

Yuba Community College District
Academic Senate
M I N U T E S
November 29, 2007

Senators Present: Rubiales (Chair), Nickolson (Vice Chair), Abele, Althausen, Boren, Canto-Lugo, Galamba, Heaton, Kemble, Kitchen, May, Morgan, Willson.

Guest: Cupp

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:00. Minutes of the November 15 meeting were approved.
2. Rubiales announced that a Language Arts Dean has been selected: Mr. Kevin Dobbs, whose background is in Language Arts and comes to Yuba after years of university teaching and administrative work in Japan.
3. Rubiales led a discussion of recent statewide textbook issues. A recent Assembly Bill restricts instructor sales of desk copies and sample books by publishers. Of concern to faculty here and statewide are publisher practices of frequent editions and cost escalation. More discussion to follow of what we can do locally to reduce costs of texts to students.
4. Nickolson reiterated a frequent request from the Senate and faculty in general over the last few years: that minutes from the weekly D and D meetings (Deans planning group) be distributed campus-wide, just as the Academic Senate minutes are.
5. It now appears that for the 2008-2009 academic year, as a many as 20 new full-time faculty will be hired. At both Marysville and Woodland, the District will fill to the number 9 positions, in addition to the automatic refill positions approved earlier.
6. Faculty appointments are currently being sought for four hiring committees: ECE, Nursing, Psych Tech, and History.
7. A discussion was held of Senate elections to be held no later than the first week of February. The issue of whether the Senate President and Vice-President should be decided early in the spring will be re-visited as a discussion topic.
8. A general discussion of Senate forums. Boren will poll the faculty at large to receive suggestions for future forum topics.
9. In information item was presented to the Senate: separate Basic Skills Plans are being developed for Marysville and Woodland to meet state requirements and receive state funds under AB 194. A written plan will be presented to the State by May 1. A basic skills project team has been formed and will be reporting regularly to the Senate. A unanimous motion endorsed the formation of this project team and timeline for a written plan.
10. Tenure hearings will be held January 31st and February 7th. All Senators are required to attend. In attendance this year, at the insistence of the Senate President, will be the relevant area Dean and all members of the committee of those being considered for tenure.

11. The Senate passed a motion that re-affirms the established practice that educational software will not be purchased by the administration without input from relevant discipline faculty. (Abstaining: Heaton, Willson.)
12. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

12-5 tm