

MINUTES

Mendocino College Academic Senate
Thursday, March 9, 2006
Room 1200

Call to Order Leslie Saxon West called the meeting to order at 12:34pm.

Present John Koetzner Mike Glenn
Nancy McLelland Charles Poteet

Absent Kurt Combs Jessica Morris
Steve Crossman Jean Stirling

(Note: Counselors were absent due to a counseling workshop being held on campus)

Guests Roger Hock *(joined meeting at 1:00pm)*

Agenda Approval M/S/C (Glenn/Koetzner) to approve the agenda of March 9, 2006

Minutes Approval M/S/C (Koetzner/Poteet) to approve minutes of February 23, 2006

Public Comments None

Committee Reports Leslie reported that the Strategic Planning Committee has made some revisions to the integrated institutional timeline and is getting closer to completion. The committee has also articulated institutional directions which are student learning outcomes, retention and communication.

IMPSC – Leslie reported that Kathy Lehner announced that a potential general obligation bond measure in the November 2006 election to fund capitol projects, maintenance and new programs, is being considered by the Board of Trustees.

President's Report Leslie attended the March Board of Trustees meeting. The board voted to approve funding to begin preliminary research to see if a general obligation bond is supported by the community and to proceed with hiring a professional pollster to determine the viability of the bond and at what dollar level.

Leslie attended a MC Foundation board meeting. Connie Gannon, new Foundation Development Director, discussed her interests and projects she is planning such as forming an alumni association, planning an annual homecoming event for students and faculty, and forming business partners in the community as a way of building funding sources for the foundation. The foundation board also voted unanimously to contribute a one-time funding of \$60,000 for a new nursing instructor for 2006-07 academic year.

Leslie reported that some colleges allow a full-time faculty member on a full-time faculty hiring committee, to participate in the final interview of the final candidates. Leslie and Nancy McLelland spoke with Kathy Lehner about this issue, and Kathy expressed her openness to talking about this concept if nothing in the policy disallows it. Leslie will put this on the next agenda so it can be discussed further.

Leslie encouraged Senate members to consider attending the Spring 2006 State Academic Senate Plenary session April 27-29 in San Francisco.

Nancy McLelland reported that she had attended the final MC 2006 meeting of community members and college personnel. She reported that Kathy Lehner was a speaker at this meeting and talked about the proposed bond measure. Nancy expressed her concern about what would be expected of faculty throughout this process.

New Business

1. First Reading – Resolution S'06-02

Faculty Office Space Committee Responsibilities

Roger Hock read the resolution out loud to Senate members. He reported that the purpose of the resolution was to clarify the purpose and roles of this committee. He believes that the resolution will strengthen the Faculty Office Space Committee (Off Comm) by reemphasizing these elements and reminding faculty as a whole of the processes in place in order to avoid potential conflict and competition for office space in the future. The current Committee Handbook description of the Off Comm responsibilities is not as comprehensive as the resolution.

Nancy suggested incorporating the need for experts in future planning, architecture and design as an added safeguard to ensure sound planning practices. Roger was not opposed to this, but did not feel it should be part of this resolution.

Leslie suggested that the first reading of this resolution be accepted, sent out for faculty to review and be placed on a future Senate agenda. Roger, who chairs this committee, encouraged faculty to speak with any of the Off Comm members who are Neill Bell, Lynn Haggitt and Reid Edelman.

2. Senate/Union Relations – *Discussion on how to promote a clearer and more positive relationship with our newly formed union.*

Leslie and Nancy met with Kurt Combs (VP of union), Deborah White (President of union) and Meridith Randall to discuss the faculty evaluation tool and the bigger issue of Senate/union relations. Leslie reported that two things became clear; (1) that there is an extreme need for the Senate and the union to come together to clarify their relationship, (2) that the union may have a different idea of how they should interact with faculty, than the faculty have. Perhaps a discussion with the faculty about this issue might help bring clarity to all. This issue will be placed on a future agenda, and union representatives will be invited to join. John Koetzner

recommended that a liaison committee be formed to help bridge differences and reopen dialogue.

Old Business

1. Faculty Evaluation Tool – Update

Nancy reported that a document proposal merging both the union sample (Form C) and the AS proposed Form C and Form A, was sent to faculty for review with a deadline of March 14th for responses. The union has agreed to accept whatever faculty evaluation tool the AS presents to them by March 16 for contract purposes. Nancy feels we will meet this deadline.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm