

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

September 16, 2008

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

V111

MINUTES

Members Present: Phyllis Arias, Eva Bagg, Lou Ann Bynum, Cathy Crane, Rose DelGaudio, John Downey, Ann-Marie Gabel, Shauna Hagemann, Eloy Oakley, Kevin Ryan, Sigrid Sexton, Natalia Schroeder, Christopher Villa, Steve Wallech, Joan Zuckerman

Absent: Donald Berz, Kenna Hillman

Note Taker: M'Shelle Reece

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of May 13, 2008 will be resubmitted at the October 21, 2008 meeting with revisions requested by council members.

3. Update on SLO Committee

A draft charge for the Student Learning Outcomes Committee was reviewed and council members deliberated over a fitting name for this committee. Members agreed that the paramount responsibility of the committee will be to integrate and communicate student learning outcomes in all areas of the college. Careful consideration was given that the name chosen would reflect the appropriate function and reporting structure of this committee. After review of the committee charge, it was decided that a portion of the fourth bullet listed "*in collaboration with the ASLO Committee*" be moved and incorporated into the initial charge clause. Council members reached consensus and decided upon the committee name "Integration of Student Learning Outcomes Committee" (ISLO). Co-chairs will be contacting departments soon for committee representatives. President Oakley reminded everyone that student representation should be included on this committee, as it was not indicated on the handout.

4. Reorganization Proposal

Steve Wallech shared some history regarding past structuring of the schools. He explained that in the past, schools were combined with a goal of uniting leadership and stopping singular schools from fighting over units. President Oakley conveyed that currently the schools are too large, explaining that the idea behind the current proposal to separate the schools is to lessen the load for the deans of the schools in order that they may better serve the many needs of each school.

President Oakley announced that a decision has been made to add a third campus community reorganization forum on Tuesday, September 30 on the LAC campus. Council members reviewed and discussed the current reorganization chart distributed, and members stated there is confusion over the current organizational chart, as it does not depict previous proposed revisions. Concern was also expressed that some academic departments were not indicated on the chart, therefore causing some worry as to how these departments will fit into the new organizational structure. President Oakley gave assurance that discipline specific centers or any instructional classes not indicated on the chart will remain with/and report to their departments.

Discussion and deliberation focused on the restructuring proposed under the areas of Dean of Academic Affairs and Services and the proposed new Academic Administrator position. Council members agreed that the reorganization structure would be better served with the creation of a Dean of Student Success position reporting to the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, opposed to the Academic Administrator position currently proposed in the reorganization. Members further agreed the areas of responsibility under the Dean of Student Success should include Learning & Academic Resources (LAR), Multi-Disciplinary Centers, and Basic Adult Education/Academic Support Development (BAE). And, that the areas of responsibility under the Dean of Academic Affairs and Services should include Schedule/Catalog/Enrollment, Library, Honors, Study Abroad, and Learning Communities. President Oakley reiterated that the intent and focus of the reorganization must be to support the success of the Student Success Initiative. There was also consensus on the need for a dedicated person in the Allied Health Department, whether this be a dean or academic administrator position.

The next area of focus was the reporting structure of Distance Learning. Members debated on whether Distance Learning should fall under Administrative Services or Academic Affairs. Kevin Ryan shared that some faculty feel that Distance Learning should remain under Academic Affairs as it is a mode of instruction. President Oakley clarified that the realignment does not have to do with the instructional side, but the delivery of distance learning education. He stated that faculty are not assigned to Distance Learning; it is the faculty and the department who own the course and Distance Learning supports that operation. The main idea/goal for moving Distance Learning under Administrative Services is to allow the district to assess the educational technology needs and plan technology support/service improvements for the college as a whole instead of planning on a department basis. The intent of the proposed reorganization would be to hire an Academic Administrator familiar and trained in instruction and educational technology who can deliver needed improvements for the District's Distance Education Program. This Academic Administrator will have college-wide authority and responsibility, as opposed to a dean who serves a single school. Our current Distance Learning Director, Amit Schitai, is responsible for our current software, but we do not have a chief instructional officer trained at delivering academic educational technology. President Oakley added that for a college of our size, and in these times when FTEs are anticipated to decline in future years, the place for our growth is in Distance Learning Education. The college needs to embrace and increase our Distance Education Program from its current 5% FTEs to at least 25%.

The next area discussed was Economic and Resource Development. The proposed new Dean of Career and Technical Education position was created with the intent that this dean will serve the entire college with direct reporting to the Vice President of Economic and Resource Development and dotted-line reporting to the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs. Responsibilities proposed for this dean would include leading and coordinating resources toward all career technical education initiatives and programs on campus, to serve as a member on various college committees, and to stay fully informed of the needs of the community in order to help steer academic programs based on community needs. Council members conveyed that faculty do not always understand Economic and Resource Development and Vice President Bynum asked for ideas on ways this could be improved. She emphasized that Economic and Resource Development is the third mission of the community college system and that business should drive college programs to better serve the students. There is a need to create more career pathways, and the State calls for the integration of academics and career and technical education. A key component of student success is creating career pathways by providing every student who comes to LBCC an opportunity to succeed in their educational goal, and career education is a huge part of the educational goals of many of our students, approximately 30% or more.

A revised organization chart incorporating changes from today and upcoming meetings/forums will be sent out campus wide, along with a memo announcing the additional forum scheduled for September 30.

5. Academic Council Retreat

The Academic Council retreat will be held in late spring and council members were asked to begin thinking of retreat agenda topics.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.