

**Pierce College
Academic Senate
Minutes of May 17, 2004**

Members Present: B. Adajian, J. Binsley, P. Brown, J. Cohen, M. Dobbertin, G. Eisenbart, R. Follett, A. Gibson-Lott, M. Gonzalez, I. Goodman, G. Hobbs, K. Holland, L. Koller, D. Levine, B. Logan, S. McHargue, B. O'Dello, R. O'Neil, C. Pandey, S. Schneider, D. Schutzer, P. Stein, Z. Tabatabai, L. Thouin, R. Wells, D. Wittman
Guests Present: C. Rooney, E. McCormack, S. Trevedi, R. Skidmore, B. Benne

The meeting was **called to order** at 2:15 pm by Barrie Logan. The **agenda** was adopted by consensus. The **minutes** of May 3, 2004 were approved by consensus

Treasurer's Report—David Schutzer

The Graduation Brunch flyer will be in Faculty members' mailboxes this week. This is expected to bring in more dues paying members.

College Administration Report—Tom Oliver

- Last Saturday Pierce hosted a high school Leadership Academy sponsored by the L. A. County Sheriff's Office.
- Today was the opening of enrollment. There were long lines of students at the Admissions office before 8:00 am. Channel 5 (KTLA) News was here to cover the story of the large turnout. Tom was interviewed emphasizing the lack of funding; he mentioned the loss of enrollment that we experienced at the time of the earthquake. We will need special legislation to have the growth formula amended. Legislators have been contacted for a special legislation.
- Tom is meeting with a Cellar Masters of Woodland Hills, a possible partner in support of the vineyard.
- The hiring process for the Foundation Development Officer is moving along.
- The College is seeking donations and possible partners for other projects such as the Canyon de Lana, the Agriculture Experience Education Center, etc.
- North of the Mall task force has met has defined the term "renovation" so that the scope of the project is more clear.

Articulation Officer/Transfer Center Director—Elizabeth McCormick

- UCLA/CSUN Transfer Day will be this Wednesday; Cal Berkeley has accepted 40% of our transfer applicants.
- Elizabeth is once again raising the problem of restrictions on how many units a student has taken at another institution can be accepted for certification of the general education requirements. She will bring up this as an agenda item in the fall to bring our policy in alignment with IGETC.
- The Transfer AA degree option has been approved by the Chancellor and is being implemented immediately.

Senate President's Report—Barrie Logan

- Instructor System for Classroom Rosters & Grades—Richard Skidmore presented a PowerPoint presentation to promote a training session being presented this coming Friday. This system allows faculty members to assign grades, update rosters, access student information, etc from any computer connected with the WEB. Shelley Gerstl stated that grades are instantaneously posted to the students' records.
- Shelley also reminded us about Urgent Grade cards for concurrent students who need the credit from their Pierce College course in order to participate in their

high school graduation ceremony. Also she told us that all students who are applying for transfer certification are being offered AA degrees and, so far, all have accepted it.

Pierce College Council Report—Pam Brown

As a result of the May 7 meeting, Pam proposed the following motion:

Whereas, Unforeseen infrastructure & central plant expenses of \$30 million have caused escalation in Prop A/AA construction costs; and

Whereas, A number of campus Bond projects have experienced cuts or caps despite a 9% cost inflation in construction materials over the past 16 months; and

Whereas, The infrastructure repair estimate may rise over time given that the current cost estimate is not a conclusive figure but only 'to date'; and

Whereas, Infrastructure repairs may require displacement of additional employees to temporary village facilities;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate recommend that the PCC restore the \$10-million Contingency budget deleted in the Pierce Bond Project Reallocation Proposal of May 7th 2004; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate recommend that the PCC develop a clear prioritization of the remaining Bond projects to prevent confusion in the event of future reallocations of funds.

Barrie stated that he believes that the motion is not appropriate to the Senate, but is appropriate to the PCC. He deferred to Richard Follett to chair the discussion of whether or not it should be an action item by the Senate. Pam discussed the cost overruns introduced at PCC. She asked for input from the Senate for guidance on how to vote. There was discussion about the allotment of bond monies for the building projects.

Academic Rank for Adjunct Faculty—Ray Wells

Whereas, The establishment of academic rank provides professional respect, prestige, and status for adjunct instructors; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate of Pierce College recognizes the contribution adjunct instructors make to our college and anticipates an expanding role for them in the foreseeable future; and

Whereas, Adjunct instructors are currently entitled to the rank of Lecturer upon employment in the LACCD;

Resolved, The Academic Senate of Pierce College establish a second rank of Adjunct Assistant Professor for adjunct instructors at this college, and

Resolved, That adjunct instructors may apply for this rank after they are hired to teach a fourth semester within a three year period, and

Resolved, That no additional positions of academic rank for adjunct faculty are established by this action.

The motion was passed unanimously without discussion.

Student Fees/Student Health Center—Beth Benne

Beth's purpose in speaking to the Senate is to ask for support in obtaining more money for the student health center. Currently, the Health Center's only source of funding is \$11 Student Health fee collected from fee paying students. However, BOGG waiver students don't pay that fee and the college is not reimbursed by the Board of Governors. Additionally, in our district, we are one of the richer colleges and therefore we subsidize the poorer colleges.

The statewide organization to which she belongs, has requested backfill for reimbursement of BOGG waivers. The governor had a line item to do so in his original budget; it was deleted in the revision. She would like support for the health services

funding from ASO and from Senate for a campaign to write letters to legislators and others in power.

Standing Committee Reports

Academic Policy—Izzy Goodman—

At the last meeting with the Senior Staff, the Senate Exec brought up the topic of the hiring process to replace many of the retired faculty members and to accommodate the growth of the college. The process will begin in Fall 2004 for positions to be filled in Fall 2005.

College Committee/Task Force Report—Barrie Logan

James Rikel was reelected as Chair of the Pierce College Council; Greg Gilbertson was elected Vice Chair. Four positions were approved to begin the hiring process: Learning Center Director, Assistant Learning Center Director and Counselor were approved on a Limited Temporary basis. A classified position as a Life Science Tech (to replace Debbie Swarens) was also approved.

Curriculum—Lyn Koller—No Report

Professional Ethics—Betty Odello

There was an article about academic honesty in the Daily News. One of the goals in 2004 -2005 is to address this issue. They reviewed the procedure for grade changes if faculty is not still here; a certified letter is sent to the faculty member. Then the issue goes to a grievance committee with a recommendation to the President.

Technology Management Committee—Jill Binsley, Gail Hobbs

At the WEB page oversight committee there was a recommendation for a link on which a student could request a letter of recommendation. The Senate's opinion was that this was not a good idea.

New Business

- CSU Early Assessment Program—Barrie Logan (see attachment)

This program would allow students entry into CSU Math or English by taking an assessment test in the 11th grade. There is a proposal for us to piggy back on the CSU policy and accept this test as our assessment also. We currently allow students to use the CSU entry assessment test to place in our Math and English sequences. So this would not be a leap.

- First Senate meeting of the fall will be August 30.

Adjournment was at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Levine
Secretary