Minutes
Ohlone College Faculty Senate
September 15, 2010
3:30 - 4:30
Room 7101

Members Present: Diane Berkland, Jeff Dean, Luc Desmedt, Claire Ellis, Chieko Honma, Alan Kirshner, Jim McManus, Bob Mitchell, Jeff O'Connell, Alyce Reynolds, Jeff Roberts, Nicole Sandoval, Terry Taskey, Wayne Yuen

Members Absent: Kim Stiles

Others Present: Dr. Gari Browning, Dr. Jim Wright, Ron Travenick, Marge Seagraves, Brenda Ahntholz

1. Announcements:
   a. Bob's plaque. It’s done and will be presented
   b. October 6 meeting in Newark, room 1222. Meeting will start at 3:45 p.m.
   c. Candidate Forum - October 20 during senate meeting
   d. Course ID Meetings - October 7, 2010 in Sacramento. More information [link]
      Berkland notes: this is an important tool being created to compare courses between community colleges. A similar concept to the CAN system.
   e. Approval of minutes from September 1, 2010  Brief changes and corrections noted. Berkland moves, Reynolds seconds. Unanimous approval.

2. Plan to rebuild faculty (A): Wright

   McManus: Question regarding this plan for a task force. Does the task force create an additional step in the previous process of asking for a replacement position. Wright: process has varied over the years, depending on factors such as budget. Administration has previously worked with Senate on a process to make hiring recommendations. We are now in an unprecedented situation with over twenty positions empty amid a challenging budget environment. There is difficulty in filling those vacancies plus consideration of upcoming retirements in the near future. The task force is oriented towards the idea of making a commitment to keep this issue prominent and a way to formally advise the president. We have not had a formal process because of the hiring freeze. Wright feels this committee of faculty and deans will be an important consistent voice. Committee will be responsible for determining their process. O’Connell asks if this new process replaces previous types of processes. Agenda in the past focused on what new positions there might be. Now, we are in a place where the group to make recommendations regarding replacing positions that are vacant. Kirshner notes the importance of looking at the numbers articulated in the presentations last time. Need for caution in any jump to fill positions in disciplines whose enrollment wanes. Especially true in vocational/career programs. Wright notes also that all of this is very contingent on funding. McManus asks whether or not we would be doing this anyway without this new formalized committee. Wright notes that without a particular plan, our ability to “function” at a much lower number of full-time faculty does not help remind us of the need to rebuild the full-time faculty ranks. Kirshner moves to make this task force a committee that meets a minimum of twice a year to review and update the data from Dr. Wright’s report and from there, make recommendations on faculty positions. McManus wonders if this work can go to an existing committee. Will be rooted in existing groups. Desmet questions which data will be used. Roberts: questions about membership of previous group that met, but has not met because of budget issues. Seconded: Berkland  Browning: Believes this is a good proposal. Welcomes the input and advice. Seagraves: Question about previous process used to replace vacancies. Vote: Unanimously passed.

3. Should all classes be closed on the first day of school? (I): Kirshner
Concern about students getting in to classes without instructor approval in the first week of classes. Confusion over how this happened. However it happens, should classes be closed, regardless of being full to allow instructor complete control over enrollment. Taskey notes similar concern. Travenick notes that specifics for each class perhaps should be looked at as there are sometimes unique circumstances with sections. Decision on when an instructor’s signature needed is a college, not state issue. The signature “dampens” open enrollment. If signature required for all courses as of first day, it will likely create a large amount of manual entry for A and R staff. The scenarios of enrollment change over time, also and will need to be flexible. Kirshner expresses concern about needing to repeat basic information about the class when students legitimately add the course. Taskey tries to clarify distinction with wait list versus open classes. Sandoval favors closing classes at the first session. Wonders if there can be created an “add code” system so students can be given the obligation to add themselves. Travenick notes “severe consequences” that need to be thought through before any changes made. Work involved in creating an “add code” system. Berkland wonders about potential loopholes in moving in this direction. Complicating the issue is the concern over students needing prerequisite clearance. Senators are asked to see constituent ideas on the subject of adding after the first day.

4. **Faculty of the Month subcommittee (I): Yuen**

   Asking how many awards given in the academic year. December? January? Summer session?
   Berkland: For summer, a faculty member who works then.
   Kirshner: Nomination to part-time award.
   Yuen: Posthumous award? No action was taken.

5. **Measure G (I): O’Connell**

   Senate has been asked to endorse Measure G. Can the Senate do this? Should the Senate do this?
   Kirshner notes that union attorney did not see problem, given that it can endorse individual candidates in elections.
   Measure G will be an item on the next agenda. Office established on Mission Boulevard. Looking for volunteers. Contact O’Connell with your personal e-mail for more information.

6. **Other**

   a. Topics for future meetings? Please e-mail

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.