



Mission College Academic Senate President's Report 11/15/07

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.

Since my last report – sent from the Fall Plenary Session in Anaheim – there has been quite a bit to report. However, I want to take a moment first to acknowledge everyone who participated – or would have liked to participate – in last week's historic joint meeting between the Board of Trustees, the two Academic Senates, the two Classified Senates, and student representatives from both colleges. This meeting was the dream of trustee Don Cordero, an opportunity for all the different groups to come together with no agenda other than to introduce themselves to one another and share what each person hopes to accomplish as a member of their particular group. Although some people had initially expressed reservations about the aim of the meeting, by the end of the two hours I believe everyone present had come to believe in the wisdom of Don's vision. He was beaming as he watched the conversations between trustees and classified, faculty and students, from both colleges.

BAMS: I have been communicating with the interim Vice Chancellor about the progress of BAMS, and I informed him of our motion on the work of the committee. There appears to be a difference of opinion among the committee as to what has been going on in BAMS; more information is given in my meeting notes below. However, I have invited George Kozitza and Linda Francis to give an update on DBAC and BAMS to the Senate on December 6.

Accreditation: As everyone should know by now, the self-study draft is going to the Board for review this evening. Dozens of faculty and staff have participated in the development of this report, which I truly believe is a reflection of Mission College as a whole. Having read my way through nearly every section of this report – multiple times, in many cases – I am very, very proud of the work done by our college.

Fall Plenary Session: As usual, this was a terrific opportunity to meet and work with colleagues from around the state. I presented at two sessions as part of the Relations with Local Senates committee, and our committee is focusing this year on encouraging the transition of faculty who wish to transition into administration. Only by "growing our own" administrators will community colleges be able to have leadership who truly understand the role of faculty and the participatory governance processes required by Title 5, so this is a critical issue for colleges around the state. Other sessions looked at the disciplines list, Title 5 changes, SLOs, and many other issues.

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.

DIVISION CHAIRS COUNCIL, 11/5

- Harriett Robles visited to discuss the accreditation self-study and other items. She doesn't expect any new faculty positions to be opening up although we may be able to replace a few retiring positions.
- A major discussion was held on the effects of the HBA situation on FTEF, in particular on the allocation of part-time faculty. It will be essential to align our curriculum to student needs, and develop new programs and classes that will draw new students.
- It was noted that each occupational program must have an advisory committee with documentation of the membership and minutes which are kept. This needs to be in place by the time we have our accreditation visit next March.

GAP, 11/7

- Worku distributed CBAC's rankings of the Big Ticket Items (requests over \$30,000). There was discussion of the first item on the list, \$90,000 for production of the schedule and catalog, and there was general agreement with Harriett when she informed GAP that after this year that item would be considered a "fixed cost" and not subject to prioritization as their production is an essential process to the operation of the college.
- GAP also discussed those requests assigned to Strategic Directions in the college budget model. The rankings were generally determined to be ok, although one request (for clerical support for the advancement foundation) was identified as a college commitment made jointly by the presidents of the two colleges in order to generate more revenue. Worku pointed out that the current model used by the college has no flexibility to identify fixed costs of this type.
- This led to discussion of the Senate's budget task force, and a request from Harriett that CBAC and the Senate work together to avoid duplication of effort.
- The college's draft Education Plan, based on the EFMP forums held by the Senate last Spring, will be presented to GAP for a first reading on 11/21 and will come to the Academic Senate on 11/29 for review. GAP will do a final approval on 12/5, and if any changes are made based on Senate input then it will come back to us on 12/6 for final approval.
- A matrix of the planning agenda items from the accreditation self-study was distributed to GAP, and a request that the

CBAC, 11/7

- CBAC did a final review of the budget request prioritization for the current year, in preparation for a joint meeting with GAP. A suggestion for improving the process was made – that ongoing requests be submitted separately from one-time requests, for clarity in evaluating them.
- The tentative amount of money to be allocated is approximately \$558,000 total. Half of that is on-going, the rest is one-time funding. We will not know the exact amount for several weeks yet.

DISTRICT COUNCIL, 11/7

- There was a discussion of the distribution of the District Council minutes so that discussions and decisions are more widely available. IS is developing a website which should be up and running by the March accreditation visit that will allow archiving of minutes for D.C. and other groups, and people will be able to "subscribe" to be notified when new items are posted. However, until that site is up and running, approved minutes will be distributed to all users via email.
- The HBA audit report will not be out for a few more weeks. Dave Fishbaugh commented that the delay in getting the results may adversely affect scheduling for next year, as Summer/Fall scheduling needs to be done in Feb.
- Hartnell College has a new trustee, Pat Donohue, the mother of WVC employee Michelle Donohue (she got 54% of the vote!)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES JOINT MEETING, 11/8

- See above for details!

BOARD LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE, 11/9

- This meeting focused primarily on information concerning Prop. 92, the Community College Initiative. Linda Cushing, an organizer with “Prop92Yes”, gave information on endorsements and actions being taken by various entities around the state. The subcommittee is recommending that the Board endorse this initiative at their next meeting (11/15).

GAP/CBAC JOINT MEETING, 11/14

- This meeting had a single-item agenda: the approval of CBAC’s budget request prioritizations by GAP. One significant concern was safety, and those present were asked to review requests to see if any involved safety issues that would require they be moved higher. A request for vans for the athletic department was moved up based on this concern.
- There is not enough money to fund more than the top few requests in each category at the levels requested. Discussion on how to deal with this was a major topic, and various suggestions were made.

DBAC, 11/14

- DBAC was given an update on the progress of work in BAMS. A memo was sent out to BAMS and DBAC members last week with information from Linda Francis based on the current budget model, showing sources of revenue to the District over a three-year period as well as breaking out expenditures. This handout was developed following work by George Kozitza, Linda Francis, Graciano Mendoza, and the two VPs of Administrative Services. There was a difference of opinion about whether the decision to have the finance team work separately was a decision of BAMS or an executive decision. However, the members of BAMS present indicated that anything developed by the finance team would have to come back to BAMS for discussion.
- The statement was made that neither RSAC nor ABC is actually a “model”, since a true budget model needs to include both revenues and expenditures. BAMS is trying to incorporate a cost-based model as a component of the overall plan.
- It was determined that DBAC would hold BAMS to the original timeline proposed last summer, and ask BAMS to make some sort of recommendation to DBAC by December so that members can take it back to their constituencies for discussion. Whether this will be a complete model, a partial model, or some other recommendation remains to be seen.

BAMS, 11/14

- BAMS met following DBAC and had a more detailed discussion about the output of the finance team. The major recommendation of the team is to even out any sudden changes up or down in the model by using a three-year rolling average of revenues. There was general agreement with this concept, although which three years would be used is still being discussed.
- It was reiterated that RSAC or ABC could be incorporated into a model as a tool for analyzing the budget, but that neither is a model on their own merits.
- Linda’s handout will be re-worked to show the distribution of funds by department and/or by function.
- The next BAMS meeting was moved to 12/4 so that it would precede the next DBAC meeting.