No report.
- Bookstore: No report.
- Curriculum: No report.
- FLEX/Staff Development: A Title V survey will be sent to faculty.
- IEC: No report.
- MIS: No report.
- Safety: No report.
- Program Review: No report.
- SLOs: No report.
- Virtual College: No report.

VII. Announcements

- There were no announcements.

VIII. Public Comment

- There were no public comments.

IX. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.