

Yuba Community College District
Academic Senate
M I N U T E S
March 20, 2008

Senators Present: Rubiales (Chair), Nickolson (Vice Chair), Abele, Althausen, Boren, Canto-Lugo, Gomez, Heaton, Kemble, Kitchen, May, Morgan, Willson.
Guests: Ramones, Hukill-DeRock, Steverson, Hulin, Ramsey, Lowe.

1. The meeting began at 12:00.
2. Rubiales recognized newly tenured faculty members Ramones, Hukill-DeRock, Steverson, Hulin, Heaton, and Ramsey. Dr. Harrington and the Board not only officially approved all Senate tenure recommendations, but also praised the newly tenured faculty for the quality of their evaluations and the strength of the Senate recommendations.
3. Senator Boren reported that he has yet to receive written verification from his supervisor that he can attend Senate meetings during his office hours.
4. Rubiales reported that the District will tap the reserve for approximately \$600,000 dollars to make up for the current fiscal-year deficit.
5. Fernando Canto-Lugo presented Senate By-Law revisions as an information item. The revisions propose changes in division representation and membership. Senators are asked to share the proposals with their constituents. The Senate received the proposal as information only; no action will be taken on the item this semester.
6. A committee that is studying opening day activities (convocation) is proposing that the District adopt a theme for the day that would then be carried out for the rest of the year—something along the line of basic skills ,diversity, professional ethics, student success. Some senators expressed the viewpoint that generalized, power-point presentations and speeches should be cut back or eliminated. A consensus was reached that some type of truncated “state of the state” address is needed, but focused workshops or activities would be preferred to a long mind-numbing morning of rhetoric. Nickolson proposed that one hour of opening day be set aside for EEO training of all certificated employees. The suggestion was made into a motion (Willson/Gomez) that passed unanimously. Senators were charged with asking their constituents for their ideas for the improvement of convocation.
7. Steverson summarized meetings of the Basic Skills Initiative Team. By the first of May, the District must provide an assessment of basic skills issues facing this campus, together with a plan for addressing those needs. At stake is the renewal of basic skills funds for next year—a considerable amount of money. The Team is holding meetings every Monday and Wednesday from 4-6 in order to complete the work. Progress reports will be on the agenda of all April Senate meetings. Rubiales commended the faculty members who are dedicating so much time and effort to meeting this deadline.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m

3-20-08 tm