

Academic Senate 2006-07
Annual Summary of Accomplishments

Submitted by: Nancy McLelland – Academic Senate President
September, 2007

1. Emergency Task Force

Objective: Explore creation of a new Academic Senate subcommittee with an expertise in AB 1725 legislation as it applies to academic and professional matters concerning faculty.

Status: the following motion was approved by the Academic Senate on 4/19/07: “Motion made that the Mendocino College Academic Senate take action to create an A.S.I.R.T. sub-committee by the Academic Senate President and Vice President, as needed, to address any possible professional irregularities related to shared governance, academic instructional issues, and institutional support for the instructional process. The A.S.I.R.T. subcommittee will consist of three members selected from current or past Academic Senate members willing to serve.”

A.S.I.R.T. is the acronym for the Academic Senate Institutional Response Team.

2. Academic Senate/Union Relations

Objective: Continue to refine the means of communication and the processes by which the two groups identify and discuss issues of shared concern and responsibilities.

Status: SUEco, a joint committee of three union members and three Academic Senate members, was established and a standing schedule of meetings was implemented. The charge of this committee is to identify and discuss issues of shared concern and responsibilities.

SUEco is the acronym for the Senate Union Executive Committee

3. Reassigned Time

Objective: Establish guidelines

Status: In response to urging by the Academic Senate, Meridith Randall, in her capacity as Vice President of Educational and Student Services, created an ad hoc faculty committee to work with her to create guidelines to determine distribution of reassigned time to full time faculty. The guidelines are now in place and are utilized by VP Randall and the current ad hoc committee to determine the distribution of reassigned time for full time faculty on a semester basis.

4. Class Cancellation Procedures:

Objective: Review the issues that result in class cancellations, the existing protocol, and possibilities for revisions.

Status: An ad hoc sub committee of the Academic Senate and the instructional deans created a set of procedures ready to put into place, pending approval by the Academic Senate and the faculty at large.

5. Campus Cleanliness:

Objective: Reach mutual agreement with the district on the Campus Cleanliness Resolution.

Status: Because of organizational changes in Facilities Planning and Maintenance as well as new hiring in those areas, the district and the Academic Senate have not yet reached mutual agreement on this resolution.

6. Marketing Resolution:

Objective: Reach mutual agreement with the district on the Marketing Resolution.

Status: The district and the Academic Senate have signed off on the marketing resolution. In the Statement of Mutual Agreement, “an action plan was developed and the most responsible persons identified in the action plan will be held accountable for completion of the action items. Should changes occur in either the needs or available resources of the District, the Superintendent/President will consult with the President and the Vice President of the Academic Senate regarding possible revisions to the action plan.” The Superintendent/President will provide an annual written progress report to the Academic Senate.

To date, the Academic Senate has not received an update of last year’s activities from the Superintendent/President.

7. Institutional Requirements:

Objective: Ongoing discussion.

Status: After several years of discussion with the Academic Senate, the instructional administrators, and the faculty, the consensus is to make no changes in the institutional requirements at this time.

8. Faculty Evaluations:

Objective: A revised tenure evaluation document has been agreed upon by the Academic Senate and the union. Ongoing discussion in the Academic Senate needs to take place concerning post-tenure, part time, and online faculty evaluations, as well as the relationship between faculty evaluations and professional development.

Status: The revised tenure evaluation instrument was implemented this academic year. Progress was made toward developing an online evaluation instrument, insofar as a Director of Distance Education has been hired and is expected to help implement an evaluation tool for online instructors. Issues concerning post-tenure and part time evaluations were not addressed by the Academic Senate this year.

9. Student Learning Outcomes:

Objective: An ongoing process

Status: The three major accomplishments were as follows: Faculty in-service produced plans for beginning assessment in each discipline of at least one previously developed SLO; Faculty began reviewing additional courses and including part-time faculty in the discussions; Some faculty began the assessment process or development of the assessment instrument.

10. Website Advisory Committee:

Objective: Explore the creation of a Professional Development /Flex website, modeled after several other California Community Colleges.

Status: The Academic Senate did not address this topic. No progress was made in reviving the Professional Development Committee.