

**MCAS Shared Governance Report
District Council Meeting Notes
Wed June 11, 2008**

Senate Resolution on the Land Corp

Under Oral Communication from the Public, I asked that an item be put on the BOT agenda for the June 19 meeting asking the BOT to respond to the MC Academic Senate's resolution to the Land Corp. Senator Malchow asserted that under Title 5, the Board is obligated to respond to the Senate at a BOT meeting and if they don't, they must provide a written explanation. The Chancellor expressed that in his view, the Senate resolution on the Land Corp did not fall under the 10+1 areas of purview of the Senate so did not require the BOT to respond, even though they will be responding. The Chancellor indicated that putting the item on the BOT agenda would not be necessary because the Land Corp and the Board will be responding to the Academic Senate. There was also an assertion by a District Council member that the Senate should have gone through the administration rather than directly to the Board of Trustees on this issue. I reminded the group that under the Ed Code and Title 5, the Academic Senates have a direct relationship with the Board of Trustees and can bring any issues of concern to them without consulting administration.

District Organizational Study

I also expressed the Academic Senate's objection to the initiation of the organization study without adequate consultation with the MC Academic Senate and asserted that under the Ed Code, the Academic Senate has purview over institutional planning processes. The Chancellor asserted that, legally, the District could do a reorganization of the administrative structure of the District without consulting the Senate, but that it would not choose to follow such a practice. I expressed that my understanding was that the Senates had purview over the process of institutional planning and as such, the Senates should determine the process that is followed for this organizational study. I asked that the Senate's objection to the current plan be noted for the record.

BOT agenda item #5.3 – Administrative Contract Renewal

I expressed the concern of the Senate regarding the renewal of 2 year contracts for administrators. I added that this wasn't about the competency of the personnel who are highly competent staff, but about the wisdom of offering 2 year contracts instead of 1 year contracts. I told the group that I had heard that in the 2003 layoff crisis, administrators were not considered for layoffs because they had 2 year contracts. The Chancellor indicated that all managers and administrators were notified at the end of their contracts in 2003 that they may not be renewed. The managers and administrators were never exempt from layoffs and they are not exempt in the upcoming years. Administrators can be laid off in spite of 2 year contracts. The 2 year contract is a requirement of the collective bargaining agreement that administrators have with the District. The District cannot offer 1 year contracts to them.

Enrollment

For the Fall, Mission College is up 11% in unduplicated headcount compared to the same time last year. It is up 14% in total Fall enrollment compared to the same time last year.

Hiring/Defunding positions

For all defunded positions, some are moving forward. The candidates are being notified of the delayed Board approval process. There was concern expressed that too much delay between the last interview and the job offer/approval by Board gives the District a bad name and will make future recruitment more difficult.

The colleges are going to look at categorical positions to look for other sources of funding. It was recommended that there should be a District process to review the viability of categorical positions just as we have not created a list of criteria for reviewing Fund 100 positions.

The document entitled “Recruitment Update June 9, 2008” doesn’t include all the vacant positions. A committee member requested that we get a list of all vacant and defunded positions. The June 9 document includes only those positions which have recently been defunded.

There was a decision made at a past District Council meeting that:

1. all Fund 100 positions that are vacant would be defunded
2. All Fund 100 positions in recruitment would move forward
3. All categorical positions would move forward
4. All Fund 100 positions that were vacated after a certain point would be forwarded to EMT for review and use of the criteria to decide whether to fill them or not

\$3.5 million is the reported savings from all defunded positions, but there are only 5 defunded positions on the June 9 list. These figures don’t match. We would like to see a list of ALL defunded positions that account for that \$3.5 million.

As a position becomes vacant, it will be automatically be defunded. There should be some District venue for looking at the criteria for final review. It was stated that the criteria would still come back to District Council for review.

Chancellor’s Senate Roundtable

Tue, June 17, 8:30-10:00am

This is a monthly meeting between the Mission and West Valley College Academic Senate Presidents, Classified Senate Presidents, Albert Moore (Special Assistant to the Chancellor) and the Chancellor – today’s meeting lasted about 1.5 hrs in the Chancellor’s office. Those present today: Angelica Bangle, Laurel Kinley, My Loi, Albert Moore, Chancellor Arterberry, Stephanie Kashima.

I had asked that the agenda item “faculty morale/transparency/communication” be placed on the agenda for discussion. I expressed that there is a perceived lack of transparency in District and College decision-making among Mission College faculty. This has led to

anxiety about the future and has had an effect on faculty morale. I stressed the need for transparency, consultation, and frequent and high quality communication in order to show faculty their input is valued in decision-making. The Chancellor expressed that the Chancellor's Senate Roundtable meetings have been used as a way to enhance that communication by getting input from Senate Presidents before bringing issues to the participatory governance committees such as District Council. I expressed that I had concerns about not being able to share all information with the Senate. The Chancellor and the other members of the Roundtable stated that the only time it would be requested not to send out information to all users would be, for example, if there were a draft copy of a document that we would work on during the Roundtable discussion, which would be revised and then brought to the participatory governance committees. To send out the first draft would create confusion in the community if they were then presented with the second draft soon after. It became clear during our discussion of this issue that perhaps a reason for the Mission College faculty feeling left out of the loop is that we have not been seeing all the documents that are discussed at participatory governance meetings, such as all the BOT agenda items that are discussed at District Council. It was agreed that this could cause feelings of anxiety and suspicion among faculty. I expressed that in order to create a sense of trust, it takes time and we all need to be cognizant that this will take some time to create trust between administration and Mission College faculty. It was clear to me during this Roundtable discussion that the WVC Senate Presidents felt that they have been adequately informed about issues at the Roundtable by the Chancellor.

Textbook Task Force

The State Chancellor's Office has requested that Districts set up District Textbook Task Forces to explore issues of access and equity in relation to the high cost of textbooks. The State office has created a list of recommendations that Districts can follow to address the student success and access issues involving textbook prices. The WVC Academic Senate President, Angelica Bangle, and I agreed to take this issue to the Senates to discuss and to take leadership on this issue. The Chancellor indicated that the Land Corp has been allocating \$20,000/year to provide students with food vouchers and that the college presidents are asking that that money be redirected to pay for books for students.

Organizational Review

I expressed my concern that the organizational study proposal was presented without input from the Academic Senate. The Chancellor indicated that this issue has been discussed at the Roundtable since January and the other members agreed that it had. I expressed that because the Mission College Academic Senate has not yet had a chance to review and discuss the proposal, at the minimum, we should be allowed 2 weeks to do so. The Chancellor indicated that on June 30 he would like to have a joint meeting of the Senate Presidents from both colleges and the Executive Management Team (Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, HR Director, College Presidents and Albert Moore) in order to finalize the document entitled "Request for Qualifications and Proposal for an Organizational Review," which is essentially a description of the work we would like done by an organizational study firm and which will be part of the application packet sent out to firms. I indicated that I would need to get a digital copy of the document to send out to Senators and faculty immediately. It was recommended that the document be discussed at

the joint District Council/DBAC meeting tomorrow and that people could give input at that time. In addition, I indicated that I would call a meeting of the Senate to discuss before June 30.

I asked the Chancellor for his timeline for this activity and he indicated that by June 30, he would like the application to be completed and that proposals would be solicited in July. Further he expected that the new Chancellor, John Hendrickson, would be part of the selection team in early August and he hoped the study would be conducted from mid August to mid November with recommendations being put forward at that time.

Resolution on Land Corporation Allocation by Mission College Academic Senate

The Chancellor indicated that Bob Owens and Jack Lucas, the Chairmen of the Board of Trustees and the Land Corp, respectively, will respond to the Academic Senate on Thursday at the Land Corp meeting and at the Board of Trustees meeting and they will also provide a written response later.

Trustee Constantin Resolution

The Chancellor and others are currently reviewing Trustee Constantin's resolution to determine the impact relative to Board policies or procedures. Angelica and I will communicate about the resolution, but the efforts of all parties to address the resolution should be coordinated.

Kuwait

Initially, the District will be working through Contract Education to offer the classes. There will soon be a visit by the Kuwaitis to our District. The new Chancellor will be meeting with the Kuwait Task Force in August. All the other institutions of higher ed in Kuwait appear to have used the same process that we are using to establish a relationship. The Chancellor first visited Kuwait in March to meet with the Kuwaitis with Raj Ayyar, the project coordinator for the Kuwait Project. After their meeting, the District sent the Kuwait Task Force over to meet with the representatives of our educational partners and the government there. Apparently, the Chancellor was not planning on attending the second visit in May/June, but the Kuwaitis requested that he attend. He has returned, but most of the faculty members have not yet returned to campus. The Chancellor does not have any contractual/financial relationship with the Kuwaitis. There is another development related to our possible new relationship in Kuwait that I want to let you know about. As there are a number of US military installations in Kuwait, the Chancellor, at the urging of the task force, is working with Representative Mike Honda to get our District on the military's approved list of colleges providing educational services to service members.