



Ohlone College Faculty Senate Minutes  
April 1, 2015  
3:30 p.m.  
Room 7101

Members present: Diane Berkland, Jeff Dean, Chieko Honma, Jim McManus, Robert Mitchell, Jeff O'Connell, Jeff Roberts, Kathy Sparling, Jackie Vetter, William Wong, and Wayne Yuen

Members Absent: Brenda Ahnholz

Others present: Robin Kurotori, Kimberly Robbie, Leta Stagnaro, Michael Moore, Sharon Zingsheim, Leslie Buehler

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m.

### **1. Announcements**

The Faculty of the Month for April is Bunny Klopping who will be honored at the next board meeting. We still need a nomination for May.

There are two academic senate meetings coming up in the summer. There will be a meeting in San Jose on June 11-13. There will also be a meeting July 9-11 in Orange, Ca. This meeting will focus on curriculum.

The college strategic planning summit is going to be held on Friday, April 10. All faculty are encouraged to attend. Employee surveys were sent out, and Jeff Roberts and Alison Kuehner will review them to look for consistent themes. Some themes that have already come up are safety and security at the Newark campus along with maintenance. Student themes were overall levels of customer service. Mike Bowman has reported that another theme was campus morale.

The next Senate meeting will be the third annual Adjunct Appreciation Day on April 15 in Room 7101. There will be no formal meeting, although a short one could be held if necessary.

The last Senate meeting of the year will be on May 6 at Mission Pizza.

### **2. Approval of minutes from March 18, 2015 (Action)**

Approved as read with following changes in Section 5:

Dr. Browning was incorrectly identified as sponsoring the Adjunct Appreciation Day. The Faculty Senate is sponsoring it, and Dr. Browning will be providing drink coupons.

Jackie Vetter was incorrectly identified as suggesting an Adjunct of the Month award and having a newsletter highlighting adjunct contributions. In actuality, she made the suggestions to Jeff Roberts and he reported them in the Senate meeting.

### **3. EEO Plan-Endorsement- Zingsheim (Action)**

Jeff O'Connell made a motion to endorse the EEO Plan, and Wayne Yuen seconded.

Sharon Zingsheim thanked senate members for their suggestions and will be making some changes.

Jeff Dean stated that EEO training every 12 months seemed excessive. Others had suggested every three years. Sharon suggested a compromise at training every two years. Dean agreed with that.

In answer to a question from Jim McManus, Zingsheim said the EEO training was only a two hour training.

The vote was then taken. It was unanimous with no abstentions.

### **4. Academic Calendar for 2016-2017- Robbie (Information)**

Kimberly Robbie appeared before the senate, noting that the issue of the academic calendar had also been discussed last year, and the Senate needs to again approve the academic calendar.

August 2016 will have five Mondays, so the Senate needs to decide which day to begin the fall semester. Traditionally, the fall semester has begun on the final Monday of August. Robbie passed out two versions of the academic calendar. Version A had the fall semester beginning on August 22, 2016 (the fourth Monday) and ending on December 9. Version B had the fall semester beginning on August 29 (the fifth and final Monday) and ending on December 16.

This was an issue last year, and the Senate voted to start on the fifth Monday, the later start date.

Jeff Dean reported that English instructors who responded to an email he sent about the issue were split 50/50. He asked Stagnaro if there was any academic reason to choose one date over the other. She stated that was not an issue because campus construction is now year round.

Berkland noted that this year we started the fifth Monday of August and suggested we start earlier next year on the fourth Monday. That way we could perhaps determine which approach was better.

O'Connell remembered that the Senate vote last year was a tie and supported Berkland's suggestion that we reverse the starting dates for next year.

Roberts stated that this will be an action item at the next Senate meeting.

### **5. OEI Update-Tull (Information)**

Barbara Tull was on the agenda as item number 5; however, she was at another meeting and would not be at the Senate meeting until 4:30, so Roberts shifted to item 6 (Other) on the agenda.

Tull gave an update on the Online Education Initiative. One of the ideas from the initiative was to have some kind of course exchange between community colleges. With this system, if a student couldn't find a desired course at the local college, he or she could sign up on an

exchange and take the course online at another college. Tull indicated this is a very complicated process and more work is needed on it.

A new online system called Canvas is being developed for all 112 community colleges, and negotiations are now underway. Both students and faculty have expressed an interest and preference for this system over others.

Tull mentioned that the college's contract with Blackboard will be ending soon, and we will need to decide whether we change to a new system. Leslie Buehler stated that Blackboard will not give us an extension, so we will need to make the decision by June, 1916.

Because there are community colleges to our immediate north and south, online education is the only way the college can expand its offerings.

Tull will provide more information at the May meeting of the Senate.

## **6. Other**

Roberts reported that the search for a history/political science instructor had failed to find enough qualified applicants.

Dr. Leta Stagnaro reported that, based on a review of data, a decision was made to hire a second Math instructor. The other faculty positions to be filled are in Chemistry, Anthropology, and English. The search for a combined history and political science instructor was based on the assessment that enrollment figures did not support the hiring of only a political science instructor.

Jeff O'Connell stated he had been asked by Zingsheim if the math pool supported a second instructor. He said that it did, although he regretted that the second math instructor position came at the expense of another department.

Stagnaro praised the hiring committee for having the integrity to pull back from the process when it was clear that a sufficient pool of qualified candidates was not available. Roberts stated this was a learning experience about how to handle failed searches.

Stagnaro indicated that we might want to open up positions earlier so that we get more applicants. She also stated that all positions are on the faculty website. With regard to hiring new faculty, the decisions of what areas to hire in are driven by the data showing the need; however, it's difficult sometimes to prioritize the new hire areas.

Roberts stated as a point of information that College Council had amended the college mission statement to include "innovation" at the request of the board, and the suggested revision will be going to the board for approval.

There are currently only 70 full-time faculty mail boxes. In addition, some entire departments have consolidated into one mail slot. This makes it difficult when a mailing needs to go to all faculty. Roberts reported that he is working with the mailroom on this issue.

New faculty hires will be serving in major committees. Roberts reported that new hires in English and Chemistry will probably be assigned to SLOAC, Anthropology and Math new hires will go the Senate, and the second Math new hire will go to the DE Committee. For the fall we

will need to replace Chieko Honma and Jeff O'Connell. Roberts will continue as Senate President. William Wong will continue as senator, although it might be necessary to job share in the Deaf Studies area.

Roberts presented a draft document showing a new area organization for the Senate. The total number of senators will remain the same; however, the areas represented will be changed. In answer to a question from Berkland, Roberts stated that there will be two representatives in Social Sciences/Humanities. The Business Administration and Computer Science fields will be represented by the senator in Math/Engineering. Roberts will continue to work on the document so that it reflects the current make up of the faculty.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 pm

Draft