The De Anza Academic Senate
Approved notes of the meeting of
January 10th, 2011


Senators and Officers Absent:  Annen, Castaño, Cruz, Hertler, James, and Lathers

DASB:  Ali Masood
Classified Senate:
Administrative Liaison:  Rowena Tomaneng
Guests:  Mallory Newell, Brian Murphy, Cynthia Kaufman, Laurel Torres (FA), Tom Izu
SLO coordinators/Staff Development:  Jackie Reza
Curriculum Co Chair:  Anu Khanna

[NOTE: Item numbers are reflective of agenda numbers in the order they are actually taken up at the meeting.]

The meeting was called to order at 2:33, a quorum being present.

I. Approval of Agenda and Notes: The agenda was approved as distributed. The notes of the meeting of November 22nd were approved as distributed with minor editing plus the noting of an incorrect deadline statement made during the meeting’s Item IV which was corrected after the meeting.

II. Needs and Confirmations:  None

IV. Officer’s Reports: Setziol reported that the three year cycle of review of the Courses Into Disciplines and FSAs Report had been completed. He also mentioned that, after he meets with Human Resources Vice Chancellor Dorene Novotny, a meeting is planned to discuss the likelihood of a reconciliation of the Foothill and De Anza reports.

Lee-Wheat reported on a committee appointment made during the winter break of Herminio Hernandez to the Search and Selection Committee for the position of Counseling and Matriculation Dean and the facts and reasoning behind the selection.

Anderson reported on what turned out to be a bleak budget outlook with the best case scenario apparently being worse than recent worst case scenarios. He emphasized that the size of the problem is of the magnitude calling for all manner of solutions and participation by all or nearly all employees. Negotiated items in the collective bargaining arena may very well be included but their inclusion would likely only change the magnitude of other solutions, not their existence. Neither would they change the need to determine priority within the regular budget and planning decision making processes. In
the midst of this, the college needs to fill a number of new and replacement full time faculty positions. Anderson will be drafting an all faculty survey on accreditation and other matters and will be showing the Executive Committee a draft for its review and input. Finally, Anderson mentioned possible FA actions which would call for members of the Executive Committee to decide how it would be affected. He asked Laurel Torres to clarify. Torres spoke to the potential for the FA to call for a “work to contract” action meaning that faculty would be asked to refrain from doing things not specifically required by the contract. This would be done, at least in part, in protest of the previously undisclosed bonuses given to six administrators.

IV. College President Update: President Murphy thanked the group for its continuing important work and all employees and employee groups for their continued excellent service in these hard times. The news from the State budget is nothing less than worse than anything in memory. He gave out some of the overall State numbers including two scenarios. The first scenario calls for the public to approve the extension of temporary tax measures due to expire in the current year and, even with the $12 billion support this would provide, the governor proposes to cut community colleges by $400 million (roughly $12 million for the Foothill De Anza District). The second scenario is the consequence of the voters potentially not passing the tax extensions. It calls for a $900 million cut to community colleges (roughly 27 million) with somehow $100 million possible for growth. Murphy also reported that the college is approximately 4% short of its enrollment plan for Winter. He spoke about a major informational message he is crafting and pledged that, should the Executive Committee wish to do extensive work on the budget and budget solutions, he would provide as much informational and other assistance as possible.

For his last item, he acknowledged, like Anderson, the seemingly paradoxical situation surrounding faculty hiring. He briefly reiterated previous statements on the matter and praised former Classified Senate President Lois Jenkins for her understanding and articulate explanation to classified staff of the need to hire full time faculty.

VI. General Education Open Fora: Setziol began by announcing that the officers had decided to combine the given topic of these previously discussed special open meetings with the topic of SB1440 implementation. After comments and questions, the group selected February 9th and 24th as the two dates. They will be held mid day. Senators will help encourage their division faculty to attend.

VII. Teaching and Learning Conference: Cynthia Kaufman began by announcing a name change from that given in the agenda title to “Partners in Learning Conference” a title aimed at stirring interest and participation on the part of classified staff. She thanked the Senate for its support in the past and in the present and she and Anderson mentioned that a specific dollar amount request will come to the January 17th meeting. The focus of the conference will be short presentations sharing the practices of enthusiastic De Anza faculty and staff. It will take place March 4th.

VIII. California History Center exhibit and visiting scholar: California History
Center Director Tom Izu presented handouts on a major exhibit dealing with the Angel Island history of being the “Ellis Island of the West”. There will be a reception kicking off the exhibit January 28th and the exhibit will run through June 24th. He also distributed a flyer announcing both the exhibit and a “Day of Remembrance” Tuesday, February 15th in commemoration of the day (February 19th) of the infamous World War II executive order forcing the internment of Japanese Americans.

IX. Student Engagement Survey Results: In light of the too limited time remaining, Anderson announced that the item would be held over to the meeting of January 24th but briefly mentioned how fortunate De Anza is in having students much more engaged in campus centered activities than most community colleges.

X. Good of the Order: - Torres said she wanted to be sure that everyone left the meeting understanding that no action has been taken by FA to call faculty to do anything in particular.
- Anu Khanna announced an open time from 10-12 Wednesday, January 12th on the topic of prerequisites and what all is involved in meeting the January 26th deadline for changes in prerequisites plus division and or department processes for students to demonstrate they have met requisite provisions.
- Beckum announced a Martin Luther King Junior observance January 20th from 11:30 to 1:30 in the Campus Center’s Fireside room and mentioned an evening event February 16th which is a spinoff of the Euphrat Museum’s exhibit on games.
- McNamara asked for a response on the Saturday and Sunday class issue of not having 12 weeks per quarter like other classes. Anderson mentioned several points which came from an FA/Senate Liaison discussion. These were either disputed by or were not satisfactory to McNamara. Anderson stated that he would not be pursuing the matter further unless directed to do so by the Executive Committee. The item ended with it being unclear whether more or less Executive Committee time or action was called for.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24