

Yuba Community College District
Academic Senate
M I N U T E S
April 10, 2008

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

Senators Absent: Galamba, Gomez, Kitchen

Guests: Cupp, Hulin, Lopez, Lowe.

1. The meeting was called to order at 12 p.m.
2. Adrian Lopez urged all faculty members to support the March to the State Capitol in Sacramento on Monday, April 21. Community College students and employees across California are demonstrating against cuts in education. A Senate resolution was passed that endorses the march and requests that faculty members promote the march in any way they can. (Canto-Lugo/Nickolson)
3. Rubiales called attention to the superb Latino Art Show in the front of the Library. The photography and drawings and paintings and assorted artistic displays are rich with cultural and artistic value. Everyone is encouraged to see it. The Senate formally endorsed a resolution congratulating Sandra Graciano and Neelam Canto-Lugo for making it happen. (Nickolson/ Heaton)
4. Nickolson reported on the Senate Area A Meeting. Six colleges have received warning or have been placed on probation for weak accreditation reviews. Modesto Junior College may sue; faculty evaluations were linked to SLO overviews. Current legislation to keep an eye on: AB 906-Faculty Salaries/ AB 1754-Grade Changes/ SB 1585-Transfer Students/ SB 1620-Nursing Faculty. Go to State Academic Website for more information. Click on “Bill Information.”
5. The Senate formally endorsed a change in the District policy regarding grade changes. (AP 4231). The policy specifies who has access to student transcripts. “Only regular full-time employees may be authorized to change grades. Student workers do not have access to grade records.” The policy was occasioned by the recent incident at DVC in which student workers were accessing grades and changing them for a fee. Colleges throughout the state are making similar policy changes.
6. The Senate Election Committee received two nominations for the at-large seat: Tim May and Kevin Orton. Ballots will be distributed for the election on April 11, due April 18.
7. Nickolson announced that the Yuba College Senate will host the Area A Senate next October. More details to follow.
8. Cupp reported on the progress of the Basic Skills Project Team. The team continues to meet Monday and Wednesday evenings. Lowe answered questions about basic skills funds and priorities; Cupp said she would relay the information to the task force. Leadership and communication issues for the Project Team were again a topic of discussion.

9. A modification of flex rules to allow faculty members to count year-end individual activities up until June 10 was approved by resolution. (Kemble, Willson) Faculty must request individual exceptions in order for the year-end work to count.
10. Kemble summarized some of the convocation ideas suggested by faculty members. Robert Matthews suggested we have a session on leadership. Another faculty member suggested leadership styles. Matthews also suggested a college survey, similar to one conducted in the Los Rios District, that might help establish priorities and raise morale. Willson said the Susan Ramones suggested a session concerning campus environmental awareness (sustainable resources and recycling). Several faculty members have requested an emphasis on basic skills, not only in the language arts but also in math and science. Rubiales expressed frustration that no clear direction is being given to the College Council regarding convocation. Canto Lugo as Flex Director and Nickolson as Vice President will meet to discuss a recommendation for the next Senate meeting.
11. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.