



Mission College Academic Senate President's Report 11/1/07

Title 5 Section 53200 (b):
Academic Senate means an organization 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.

Greetings from Southern California!

As I write this, I am taking a break from the ASCCC Fall Plenary Session in Anaheim. Mission College is well represented again this year. Brenna Wundram, CRC chair, is attending the full session along with Ian Walton and Jane Patton (both, of course, on the Executive Council for the ASCCC), and Char Perlas will be presenting as a member of the Senate's Subcommittee on Counseling and Library Faculty Issues.

I have just been listening to a couple of dynamic keynote speakers addressing the first general session on the subject of Prop. 92, the Community College Initiative, which will be coming to the voters in the February election. This is a tremendously important measure for community colleges across the state, and one which is supported both by the State Academic Senate and by our own District Board of Trustees. It is also supported by the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, and information about the initiative is available on the FACCC website at <http://www.faccc.org>.

At present, the Mission College Academic Senate has not taken an official position on this initiative, and as a result I do not feel that I have the authority to speak out publicly on this matter. I will be agendizing a discussion of this issue in a couple of weeks so that the Senate can give me direction on this issue, and I encourage every Senator – in fact, every faculty member – to go to the FACCC website and become familiar with this initiative immediately. I also intend to communicate with the presidents of the Classified Senate, the ASB, and ACE to make sure that they are aware of this issue and discussing it with their constituencies.

I'm not going to include notes from meetings in this report, as I have been focusing almost exclusively on dealing with the final preparation of the accreditation self-study this week. Tuesday evening Harriett Robles, Jonathan Brennan, and I were just settling into what we expected would be a very late evening of last-minute preparations so that we could have the self-study ready for GAP on Wednesday, when we were interrupted by the earthquake. With true Mission style, everyone pitched in to help with the evacuation of the campus, and then we adjourned to Harriett's apartment to continue our work until the wee hours of the morning.

However, other work has been going on at Mission, and next week I will try to include my notes from other meetings as well as more issued from Plenary. Feel free to send me any emails or concerns this weekend, and I'll try to respond as soon as possible.

