

Mission College Academic Senate President's Report 10/4/07

Title 5 Section 53200 (b): Academic Senate means an ogranization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters.

Section 53200 (c):
"Academic and professional
matter" means the following
policy development and
implementation matters:

- 1. Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines.
- 2. Degree and certificate requirements.
- 3. Grading Policies
- 4. Educational program development.
- 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success.
- 6. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles.
- 7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports.
- 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities.
- 9. Processes for program review.
- 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development.
- 11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate.

Last weekend was incredibly busy for me. On Friday, about 15 faculty, staff, and administrators from Mission College attended a special training session on the Basic Skills Initiative at the College of San Mateo. This is a statewide initiative sponsored by the System Office, funded by the Governor's budget, and initiated in part by Mission College math faculty member (and former ASCCC President) Ian Walton, which will bring millions of dollars to community colleges across the state on an ongoing basis to improve the success of our students. The training was a terrific start, but the work is just beginning. Over the next few months we will have to complete an institutional assessment on basic skills, and then develop a spending plan detailing how we plan to use the money to improve basic skills. This is a terrific opportunity, and one I am thrilled to be part of.

Then on Saturday I flew down to Burbank to attend a meeting of the State Senate's Relations with Local Senates committee as we prepared for the upcoming Fall Plenary Session. This committee is responsible for working with local senates around the state, assisting in the development of new senate leaders, and helping to make local senates aware of the resources available to them from the State Academic Senate.

The rest of the weekend was spent working on the Accreditation Self-Study. The document is coming together. The Senate and GAP are continuing to review it piece by piece.

SHARED GOVERNANCE AND OTHER MEETINGS

As usual, these are only my notes from the meetings. For full official details, please consult the minutes of the meetings.

District Council, 9/26

• At District Council last week, there was something that I forgot to report on – A plan was presented to create a District-level position out of Fred Prochaska's old (currently vacant) position. The new position would be an Associate Vice-Chancellor of Planning, Research, and Advancement, and would be paid at a higher level (Fred was a dean). Under this position would be a Grants Specialist, as well as the District Research Analyst (two new classified positions). There would be no new administrative positions created, as this would eliminate the Dean position formerly held by Fred. New job descriptions will need to be created and board-approved before this moves forward.