ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

After the World Café meeting on April 29, the Academic Affairs Committee has been meeting to discuss the community scan done by Dr. Bob Richards and incorporate that information into the priorities suggested by the faculty and CPC. Dr. Humphreys is collecting these comments and will present the summary of comments/observations to Academic Affairs, the Senate, and eventually to CPC in order to structure a new Educational Master Plan. The schedule calls for CPC to adopt this new plan by the end of June.

BUDGET

On Wednesday, April 29, the Board approved the First Principal Apportionment Adjustment: Harbor lost $87,602. The Budget Co-chairs think our ending balance will be less than $2 million in debt.

Word from the District is that at least $20 million will be cut from the District’s allocation next year, and if the proposed propositions don’t pass and the projected income revenue continues to fall below budget projections, the cut to the District may be even greater. The Chancellor has said that the District can’t really make a thorough plan in how to deal with these cuts until they actually are made, but the expectation is that the budget news has not gotten better these last few months.

CORE

Here’s what’s happening in CORE:

NEW SCIENCE COMPLEX (SC)

The new SC should be built before the library. Tech I (old building) will be torn down shortly to make room for the staging area for the new complex. SC is still in the design phase, but submissions are due May 6th, a review of the designs is scheduled for May 14th, and a final decision is due on June 1. Plans have to be submitted to the DSA (state architectural body) for approval before construction can begin.

Question came up about whether or not this building must conform to platinum standards or silver or gold. Dr. Spink told the committee that the District specs mandated platinum, but the Chancellor stated unequivocally several months ago that the platinum standard was not mandatory. We are making inquiries about this.

PARKING

South Parking Lot 6 is being renovated. Plans are for the parking lot to be available for commencement on June 10th. Approval has not yet been received for the solar panel structures in Lot 8, so that work cannot begin yet.

The schematic design for the new Parking Structure (northwest corner of the campus in Lot 8) is due May 14th. Currently, this is the only parking structure that the campus is planning to build.

OPEN HOUSES
The President wants a tour of the new Technology Building for the Board members who are coming to campus for their May meeting on the 27th. Also, architecture is planning to have an open house at 7 p.m. on the 28th for architecture, and Mike Bishop is planning a Bar-b-que on May 28th to highlight safety. All will be welcome in the area just south of his trailer.

UTILITIES
A new 70 ton chiller will be installed in a few weeks allowing the campus to meet its demands for air conditioning throughout the summer and fall. Our gas bills are extremely high right now, but should lessen considerably when we get this new chiller on line.

Infrastructure for the east side of the campus utilities project was approved by the Board and the design phase will now be started. Groundbreaking for this project should be about the first of the year.

OLD BUNGALOWS
Three of the old bungalows (formerly Brad’s, Juanita’s and Bill’s) should be torn down in the next couple of weeks. The two “new bungalows” that the college owns will be moved: one to the baseball field and the other, possibly, near the temporary CDC for use as a visiting team changing room.

OTHER
The Theater Building user group is meeting May 6 for further consultation.
The Nursing Building repairs are finished.
The Library Building “stamp out” (design) meetings are scheduled for next week. Plans need to be in to DAS by June 1. The library design had to be changed to accommodate an outside staircase from the second floor.

Bill Englert has ordered and installed three emergency boxes, and the Committee asked him to order about 20 out of Measure J money to put around the rest of the campus.

Master key access systems were discussed but the new system was not chosen.
The Child Development Center is a couple of months behind schedule.
The package for cleaning up loose ends in NEA and SSA is still being readied. Plan to get it to the Board for approval by the middle of June. In the meantime, copiers have been removed from the list so that they can be ordered and installed sooner than the other items.

Clocks are still on order but should be arriving SOON.
The Physical Education Building is about a month behind schedule.
The TV studio has no light board.

DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE (DAS)
The DAS will vote on these issues at its 5/14 meeting:

English Subject Change to ESL (recommends no change)
Repetition of Activity Courses (E-103) minor changes
Curriculum and Course Approval (E-65) Title 5 changes—minor changes
Alignment of Subjects with Minimum Qual Areas (EXX)

Competency Requirement (E-79)
Student Grievance Procedures (E-55)
For text and information, go to: http://www.laccd.edu/das/

Union Issues
The DAS is in discussion with the Union over intrusion by the Union into academic areas without consulting the DAS. Article 33 (Hiring Procedures) is one such area and another is the Nursing Task Force recommendations and curriculum. At first, a spokesperson for the Union announced that it would be redesigning the nursing curriculum until David Beaulieu objected and told that spokesperson that curriculum is an academic matter under the jurisdiction of the Academic Senate, not the Union.

Summit in September
A theme has not yet been chosen for the fall summit, usually held the last Friday in September, but sustainability seems to be a likely candidate. If any of you have a better suggestion, please let me know.

ACADEMIC SENATE FOR THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES (ASCCC)
PLENARY SESSION, April 16-18, 2009
RESOLUTIONS

Basic Skills and Student Success
the Chancellor’s Office, as the project monitor of the Basic Skills Initiative immediately direct the administrators of the Basic Skills Initiative grant to rely primarily upon the Academic Senate for CCC in faculty appointments, development of regional networks, communication with local senates, and overall Guidance of the project as it relates to academic and professional matters, and

that the ASCCC request that before funding for additional years is approved, the Chancellor’s Office evaluate the implementation for the current grant to determine whether the Academic Senate is playing an appropriate leadership role as the voice of the faculty in academic and professional matters and if not, to re-open the grant in such a way that the ASCCC is given an equal opportunity to compete.

Other Resolutions
• Asked the Accreditation Commission (ACCJC) to work with ASCCC to develop pathways to provide faculty names for service on visiting teams, including having ASCCC provide names directly to ACCJC; the ASCCC urges the ACCJC to restore direct observation of instruction by making classroom visits a required component of accreditation visiting team activities; that the ACCJC develop processes that ensure that all visiting teams include a minimum of three faculty.
• Urged that local senates review their curricula, co-curricular activities and campus practices for inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and
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- transsexual/transgender (GLBT) people; that the ASCCC employ appropriate venues to increase awareness of the issues affecting GLBT people in California community colleges; and that the ASCCC amend its diversity policy to include gender identity and expression (transsexual/transgender) in the policy’s description of diversity.
- Sponsor breakouts to increase applications in financial aid
- Adopted papers on: Transfer for the General Audience; Enrollment Management Revisited; CCC: Principles and Leadership in the Context of Higher Education; Noncredit Instruction: Opportunity and Challenge

For all resolutions and information about state workshops and papers, go to: http://www.asccc.org

ELECTIONS
Many of the positions were contested, so it was an exciting day. Here are the results:
President: Jane Patton
Vice President: Michelle Pilati
Secretary: Wheeler North
Treasurer: Beth Smith
South: Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

WORKSHOPS
Pamela Watkins, Beverly Sue and I attended the plenary session. Each of us has put our workshop notes in electronic form. Here is the attachment for mine (and Pam and Bev are making their notes available to you, too).