



*A World of Cultures United in Learning*

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**April 30, 2008**  
**3:30-5:00 pm**  
**Room 1307**

**Senate Representatives Present:** Susan Myers, Barbara Tull, Nancy Pauliukonis, Sharon Briggs, Terry Taskey, Victoria Loukianoff, Alan Kirshner, Wayne Yuen, Jo Rainie Rodgers, Lottie Bain, Gary Mishra, Jim McManus, Bob Mitchell

**Others Present:** Mike Bowman, Kimberly Roby, Chris Warden, Connie Olsen, Rob Smedfeld, Dennis Keller, Jim Wright, Tim Roberts

**Announcements**

- Lottie Bain is retiring at the end of this semester. A party honoring Lottie will take place May 6 at the Best House.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

Approved as written.

**2. College Council and Senate Roles - Myers, Keller**

The Senate reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the College Council and the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate is a representative group, in which Senators report back to constituents on matters of voting, and representatives vote according to their constituents' wishes. Unlike the Senate, the College Council has no formal constituency. The Council addresses topics that cross disciplinary boundaries. For example, the Council has recently been discussing the budget, IT committee, and International Ed. There is overlap between the two groups, and many Council topics will also be discussed in Senate meetings because they have an impact on instruction. For example, updating computers for instructional faculty might be discussed in both meetings; the academic calendar change is another good example of shared governance.

The Council addresses the college-wide mission and goals. It acted as the leading body during the accreditation effort. The Senate managed student services and instruction, but the College Council was the steering committee

Tim Roberts is the new co-chair of the College Council.

### 3. Title 5 Changes Myers

The Senate discussed Title 5 regulation changes regarding course repetition.

Susan Myers reported that Title V changes were a big part of discussion at the recent plenary session. There is some confusion statewide as a result of the changes, which have yet to be approved by the Board of Governors.

Repeatability of courses for which students have received a substandard grade: At present, a student can repeat once; the college is given apportionment for the first take and first repeat. With a regulation change, the law would now allow colleges to get apportionment for a second repeat. Educationally, what is the best policy?

Kirshner: We can keep our current policy; the only difference would be that the second repeat would be funded by the state.

Our decision should be whether we want to change policy to meet certain educational objectives.

**Motion:** At Ohlone we should maintain our present policy regarding course repetition. (Kirshner)

**Second:** (Tull)

#### **Discussion:**

It is important to establish limitations and have students take responsibility; currently, the student is required to do a bit of research and take responsibility to follow through. Students who repeat multiple times create problems, especially for impacted core classes; it is good for students to have to come in, talk with the dean, and be accountable, rather than simply sign up for a course over and over.

When students have to go through an approval process, this makes the process more significant, and may instill a more serious attitude in students.

Some deans are mandating tutoring assistance or other intervention criteria for approval. We will not make any policy changes until Title V Part II is approved.

**Motion Passed.** (1 opposed, 2 abstentions)

### 4. Auditing of Courses Smedfjeld

The Senate viewed a proposed explanation describing the auditing of courses, including guidelines for students and faculty.

The Math department is asking whether prerequisites needed to be checked for students who audit. It appears each faculty member has a different opinion about what auditing is. Printed materials explain how to sign up to audit a course, but not what auditing means.

There are very few audits; they tend to occur in particular classes in particular divisions. In the past, audits were not being monitored. It becomes a problem when a class is filled with auditors who think they are registered; then the class gets cancelled because too few students are registered.

There is also some concern about students auditing lab and performance classes with high student contact hours. These courses could be identified as “non-auditable.” Jim Wright would like to check Ed. Code to see if there is a definition of auditing.

We could have a policy limiting the number of audits per section, or stating that auditors cannot take a seat if there is a waiting list.

Description of auditing—math department would like something in the college catalog describing what auditing is—get feedback from faculty. Ed code- no definition of auditing; each college has their own definition and procedures.

Senators should get feedback from constituents for a vote at the Senate meeting on May 14.

#### **5. New Faculty Hiring Prioritization Process** Kirshner, Taskey

The Senate reviewed a revised version of the New Faculty Hiring Prioritization Process.

Alan Kirshner and Terry Taskey simplified the process and changed it to one-day with a firm deadline for applications. A ratings sheet will be completed, and this followed by discussion.

Issues to consider.

- Where a department has faculty on reassigned time, should that be considered with respect to department need?
- Suggested adding consideration about the number of classes impacted

**Motion:** Accept the revised New Faculty Hiring Prioritization Process. (Tull)

**Second:** (Briggs)

**Motion Passed.**

**Motion:** Table the process because of the hiring freeze until the first meeting of the Faculty Senate in September 2008 (Kirshner)

**Second:** (Loukianoff)

**Motion Passed.**

#### **6. Faculty Committee Assignments 2008-2009** Myers

The Senate discussed its role in making faculty committee assignments for 2008-2009, including leadership roles for the Senate and its subcommittees.

Nancy Pauliukonis will help with committee assignments; there has been little response from committee chairs with description of committees.

Of great concern is Faculty Senate leadership for 2008-2009. The Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment subcommittee also needs leadership; a mid-year visit from the accreditation team could hurt us if this committee is not functioning.

## **7. President's Report - Myers**

Lottie Bain will lead graduation as the retiring faculty member.

State senate plenary sessions – The big topic was Title 5 changes; the Board of Governors will vote on the changes in May.

American Association of University Professors speaker Cary Nelson is urging faculty to join the organization; many universities have a high percentage of “contingency faculty” (faculty who are not tenure-track). There is concern about a national push to abolish tenure for faculty. They are looking for support.

The Disciplines list can be changed, and minimum qualifications can be revised. The State Academic Senate has updated FAQs about minimum qualifications, equivalency and eminence.