Faculty Senate Minutes  
Tuesday, April 1, 2003  
Room 1804

Present: Jamie Abbott, Kim Belliveau, Nancy A. Brown, Nancy K. Brown, Claudia Close, Laura Dickie, Terry Fetterman, Jeff Hickey, Steve Hodges, Sue Holt, Jay Jackson, Helene Jara, Andre Neu, Kathy Niven, Rory O’Brien, Celia Rabinovitch, Dan Rothwell, Topsy Smalley

Absent: Louis Compogonis, Mario Garcia, Bill Hill, Dorothy Nunn, Christy Vogel

Guests: Dale Attias, David Barlough, Claire Biancalana,

Staff: Andria Bach

I. Call to Order 3:06
There was a guest observing the Senate for a research project today. He declared his request to remain unnamed in the minutes

II. Minutes
A. March 18th Minutes
Sue noted that item 6, action, the third line should say “attempt.” In this same passage, Kim’s name was written instead of Sue’s. Kim was not at that meeting. Helene says that under her SEIU report it should read “because the SEIU and faculty would not take the cuts.” She added that the writing center having a conference was Dianne Putnam’s idea. Terry moved to approve the minutes, Dan seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

B. March 3rd Minutes
Sue moved to approve, seconded by Steve; the motion carried unanimously.

III. Reports
A. Curriculum – Dale Attias and Claudia Close
Dale has prepared the curriculum summary for the Senate. Two meetings were included – both February and March 26th. This information has been distributed to the Senate. There are lots of interesting courses. One topic is coming up; a subcommittee was assigned to standardize the language for pre and corequisite requirements. A report has been filed and is under consideration. The point of contention is the recommendation for transfer courses with a lot of writing involved. It is under consideration to change Eligibility for English 100 to English 1A. Senators are welcome to attend the curriculum meeting in May where this will be discussed. The English department feels this is a more adequate recommendation because 1A better covers the needs of the courses that are requiring this. The English department initiated this change and the subcommittee is studying it and feels it may be an appropriate recommendation. Claudia noted that the Curriculum
Committee couldn’t mandate this change, but only recommend it. Terry noted that the Psychology department would like to make this change, but feels that enrollment would go down, though raising the eligibility would help the students. Claudia says that while it seems intuitively that raising the requirement would help the students, she has not found that in her own classes. She reminded the Senate that they would not have to support a recommendation in their classroom, only prerequisites. The Curriculum Committee will have a statistician work the numbers for the philosophy department.

Nancy A. said she liked the new format for the Curriculum Committee report. Sue moved to accept the report and Jamie seconded. Terry suggested that not just English, but also a Reading recommendation would be helpful. Claudia said she would take that suggestion back to the committee.

B. Treasurer’s Report – Steve Hodges
Steve handed out his report to the Senate. He reminded the Senate that it is necessary to watch how much is spent. Nancy A. said this would be discussed again later in the meeting.

C. SEIU Report – Helene Jara
Helene reported that classified staff stewards are working with staff that may lose their jobs to see what can be done to help them and compensate for the pay they have lost.

D. Student Senate – Jeff Hickey
On Thursday, April 3 the Student Senate is having two forums with the Executive Director of FACCC – at 10:30 in Watsonville and 1:30 in Aptos. Also they are revamping the letter writing workshops and will continue to offer them after Spring Break. In addition, Student Senate is trying to organize a bake sale to the Sacramento capitol building to fund raise for Community Colleges. This will possibly take place in May. Kathy volunteered the assistance of the Culinary Arts Program. Nancy A noted that the forums will be worth listening to.

E. President’s Report – Nancy A. Brown
Shawn Olgimachi from the Diversity Committee has resigned. He is one of the counselors that might be displaced, and he really doesn’t like the budget plan. A replacement is needed. Helene added that they are looking for a replacement from NAS, VAPA, or Counseling. This person would be a Senate appointee. Helene explained that the person would need to attend a once a month meeting on Fridays from 1:30 until 3 pm. The responsibilities of the committee include training the faculty and staff through diversity workshops.
Last Friday, Nancy A went to AAHE National Network of Faculty Senates which was cosponsored by AAUP. She thought she would learn about governance, but instead heard complaints about administrators. She found out that the part-time faculty problem pretty much exists in all segments of higher education across the country.

IV. Old Business
A. Staff Development Committee Meeting – Rory O’Brien
Francine is anticipating putting on 60% of the normal workshops during flux week, somewhere around 30. The date of flux week is August 21st. There are fewer meetings because there are fewer hours for the TLC and Francine is too busy.

B. Retirement Party Committee – Rory O’Brien
The committee will be meeting on Thursday to plan for the party. Helene is in charge of getting the honorees to show up. The committee is working on budgets. Helene informed the Senate that the theme for the party is “What Were You Thinking?” and that 11 classified staff and all the faculty (16 total) have committed to coming. This is a good number. Rory said the committee is working on the budget for food, drink, and décor. $5,200 was spent on the party last year and he would like to reduce that 20% to $4000. The Senate does not have to vote to approve the budget but he wants to go over it with them. Steve thought $4000 was a good goal. Nancy A. added that an easy thing to do is eliminate the live music. Terry might sing one song. Helene said there was a possibility that a work-study student could do the decorations, which could save money. Mark Hopkins will contact Dan Martinez about this.

V. New Business
A. Changing of English and Math Requirements for AA/AS Degrees – Nancy A. Brown
At the last Plenary session, a proposal was made to change the AA.AS degree requirements so that a college level English course and an Algebra course would be necessary. Rory and Nancy A. need to get a sense of what they should say at the next Plenary session. Helene said that the faculty in Student Development are vehemently against it and feel it would be a detriment to a lot of the students and could possibly prevent them from continuing their education. Jeff said that he thought the proposal added a barrier for some students. Kathy added that this level of Math and English is not needed for students’ careers in her department. Jay noted that the main concern in Counseling is that those in vocational programs don’t need that level of English and Math and it might inhibit their graduation. Terry noted that none of the current requirements are college mathematics, which Claire confirmed. Claudia said that with the cutback in units, upping the requirements would make it take longer for the students to get through. Nancy K. said she though upping the requirements was not a good idea because there isn’t a structure to
support them succeeding with the new requirements. It might hinder student success because many don’t come equipped to write or do basic math. Sue noted that AA/AS degrees often require a student to perform college level work in other departments but not in English or Math. She thinks that a college degree at an associate level should have English and Math at the college level. Laura agreed with Sue and said it might mean putting more money into tutorials. Helene said that to put this barrier on reentry and international students would be unfair, that the change is ignoring the world community. Terry said there were many other Community Colleges with higher standards than Cabrillo. Andre said the English department is going to meet on Friday to study the proposal and asked that any decision be postponed until after that meeting. Nancy A. said that there would be no decision at this meeting, only discussion. She asked the Senators to take this issue out to their Division. The Senate will revisit this at the next meeting. She said that the executive committee decided to go with Carolyn Russell’s proposal and let local faculty, through their Senates, set their own requirements. Nancy A. urged the Senate to consider what an AA/AS degree from Cabrillo should mean, and whether the AA and AS should be different. She and Rory need direction from the Faculty when they are voting. The Senate agreed that this issue would be discussed further at their next meeting.

B. Senate Operating Expenses Fund – Nancy A. Brown
Nancy A has asked Leah to roll the money from the Senate’s non-instructional supplies fund into the conferences money. This is a total of $850. Nancy also wants to move $1100 from Professional Services into the Conference Fund. She has filled out the forms to do this. The Conference Fund will be used to send Rory to the Leadership Institute and also for the Plenary Sessions.

C. SB6 – Nancy A. Brown
Nancy A has brought the Senate the parts she wants to discuss. She said what is confusing is what the relationship between the erstwhile boards and the new education setup (the California Education Commission) will be. It is unclear what, besides collecting data, the CEC will do. Page 3 lists the primary functions of the commission. If all it was going to do is replace CPEC, then that’s fine. What’s not clear is what else it might do, and this is why Academic Senate is worried about it. The bill specifies that California Community Colleges are a public trust. This is how Universities work. This change is meant to help implement the master plan. There are things that are likable about it, such as being able to offer joint upper division classes with Universities. Page 24 states that the mission of community colleges has changed, but it’s not clear what’s changing. Terry noted that there are sections that make it seem like the faculty’s job is to supply the workforce, not help the students. Nancy noted that on page 28, the question is how much will be mandated. It seems that there will be across the state planning for education from preschool to graduate school. None of this works unless there are externally mandated learner outcomes and course content. She can’t see
where the local autonomy is going to come from. This could be a good thing; it looks like an effort to reform education. Lauri asked if this is turning colleges into a business and Nancy A. answered that it was unclear. FACCC’s position is that this bill is on watch. State Academic Senate is trying to generate some opposition. Nancy A. reiterated that the Senate needs to think about it and what it means to Cabrillo and what kind of role Faculty Senate might have. Jamie asked what the timeline for the bill was and Rory responded that there was a hearing on the committee level on April 30th. Nancy A. noted that a good side of the bill might be that high school would better prepare students for college. Dave added that page 28 allows for special offerings in special areas, so regionalizations are being addressed. Nancy A. added that many people feel that there’s too much territorial fighting between programs. Claire noted that it seems like this bill will give CPEC more power. Nancy A. added that the Chancellor’s role is unclear. Dave expressed that he doesn’t like it that the person on the commission is not elected but appointed.

VI. Action – none

VII. Reports Continued – none

VIII. Agenda Building
Jamie asked that the Senate revisit the Academic Hiring Process. Zoe asked to be on the agenda next time. Dan would like a tutorial update, and Helene is working on it. Claire said that Faculty members could write a check directly to the Cabrillo College Foundation Tutorial Fund if they wished to donate money to the Tutoring program.

IX. Items From the Floor – none

X. Adjournment – 5pm
Dan moved to adjourn.