

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

**Senators Present:** Rubiales (Chair), Nickolson (Vice Chair), Althausen, Canto-Lugo, Galamba, Gomez, Heaton, Kitchen, May, Ng-Hale, Schoenherr, Willson.

**Senators Absent:** Correa

**Guests:** Lowe, Stranix, Thoo.

1. The meeting was called to order at 12 noon. Minutes of the March 15 meeting were approved.
2. **President's Report:** Currently, there are 13 faculty hiring committees organized throughout the District. Rubiales relayed his frustration with an administrative irregularity with one of the committees. For the English position (Marysville), the V.P. of Instruction, without consultation with the Senate President, appointed himself to assume the role of the vacant Lang Arts area dean, then appointed another administrative designee to fill his own V.P. role, creating two administrative representations for just one person. After discussion, the Senate adopted the following resolution (Willson, Canto-Lugo): "All faculty co-chairs of hiring committees are directed by the Senate to assume an active role in the supervision of their committee; they are furthermore asked to submit a procedural report to the President of the Senate after every meeting of their hiring committee."
3. **Vice-President's Report:** Nickolson reminded Senators that the Board has scheduled a strategic planning session for the transition to a multi-college district. The meeting is to be held July 17 at Southridge Country Club.
4. Nickolson also distributed a chart entitled, "Multi-College Council and Committee Structure." The chart lists committees and declares which will be district committees, which will be college committees (Marysville or Woodland), and it also gives the transition date if a committee is to go from District to College status. Gomez raised concerns that articulation, graduation requirements, and other details affecting students may not be carefully addressed due to the hasty transition outlined in the plan. Senators also raised concerns about the process that was followed in drafting this plan; the Senate was only indirectly involved in the process. Also non-faculty members of the District Council appear to have made decisions on the future of committees that are clearly the purview of the Senate. (Academic Standards, Academic Preparation, Curriculum, Faculty Staffing, Sabbatical Leave.) Lowe said the hasty process was necessary to meet WASP accreditation requirements. The Senate directed Rubiales to meet with administrative leaders and report back to the Senate; the consensus opinion is that shared governance must be practiced in the transition to a multi-college district.
5. Schoenherr reported that nominations have been accepted for three Senate vacancies and, absent competition, these positions have been filled: Health, PE,

- and Student Services; Life Sciences and Allied Health; and Fine Arts and Social Sciences. In addition, an election will be held to fill two remaining at-large terms, one for three years and one for one year. The election is to be completed before April 15.
6. Galamba summarized the frustration of a number of faculty with the weighing of the diversity statement in the screening process for faculty applications. The problem is that as the number of items being considered increases, the weighted value assigned to diversity increases in relation to any single item on the list. Rubiales clarified that the hiring committees can and must exercise discretion in appropriately weighing matters such as academic preparation; matters other than the diversity statement, he said, remain 80% of the screening criteria.
  7. The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.