Faculty Senate
Communication and Organization Challenges
Nov. 18, 2014

Communication
1. Right now, almost all formal Senate communication takes place via email. What can be done to improve two-way faculty communication?

2. Cabrillo’s governance has always relied on informal relations among different groups - Senate, CCEU, CCFT, ASCC, the administration – and within Instruction among faculty, PCs, Deans, and the VPI. This has facilitated a rich, dialog-driven culture of collegiality over the years. Is there anything in this realm that needs to be re-examined and reformed? How do we retain the best of what has been and still serve our students in the best way that we can?

Organization
1. (Review the attached list of committees, please.) There are several committees whose relationship to the Senate is explicitly spelled out, some where there is an implied overlap of interest, and many others where the Senate appoints faculty reps to these committees. Discuss the kinds of meetings that occur in your professional life at Cabrillo. What works? What could work better? Do we have too many meetings here or too few?

2. Getting faculty to volunteer to serve on committees, task forces, and study groups is a challenge. How can we encourage more faculty to serve as reps to committees and to take a more active role in college governance?

3. Review the Ten Plus One academic and professional matters where the Senate is supposed to have purview, listed below. Where are we doing a good job? Where do we need to focus efforts?

   - curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines
   - degree and certificate requirements
   - grading policies
   - educational program development
   - standards and policies regarding student preparation and success
   - district governance structures, as related to faculty roles
   - faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self study and annual reports
   - policies for faculty professional development activities
   - processes for program review
   - processes for institutional planning and budget development, and
   - other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate

4. Any other thoughts on Senate structure, meeting structure, or other areas related to communication and organization that you want to express here?