AS 2012-2013

Rio Hondo College Academic Senate
Minutes
October 16, 2012
Board Room
1:00 P.M.

Present: Alfred Forrest, Jon Whitford, John Frala, Fran Cummings, Shelley Spencer, Greg Miller, Robert Bethel, Juan Fernandez, Mariano Zaro, Beverly Reilly, Marie Eckstrom, Lorraine Sfeir, Ralph Vasquez, Jim Matthies, Kathy Lopez, Katherin Brandt, Kathy Pudelko, Joaquin Duran, Mike Javanmard, Brian Brutlag, Barbara Mikalson, Adam Wetsman, Dianne Holcomb, Dianna Reyes, Ron Reeder, Steve Mosher, Robin Babou, Carley Mitchell, George Kimber, Colin Young, Shirley Issac, Kimberly Mosley, Stephen Koelle,

Guests: Katie O’Brien, Tracy Rickman, Jennifer Fernandez

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President Adam Wetsman at 1:02 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes
The Minutes for October 2, 2012; approved with minor grammatical corrections.

II. President’s Report
• Dr. Wetsman presented the BP dealing with AB1725 numbered BP/AP 2510.
  • Questions were raised regarding “what constitutes an emergency situation?”
  • Dr. Wetsman replied that the BP and AP is based on the State law and the Executive committee did not change it because ‘it is beyond the power of the Senate’. Dr. Wetsman continued “our concern is with the Accreditation.”
  • The proposed AP was explained to the Senate as delineating between ‘Rely Primarily Upon’ and ‘Mutually Agreed’. It was also noted that Rio Hondo College has been a mutually agreed school. The classification for AP2510 was as follow:
    1. Curriculum, including the establishment of prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines as Rely Primarily Upon
    2. Degree and Certificate requirement as Rely Primarily Upon
    3. Grading Policies as Rely Primarily Upon
    4. Educational program development as Rely Primarily Upon
    5. Standards regarding student preparation and success as Mutually Agreed
    6. Governance Structures as related to faculty roles as Mutually Agreed
    7. Faculty involvement in Accreditation as Mutually Agreed
    8. Policies for Faculty professional development activities as Mutually Agreed
    9. Policies for program review as Mutually Agreed
10. Process for institutional planning and budget development as Mutually Agreed
• Motion from Exec to forward these BP and AP to PFC.
  o Discussion clarifying some minor points.
  o **Motion Passed Unanimously**
• Reassign Time Proposal
  • Report from Subcommittee
    o The subcommittee consisting of Management Mike Slavic, VPI Kenn Pierson, RHCFA President Colin Young, and AS President Adam Wetsman studied various District Assigned Personal positions. All positions were deemed as crucial to the functioning of the college.
  • Governance Manual Proposal
    o There is a need for transparency in filling these positions, and the length of the term for these positions.
  • Motion from Exec to forward the proposal to be placed in the Governance Manual.
    o **Motion Passed Unanimously**
• Retention and Success
  • Dr. Wetsman educated the Senate on the definition of Retention and Success. He encouraged the Senators to educate faculty in their Divisions.
    o Retention = ABCDF/# of Students at Second Census
    o Success = ABC/# of Students at Second Census
• BP 4040
  • President Wetsman reported that he has learned that all BP and AP in the 4000 series need to come to the Academic Senate
  • Therefore BP 4040 was presented to the Senate
  • **Accepted Unanimously**
• Code of Ethics
  • Dr. Wetsman updated the Senate on the AP dealing with the Code of Ethics.
  • There was a long discussion on this issue.
    o A past Senate President pointed out that the ACCJC is looking for a code of ethics and an AP that references it.
    o Others involved in these discussion during the last Accreditation visit verified this point of view.
  • The Senate instructed the President to keep the Code of Ethics in the Governance Manual and only reference it in an AP.
• President Wetsman reported that he had carried out the wishes of the Senate and has sent the letter (email) edited by the Senate regarding the presidential hiring policy. Only one Board member has replied thanking us ‘for the historical perspective’.
• The presidential timeline has moved up so we do not compete with other colleges.

III. Unfinished Business
IV. New Business

- Wild Land Fire
  - Guest Jennifer Fernandez and Tracy Rickman reported that the Police and Fire Academy cadets were exempted from the PE requirement in 2006 and they wish to extend this to students in the Wild Land Fire and the Correction program.
  - Motion to align the PE requirement for students in the Corrections and Wild Land Fire with the current Fire and Police Academy.
  - Discussion ensued
    - Question why wasn’t this done in 2006? Answer it was an oversight.
  - **Motion Passed Unanimously**

- Honors Proposal (Honor Coordinator Colin Young)
  - Honor Students need 6 Honor courses in order for them to be certified as having completed the honor courses. This holds back students in the fields of Science from being Certified by the Honors program which will give them an advantage in transferring. The Honors program wishes to use up to two of the more rigorous science courses when certifying students. This is accepted by UCLA and is being done at other schools. It was noted that our requirements at Rio Hondo are more rigorous because the students will have to pass these classes with a letter grade of B or better.
  - Motion: Student would be given Honors credit towards certification for successful completion with a grade of B or better for up to two of the following courses: Biology 200, Biology 201, Chemistry 130, Chemistry 131, Physic 211, Physic 212, Physic 213.
    - Discussion: There was some concern as to lower the quality of the honor program.
    - Honor Coordinator pointed out that these courses are designed for Biology, Chemistry, and Physic majors which have significant prerequisites and are more rigorous than the general science classes. Also it was stressed that Honors credit would NOT be granted if the student does not pass a letter grade of B or higher. Finally, the students is restricted up to two and will need another 4 honors courses before being certified.
    - The Motion Passed with 2 Opposed

VII. Committee Reports

- SLO: None.
- Academic Rank: Due November 13
- Bookstore: None
- Curriculum:
- Professional Development/FLEX:
- IEC:
• ITC:
• MIS/Enterprise:
• Safety: The Great Shake Out on October 18 at 10:18 a.m.. Also the safety committee is looking at the Blue Light system.
• Program Review: No report

VI: **Announcements:** Javanmard encouraged faculty to phone bank for proposition 30 on October 24.

VII: **Public Comment:**

VIII: **Adjournment**
• The meeting was adjourned by President Wetsman at 2:17 p.m.