



# Mission College Academic Senate President's Report 12/13/07

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.

This is the last President's Report of 2007. During the current semester, we have accomplished a lot of truly major tasks, and I want to summarize some of what we've accomplished and look ahead to what we face next semester.

During the Fall semester, the Mission College Academic Senate:

- Reviewed the Program Master Planning process, made recommendations to update that process, and directed that the Program Review Subcommittee be re-established in Spring so that the college can begin a regular cycle of program review starting next year (Fall 08).
- Reviewed and accepted the College's self-study for the 2008 accreditation.
- Gave preliminary approval to two new degree programs so that they can move through the program approval process – the LVN-to-RN "step-up" program, and a degree in Liberal Arts (both degrees will be returning to the Senate for final approval in Spring).
- Began the process of planning how to deal with the huge influx of money that will flow from the State's Basic Skills Initiative.
- Monitored the progress of the BAMS subcommittee of DBAC (see more notes under DBAC, below).

There is a lot still to be done next semester. Key issues from this semester will need additional attention next term:

- Final approval of the two new programs.
- Consideration of additional new programs under development.
- Working with CRC to revise the approval process for new programs as well as examining the program discontinuance process.
- Re-starting the Program Review Subcommittee as a standing subcommittee of the Academic Senate.
- Working with GAP and other bodies to review and update the College's Shared Governance and Decision-Making Plan.
- Working with CBAC on modifications to the College's Budget Allocation Model.
- Tracking and monitoring the progress of SLO's, the BSI, and the recommendations that emerged from the EFMP forums last year.

... and, of course, preparing and dealing with the accrediting team's site visit in March.

Senators will need to stay in communication over the Winter break. I am not planning to call any meetings before the beginning of the semester. However, we will be meeting the first week of Spring as there are some things that will require immediate action on our return to school, so please check your email before school starts for any Senate-related reading. I'll try to keep it to a minimum.

*Thanks again for all your hard work this semester!*

## **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.

### **EQUIVALENCIES, 12/11**

(Just a note here – since this committee primarily deals with the review of employment applications, I do not usually report out as those discussions are confidential. However, occasionally other issues arise, as was the case last week and again this week.)

- There was some informal discussion about the concerns raised by faculty over the subject of “redeployment” and internal transfers of faculty. Article 25 of the ACE contract governs voluntary changes to assignments and will be followed. All present – including myself, Dave Fishbaugh (VP of Instruction at WVC), Rod Pavao, and Karen Ostrowski (HR recruitment specialist) – agreed that there has been no discussion at present of any plans for involuntary reassignment as far as we are aware.

### **DBAC, 12/12**

- George Kozitza reported that the WSCH/FTE goal for next year has been set at 525. This is slightly lower than our current goal, but above what we’ve actually been achieving.
- There was a discussion of the potential HbA penalty and how it would be addressed and paid; I referred people to the minutes of our last MCAS meeting for a summary of Clement Lam’s presentation on how the apportionment cycle works. In response to a question, George stated that the District will be requesting money from the Land Corporation to help deal with penalties.
- George presented for discussion 12 principles, developed by BAMS for use in developing the 08/09 District budget. (These principles are the same as those distributed at the MCAS last week.) Lengthy discussion ensued. Several principles – including the idea of splitting student services funds based on headcount (#2), making Central Services budget increases/decreases subject to review by DBAC (#7), and others – were especially contentious. Other principles, such as keeping one-time funds separate from ongoing funds (#5), are essentially a continuation of ongoing current practice. Principle #6, dealing with fixed costs, would require implementation in January if it was to be used, which is too soon to allow proper review.
- There was further discussion of the intent of these principles, and it appeared to DBAC that the intent was to present them to the Board as evidence of progress but to essentially use the existing BAM next year as the basis, while incorporating as many of these principles as possible in making decisions and continuing to work on a fully formed BAM for the following year. However, both Academic Senates will need to have sufficient time to get feedback from faculty and that cannot be accomplished in time to make the 2/7 board agenda. As a result, the recommendation is to aim for the first Board meeting in March, and allow time for feedback from faculty to DBAC and BAMS. Meanwhile, BAMS will take the comments & suggestions from this DBAC meeting, work with them, and come back to DBAC in January with revisions to the principles for consideration.