

Yuba Community College District
Academic Senate
M I N U T E S
March 13, 2008

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:00.
2. Helen Nickolson announced that a meeting of the new faculty and mentor teachers would take place Friday, March 14, from 3-5 in the Multi-Purpose Room. The topic is the promotion of multi-culturalism, with a panel of faculty presenters.
3. Galamba relayed that the Woodland campus continues to focus on accreditation matters, with special emphasis on SLO's—their definitions, implementations, and use in program reviews.
4. May relayed information from Sandra Graciano on alternative textbook formats, in particular the use of e-book alternatives for students. Althausen summarized recent problems he has had with textbook publishers and their profit-driven practice of bringing out unneeded new editions. Rubiales suggested a faculty flex workshop later in the spring or for opening day in which electronic text alternatives could be explored in order to save students money and to circumvent the ethically problematic practices of the textbook industry.
5. The Diversity Team Goals for 2007 – 2012, presented at a Senate workshop and discussed at last week's Senate meeting, were endorsed by the Senate.
6. Topics for future Senate Forums were discussed. Among the possibilities: textbooks, leadership, professional ethics.
7. A lengthy discussion ensued about the controversy regarding counselors and their participation on District committees. Rubiales made it clear that the Farrell memo regarding counselor workloads and committee attendance has been invalidated. Counselors are to adhere to an agreement of 30 contracted hours, five office hours, and five professional hours. If counselors are serving as reps on the Academic Senate or a hiring committee, office or professional hours can be used for meeting attendance.

Some faculty members expressed concern regarding the degree of administrative energy that is currently being expended over this entire matter, believing such time and attention is more characteristic of K-12 professional relations than the collegial work relations Yuba College professors and counselors expect and deserve.

