

Academic Senate SBVC	AD/SS 207 3:00 - 4:30
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Minutes of December 2, 2009

Time	Topic	Discussion	Further Action
3:02	Call to Order		
	Approval of Minutes for 11/18/09		Motion for approval of the Minutes of 11/18/09. by P Buckley 2nd by J Notarangelo Voice vote - Ayes unanimous
	Motion to Re-order Agenda		Motion to reorder the agenda. by A Aguilar-Kitibutr 2nd by D Jackson Voice vote - Ayes unanimous

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	Pres Daniels Budget and Classes	<p>Pres Daniels reviewed the current plan for Spring classes to be cut. She provided some background into the process timeline that preceded the current proposal concerning number of classes to be cut. Prior to the Thanksgiving break the college was informed of a deficit by approx \$5.5 million. The categories that contributed to it were, \$1.49 million revenues versus expenditures, \$1.7 million in KVCR salary transfer, \$550K insurance fund transfer, \$800K in projected categorical backfill from General Funds, and \$1 million anticipated mid-year cut. Discussions at District concerning the coverage involved Valley's FTES excess (approx 2000 FTES over cap). Spring class cuts were then a remedy for this deficit. The impact (public, student support, teaching loads, etc) of class cuts at this time would be severe. The Chancellor's Cabinet then agreed not go proceed with cutting of classes originally proposed. 30 class sections cut is the current action in concert with discussions with Deans and faculty to stay within Valley's adjunct salary budget. However action still must be taken to offset the shortfall. Operational spending will be closely monitored. Some of the operational expenditures will be drawn from the 10% reserve that was enacted earlier this year. Going forward Valley rolled over \$1.5 million in savings (from salaries and operational funds) from last year and that this process is not a long term budgetary solution. Pres Daniels stated that the Senate will be kept apprised of developments and she will be inviting Bruce Baron to campus to discuss the budget.</p> <p>P Buckley asked for verification that the first summer session has been cancelled; Pres Daniels verified this. L Hector enquired about the circumstances behind the large change in anticipated class cuts compared to earlier in the week. Pres Daniels explained that the initial budget news from District was based upon B Baron's best estimates, as B Barron worked through the existing budget the true budget picture became more clear in combination with reconciling these shortfalls with possible remedies. Pres Daniels encouraged the Senate to keep ideas in mind towards the effective reduction in FTES to the 10,300 target. D Hook enquired about effect of these events to March 15th cuts in personnel. Pres Daniels said that these issues are being looked at currently along with other options (another SERP). O Salvaggio puzzled about the insurance fund transfer situation. Pres Daniels eluded to previous budget processes being less than transparent. R Pires commented upon action to be considered in making cuts for next year at the Department level rather than the Division level. K Ragan encouraged that ideas to deal with future cuts be developed, however if full-time positions are to be protected</p>	

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	Pres Daniels Budget and Classes cont.	then academic areas that are deep in adjunct loads will bear the brunt of the anticipated cuts. However the cuts that will need to be made should also be viewed from the perspective of impact on students.	
	Commence- ment Update	D Bell provide info in regards to this year's commencement activities. Commencement will occur on Friday, May 21st and because of parking (ie loss of use of Swap Meet parking) considerations, a Fri morning commencement was being considered (Swap Meet parking would be available). O Salvaggio commented about the possible impact of student's families attending. D Bell acknowledged that but hoped that early notification to student might mitigate that effect. J Castillo-Torres (Student Gov Rep) enquired about the breakfast tradition. D Bell said that this will need to be looked at. R Whitfield asked about a weekend graduation. D Bell replied that a weekend event would incur overtime pay for staff in prep for the event. K Pryor added that changing a published date for a Sat event would complicate the situation. J Stankas pointed out the potential loss of rehearsal. Ideas about a Thurs evening rehearsal with a dinner (monies are available), or having a post graduation meal. Thursday final exams were also pointed out to be a potential problem. K Pryor solicited ideas to be emailed to her concerning graduation.	
3:37	President's Report	J Stankas reviewed his report (see attached). J Stankas also reviewed the CCFS-311 budget report data generated by the District (see attached). He pointed out from the actual budget expenditures for the last two years were about \$85 million, and the proposed budget for '09-'10 was for \$93 million. J Stankas observed that it was difficult to understand how the District expenditures would increase by \$8 million from last year. O Salvaggio observed additional areas of budget changes (eg operating expenses) that should be looked into. J Stankas also reiterated the importance of oversight on District expenditures (eg a new database) relative to benefits to students.	

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3:47	Update from Plenary Session, Part 2	<p>A Aguilar-Kitibutr attended sessions that covered the themes of the Statewide Academic Senate (developing leadership opportunities, promoting faculty empowerment through shared governance and policy making, ensuring faculty voice in academic and professional matters). She identified talks given on differences between academic freedom and the First Amendment and the importance of documenting academic freedom in faculty handbook and contracts. A Aguilar-Kitibutr also mentioned a talk on the importance of planning and research processes on campus. The idea of research data as an interventionist tool, being used to inform decision making processes on campus and promote the value of inquiry in the college. She also attended a panel discussion about the community college system in California and the demographic, political, and budgetary challenges faced by it, as well as from the perspective of a changing CA Master Plan. A Aguilar-Kitibutr also provided background on the C-ID project and its aim at producing uniform course descriptors for CA CCs, CSUs and UCs. Further info available at C-ID.net</p> <p>C Parish reported on the General Education Ethnic Studies workshop. She identified the risk of offering separate, dedicated ethnic study courses (ie non-transferability) in lieu of incorporating components of the influences of different ethnicities into existing general education courses. C Parish also reviewed the requirement of a cultural awareness component into all new course proposals. She also noted the opportunity for Valley College faculty to develop courses linked to the UC Berkeley model of American Cultural Perspective requirement. Brief info from a prerequisite establishment workshop was reviewed. C Parish reviewed a Basic Skills & Non-credit workshop and Valley's Adult Education referral project, the usefulness of 1 unit basic skills classes, and holding open seats in certain classes.</p> <p>J Stankas highlighted the future opportunities available for statewide academic discussions as indicated in his President's Report.</p>	
4:01	Alert U	<p>Craig Petinak reviewed the Alert U program for participating individuals (staff, faculty, and students) to receive text based messages regarding emergency situation arising at Valley College. O Salvaggio forwarded a concern of spam over this system. C Petniak stated that no spam should be sent from Alert U.</p>	

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	EAP	<p>J Stankas reviewed the Cal State systems EAP test questions in providing info to high school juniors about their level of preparedness (or not) for entering the Cal State. This intervention may be useful in altering student's senior courses in response to the EAP results. The new opportunity is to provide community colleges with the ability to communicate to the EAP taking students the existence and opportunities afforded by comm colleges to the underprepared students.</p> <p>J Stankas also identified the concern of using the EAP as a placement tool (see attached EAP Application Instructions document), however he also pointed out that this use is at the discretion of each campus. J Stankas also pointed out that many of the requirements of the EAP at Valley College are already in place.</p> <p>S Biggs brought out the concern that this EAP might be used to require college's to hold open seats. J Stankas pointed out that there doesn't seem to be any such requirement. O Salvaggio observed that participation by Valley might enable Valley and the participating high schools an opportunity to identify gaps in the student's preparation.</p>	<p>Motion to apply to participate in the EAP program with the stipulation not to use it as an assessment for placement tool. by G Mack 2nd by P Buckley Voice vote - Ayes unanimous</p>
4:26	Committee Reports	<p>Elections Committee - S Biggs asked the Senators to convey to their respective Divisions the proposal to change the Senate By-Laws regarding situations where no Senate division representative has been identified (by indicating an interest). The suggestion is that the Division call a meeting and select a representative senator. Discussions at the divisions need to occur about this suggestion.</p> <p>Professional Development - J Stankas conveyed a message from C Hunter reminding faculty about the Great Teachers Retreat and need for facilitators.</p>	
4:33	Additional Reports	<p>SBCCD-CTA - R Jaramillo reminded the Senate about the Bowling Event (Feb 20th), encourage faculty to attend and voice their opinions at the Board Meeting. O Salvaggio observed the lack of participation by CTA in District Assembly in its role as a voting member.</p>	

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	Announcements	<p>Academic Senate Ex Comm meeting Wed, Dec 9th with VPs to hammer out an agreement about committee structure and also meeting with CTA about program discontinuance and other matters.</p> <p>Next Board Meeting - Dec 10 at 5pm. The Chancellor's evaluation discussion in close session. Please attend!</p> <p>Next Academic Senate Meeting - Jan 20.</p>	
4:36	Adjournment		