

RIO HONDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT PLANNING FISCAL COUNCIL MINUTES Tuesday, November 28, 2017, 2:30 p.m., Board Room

Members Present: Laura M. Ramirez (Co-Chair and VPAA), Michelle Bean (Co-Chair and President, AS), Henry Gee (VPSS), Juana Mora (1st VP, AS), Jorge Huinquez (2nd VP, AS), Dorali Pichardo-Diaz (Secretary, AS), Shelly Spencer (Parliamentarian, AS), Mike Dighera (ASCCC Rep), Robert Bethel (Past President, AS), Jill Pfeiffer (President, RHCFA), Robin Babou (Faculty), Brian Brutlag (Faculty), Sandra Rivera (CSEA), Jim Sass (CSEA), Lisa Sandoval (CSEA), Martin Covarrubias (President, ASRHC), Bailey Garcia (Treasurer, ASRHC), Rebecca Green (Mgmt, AA), Mike Muñoz (Mgmt, SS)

Members Absent: Yulian Ligioso (VPFB), Michelle Pilati (Faculty), Jesus Colin (Secretary, ASRHC),

Additional Staff Members: Markelle Stansell (Senior Administrative Assistant to VPAA / Recorder), Howard Kummerman (Executive Dean, Institutional Research & Planning)

- I. **Call to Order** – Dr. Laura Ramirez called the meeting to order at 2:34pm.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – The November 14, 2017 minutes were approved as presented.
- III. **Superintendent/President’s Report** – President Dreyfuss updated PFC regarding upcoming improvements to the campus. A campus climate survey has revealed two concerns: the overall comfortability of room temperatures and upkeep of campus facilities (especially the restrooms), as well as campus services such as the Rio Café.

To improve the comfortability of the campus, we have recruited an engineering firm (KW Engineering) to inspect various HVAC structures and make recommendations. Improvements will be made using Prop 39 funds. We are going out for a bid and the funds must be encumbered by June 2018.

Regarding the services provided in the Rio Café, an initial request for proposal (RFP) went out and only one or two vendors responded. We extended the proposal submittal time frame and received five RFPs. A committee comprised of three faculty, three classified staff, three students, and three administrators served on the Food Service Committee and interviewed a total of four vendors. A vendor has been selected and will go before the Board of Trustees for approval at the December 13 meeting.

- IV. **Public Comments** – None.

Persons wishing to address the Planning and Fiscal Council on any item on the agenda or comment on any other matter are allowed three minutes per topic. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the Planning and Fiscal Council cannot discuss or take action on items not listed on the agenda. Matters brought before the Planning and Fiscal Council that are not on the agenda may, at PFC’s discretion, be placed on the next agenda.

- V. **ASRHC Report** – The last ‘Success at Sunset’ was held for the semester and all snacks were handed out. Trans Remembrance Day was Monday, November 20 and featured a guest speaker in the Student Union. On Thanksgiving Day, the Community Service arm of ASRHC served food at a local church.

Study Jam is being held in the Student Union the entire week before finals. Peer Advisor Leaders (PALs) with GPAs about 3.0 will be acting as tutors for students who wish to come in and study.

On November 28, there will be a stress reliever activity held in the quad. Participants will be able to make slime, stress relief balls, lip scrubs, and more.

The Puppy Therapy/Adoption event was canceled due to last minute conflicts with the adoption agency. However, ASRHC hopes to hold this event again in the future.

Finally, ASRHC President Martin Covarrubias took a moment to personally thank Dr. Mike Muñoz and Dorali Pichardo-Diaz for the UC/Cal State workshops in the Transfer Center. He said that these workshops are extremely helpful and valuable to students and that his gratitude is shared by the larger student population, as well.

VI. Co-Chair's Report

A. CA Guided Pathways –

Michelle Bean has received requests from faculty to create a Rio Hondo *specific* “Demystified” article. Therefore, the focus of this PFC meeting was to draft a RHC version of the Guided Pathways Demystified article. The following common concerns about the Guided Pathways model were presented, and PFC members split up into groups to collaborate on an answer:

Common Concerns:

1. What is Guided Pathways?
2. Why is RHC involved in Guided Pathways?
3. Is this just another educational “flavor of the month”?
4. What is the funding and who will get it/what is it for?
5. Doesn't Guided Pathways limit our academic freedom?
6. Will creating meta-majors eliminate electives?
7. Why can't students just follow the catalog for a pathway?
8. Why do people keep telling me to read that book?
9. How is Guided Pathways and Student Equity related?

Henry Gee, Robert Bethel, and Lisa Sandoval collectively defined Guided Pathways in a clear and concise way that was shared with the group. “[Guided Pathways is] a way of looking at college services to facilitate student completion of their educational goals. This is done to assist students in making a choice earlier and provide “guided structure” to their journey. This also provides the students some direction and guidance upon entering college so that the process is more streamlined and guided. It should take out the guesswork for students in choosing their educational path to success.”

Robert Bethel opined that this fundamentally changes what has traditionally been the mission of the community college: to serve the community. He asked if that is the sense that we are getting out of Sacramento? Are we really going back to the idea of being a “junior college” and making transfer to a 4-year institution our overarching mission? Is lifelong learning devalued? Mike Munoz maintained that a Guided Pathways structure is not punitive for lifelong learners, and that these students don't make it into the Scorecard. The Scorecard reports data on brand new students who took math and English in the first 3 years and have “degree seeking behaviors”). Just because we are paying attention to the group targeted by Guided Pathways doesn't mean we are pushing other groups of learners out.

Dr. Ramirez mentioned the conversation occurring at the Chancellor's Office; there is a change and community colleges are in the spotlight. For years, we have been funded by how many people walk in the door and sit in a chair and now there is a call for more accountability. There have even been talks about performance-based funding. The State is committed to tracking students as they navigate through the

educational system and are even interested in how many students secure gainful employment, how many receive pay increases thanks to their training, etc.

In summary, Guided Pathways is not prohibiting us from accepting community learners, however, we are being held increasingly accountable. The State wants to see that the community around us is being lifted. We want to create generations of high wage earners.

The discussion on Guided Pathways ended with a discussion of the self-assessment that we are developing for the Chancellor's Office. A draft of the self-assessment will be brought to PFC on the December 5 meeting. It will also need to be approved by the Senate, Faculty Association, etc.

VII. Unfinished Business – None.

VIII. New Business – None.

IX. Committee Reports

- **Safety/Facilities** – The posting for the Director of Facilities closed on November 25.
- **IEC** – The Institutional Effectiveness Committee has been looking at the Guided Pathways Self-Assessment. Over the last 2 meetings, they have been discussing the governance committee review recommendation, which came out of our accreditation visit.
- **Program Review** – Program Plans were due November 22 and everyone has turned in materials. There has been a fantastic response despite new software both for program review and program planning. Also, the review committees are just about full; 2 faculty seats and 1 classified seat remain for Curriculum.
- **Staff Development** – The deadline for Winter Staff Development Grants is Friday, December 1 at noon.
- **Basic Skills** – There is a new funding formula for Basic Skills and they will be receiving additional funding this year as compared to last. However, Henry Gee (VPSS) pointed out that other programs, such as SSSP and Student Equity, have received less money this year. This means that the State did not give us more money as a collective, but instead, shuffled funds around. Additionally, Assembly Bill (AB) 705 has been a topic of frequent discussion. The idea behind AB 705 is to “maximize the likelihood that students will complete college-level coursework in English and math within a one-year timeframe (a key indicator of student success).” The Assembly Bill, however, contains vague language that has been the cause of uncertainty. For example, the word “likelihood” is not clearly defined. The State wants to know what we our institution has been doing over the last five years or so that’s consistent with what is expected from the Basic Skills Outcome & Transformation Grant (BSOT). Since many parameters for the grant were given after-the-fact, we now are charged with identifying what we were doing at the time that fit these requirements.
- **SLO** – Adam Wetsman is working on refining part of the self-assessment for the Chancellor's Office. The committee also looked at ILOs (Institutional Learning Outcomes). The new software for SLOs was demonstrated by Howard, as well. The hope would be to have the software ready by Spring 2018 FLEX Day.
- **Online Education (OEC)** – President Dreyfuss approved the OEC's request to fund 25 licenses for faculty access to Screencast-o-matic.

- **Student Equity** – The Student Equity Committee has been busy preparing for the Student Equity Summit on December 12.
- **SSSP** – The early alert system (Roadrunner Connect) has been quite well-received. Of the over 800 ‘general’ flags that were raised, 97% were successfully closed. This is a very high success rate. In fact, Pasadena City College came to Rio Hondo to ask questions about our implementation of the ‘Starfish/Hobsons’ software. Indeed, there are several other colleges who are interested in the model that we’re developing because we are committed to forming a strong cross-functional team comprised of classified staff, instructional faculty, counseling faculty, and administrators. In Spring, we are scaling up our efforts and Roadrunner Connect will be implemented campus-wide. There has been discussion on how the system will be managed once we scale up, and whether or not we will adopt a ‘case load’ model. We’ve never used this type of model before, so the question becomes: what does it look like? Do we assign students to a counselor alphabetically, by major, etc.?

Dr. Muñoz highlighted UCLA’s study that was done last year on Latino males on probation and how some of the repeated concerns expressed by students makes an argument for the case management approach in counseling. Students were frustrated by (potentially) having to see a new counselor each time and having to retell their story over and over again. Students appreciate developing a rapport with their counselor.

X. Announcements – None.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Board Room.