
RIO HONDO COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE**Minutes****November 20, 2007****1:00-2:20 p.m.****Board Room**

Present: Frank Accardo, Robin Babou, Robert Bethel, Alyson Cartagena, John Frala, Theresa Freije, Claudia Guerrero, Mike Javanmard, Barbara Keith, Matt Koutroulis, Mark Littrell, Katie Louie, Katie O'Brien, Catherine Page, Michelle Pilati, Vann Priest, Gil Puga, Beverly Reilly, Melissa Rifino-Juarez, Barbara Salazar, Kendra Seiler, Jodi Senk, Lorraine Sfeir, Shelly Spencer, Jon Whitford, Jim Zaharek, Fran Cummings (Curriculum)

Absent: Lupe Alvarado, Gary Halvorson, Dale Harvey, Doreen Kaller, Barbara Mikalson, Henry Saucedo, Gisela Spieler-Persad, Julius Thomas, Jim Zaharek, Jim Newman (RHCFA)

Guests: Michael Dighera, Judy Pearson

- I. Call to Order: Academic Senate President Gil Puga convened the meeting at 1:04 p.m.
- II. Roll Call.
- III. Minutes of November 6, 2007: Corrections were submitted. The adjusted minutes were subsequently approved.
- IV. President's Report

Faculty Hiring: A number of questions have arisen in the discussion of the hiring policy with College administrators as to who is responsible for establishing the policy and the timeline for its implementation. President Gil Puga is reviewing a recent response from Dr. Martinez on the policy approved by the Academic Senate.

Education Master Plan and Institutional Goals: The Education Master Plan (EMP) Taskforce has met to review the draft EMP document presented in Planning Fiscal Council. Several concerns have emerged including (a) whether or not faculty have been included in the development of the document, (b) the seemingly rushed timeline of its production and review, and (c) the presence of multiple factual and grammatical errors. Puga has informed the document authors

that the Academic Senate will not endorse the document as it was not a product of shared governance. The EMP Taskforce will meet again in the next ten days. Any comments or suggested revisions to the document should be addressed to Puga as soon as possible

Program Review Advisory Committee: Marie Eckstrom will serve as co-chair on the committee. There is a need for one or two more faculty members on the committee. Faculty interested in serving should contact Jacqueline Nagatsuka and Gil Puga.

Director of Marketing: At least one additional faculty member is needed to serve on the hiring committee for this position. Those interested should contact Gil Puga.

Board Policies: Academic Senate will be reviewing the board policies in the 2000 series. These include Board Policies and Duties.

Bookstore: The manager of the Campus Bookstore will attend today's Planning Fiscal Council meeting. She may also be invited to a future Senate meeting. Any questions or comments regarding the bookstore should be addressed to Lorraine Sfeir.

V. New Business

A. Admissions and Records: Judy Pearson, Guest Speaker

Pearson spoke on a number of issues, including academic renewal and changes to Title V. Students are allowed to alleviate up to 30 units of academic work. At present, students at Rio Hondo College may be approved for renewal only once, regardless of the total number of units alleviated.

Pearson would like to adjust the policy so that students may undergo renewal multiple times, to a maximum of 30 units. At least 30 units of "standard grades" must be earned before the student would be allowed to alleviate any units. Concern was expressed by senators as to who must approve these and why students would not resolve these issues with a single renewal. Senators also discussed student accountability for grades and success.

Pearson addressed several changes to Title V. Beginning in Fall 2009, credit/no credit grading will be replaced by pass/no pass. The number of times students may repeat a course after earning a grade of "W" and still earn

funds for the College will increase from two to four. Students will be allowed to petition to count non-credit courses towards a degree.

Pearson expressed concern with the fact that many students register for courses, yet do not attend or pay for them, ultimately earning failing grades. She requested that the Senate encourage faculty to diligently complete drop rosters. She also discussed the possibility of dropping students who fail to pay registration fees from courses.

B. Basic Skills Initiative

The Basic Skills Committee has been reactivated. More faculty (especially from Mathematics) are needed to serve on the Committee. There will be a meeting on December 11 at 2:30 pm in the Board Room. Gail Chabran will chair the Committee.

C. Vice President Marilyn Brock

The Academic Senate recognized the contributions of Dr. Brock to Rio Hondo College.

Motion: The Academic Senate recognizes Marilyn Brock for her positive working relationships with the Senate through the following resolution:
Whereas, Marilyn Brock's superb leadership is demonstrated in both her own leadership ability and her ability to empower those around her to lead,
Whereas, Marilyn Brock leads with integrity,
Whereas, Marilyn Brock understands the diverse needs of Rio Hondo students and the flexibility with which faculty must schedule courses in order to meet those needs,
Whereas, Marilyn Brock understands and respects the various roles of faculty,
Whereas, Marilyn Brock listens to opposing viewpoints on issues of importance,
Whereas, Patience is a Virtue, and whereas Patience is required at Rio Hondo College, Marilyn Brock is hereby declared to be a Virtuous Woman, and
Resolved that the Academic Senate of Rio Hondo College express its gratitude and appreciation to Marilyn Brock for her outstanding leadership

while serving as the Interim Vice President of Academic Services, and wish her the best in all her future endeavors. (Bethel) **MSPU** (one abstention)

VI. New Business

A. Governance Manual

Suggestions have been received regarding establishment of roles. Any comments should be directed to Claudia Guerrero by December 3.

B. Student Learning Outcomes

The definition of “programs” for the development of program-level student learning outcomes was discussed. Programs have traditionally been defined by the program review process, although an alternative five-program model has been considered (including General Education, Basic Skills, Vocational Education, Student Services, and Non-Credit Courses). A compromise approach was discussed which would allow certain academic areas with similar purposes (e.g. Foreign Languages) to combine and produce collective program-level outcomes. This issue will continue to be discussed in the Learning Outcomes Committee.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum: The Rio Hondo College curriculum process has been lauded as a model by the Chancellor’s Office. The Committee has recently received a large number of course submissions from faculty. Deadlines for submissions may be moved to earlier points in the semester in future.

B. MIS: No report.

C. Virtual College: No report.

D. Academic Rank: Twenty-five requests for rank advancement have been received and are currently being reviewed.

E. Foundation: No report.

VIII. Announcements: None

IX. Public Comments: None.

X. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Puga/Koutroulis