

MINUTES

Yuba College Academic Senate

September 15, 2005

APPROVED

Present: Althausen, Correa, Galamba, Heaton, Katanic, May, Nickolson, Ng, Parsafar, Rubiales, Schoenherr, Shivers, Willson.

Guests: Freiler, Jukes, Kitchen, Lowe, Staffero, Stranix.

1. Rubiales called the meeting to order at 12:05. Minutes from the September 1 and September 8 meetings were approved. The agenda was approved.
2. As part of his president's report, Rubiales summarized the Sep 14 Board Meeting in Woodland. An upbeat budget report pleased Board members: income is meeting all expenditures. PG & E, however, has sent notification that sizeable increases in the District's PG& E bill is coming due to increases in the costs of natural gas.

Rubiales also read a letter from Personnel requesting that our two faculty appointments to the Woodland Dean interviewing committee be rescinded since they are needed as EEO appointees. Rubiales refused the request; if just several Woodland faculty members are depended upon as EEO reps, they will never be available to serve as regular committee members. The Senate concurred with Rubiales.

3. Shivers raised a general issue relative to EEO(Equal Employment Opportunity): is it truly a priority of the District? Last year, the District was supposed to train more faculty members to serve as Equal Employment Opportunity reps. The training sessions never took place. The consensus of the Senate is that expanded EEO training should take place and that a list of qualified EEO faculty reps should be made current. One problem is that the District has relied upon faculty members trained under Affirmative Action guidelines; EEO guidelines are quite different. Rubiales will pursue the issue on behalf of the Senate. Althausen asked if adjunct faculty could be the EEO rep on full-time faculty hiring committees. D. Rubiales will check into this.

4. The Senate endorsed the idea of a social gathering (read Party!) sponsored jointly by the Senate, YCFA, and PES. The event will be held October 7 at the home of Helen Nickolson and Larry Michel. More details to follow.

5. The field trip policy will be the subject of a special meeting of the Senate Executive Committee (Rubiales, Nickolson, Willson) and PES. Contact Nickolson for more details.

6. The Faculty Evaluation Committee is meeting September 30th. The Senate voted to include two YCFA reps on this committee. The first order of business is to review the evaluation provisions of the new contract.

7. The SLO Committee is ready to send out a draft of institutional SLO's (Student Learning Outcomes.)
8. Hard copies of the Faculty Handbook and the Faculty Hiring Procedures will be made available to Senators. Parsafar distributed a memo that summarizes certain problems he sees with our current hiring procedures, including problems with the Faculty Staffing Committee. Senators are to read these policy documents and Parsafar's memo in preparation for the next Senate meeting on September 22.
9. Rubiales again summarized Senate policy that Senate reps to hiring and evaluation committees should be from outside the academic division of the person being hired or evaluated. He again emphasized the reasons for this policy: to improve communication between academic divisions, to insure objectivity in hiring and evaluation, and to prevent cronyism in our hiring and evaluation practices. The issue was discussed at the September 8 meeting; it was brought back for re-affirmation by the Senate. Galamba relayed objections by some Woodland faculty concerning this Senate policy. A vote on affirming the policy was delayed until next week in the interest of time.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

9-15/ tm