ACADEMIC COUNCIL
October 19, 2010
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
T-1046

SUMMARY NOTES

Members Present:  Eva Bagg, Don Berz, Lou Anne Bynum, Cathy Crane, John Downey, Ann-Marie Gabel, Shauna Hagemann, Rigo Ibarra, Chris Jacobs, David Morse, Kevin Ryan, Winford Sartin, Sigrid Sexton, Lynn Shaw

Absent:  Eloy Oakley, Rose DelGaudio, Don Low

Note Taker:  M'Shelle Reece

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The meeting summary notes of September 14, 2010 were approved.

3. SLO Officer Update and Discussion

Only a few SLO positions remain unfilled, and it was suggested that we might look to other departments to solicit possible interest in filling the last few vacancies. Academic Senate President Ryan is working with CCA President to make sure we are on track to negotiate a second year of compensation for this pilot program.

4. Course Evaluation Subcommittee/Accreditation Update

Three Course Peer Reviewers have been selected - Phyllis Arias, Patrice Kaska, and Jeff Wheeler. The Subcommittee is moving forward. The members have been trained and are working with their cohorts.

5. Educational Master Plan Update

The District received approximately 1,700 completed Educational Master Plan Surveys from the community. The data gathered will be analyzed and provide guidance for creating the new Educational Master Plan which will begin next semester.
6. Faculty Hires

The District is hopeful to be hiring a significant number of new faculty, but is still waiting for final word from the Chancellor’s office on the 75/25 rule and whether California will be issued a waiver. We should receive notice after the Board of Governor’s November meeting. Even if LBCC is under a waiver, the district still anticipates hiring new faculty, but cannot confirm the number at this point in time. A concern was raised how the district can hire new faculty when current faculty members are incurring salary reductions in the form of furloughs. It was noted that furloughs are slated to end in the 2011/12 fiscal year, and the approximate $2 million savings from the furloughs and the cost of hiring new full-time faculty will add to the district’s current structural deficit. Therefore, the Budget Advisory Committee has been asked to continue to look at ways to reduce our deficit until the State Budget crisis is over. The Hiring Priorities Committee is currently proceeding with the intent of hiring in order to be prepared when the final word is received.

7. PCC Standing Committee

Per our last meeting, this item will go before the College Planning Committee but note was made that the Program Review Taskforce for PCC should remain separate from this PCC Standing committee.

8. CTE Consultant

Vice President Bynum presented information to support the request to hire a consultant in order to meet the Board of Trustees and Superintendent’s goals of increasing and improving of our Career Technical Education Programs to keep them current and viable for our regional economy. Funds for the consultant were earmarked in our Title 5 plan which allows funds for such purpose. Currently, the district is not in compliance with some regulations under Title V and VTEA. In addition LBCC is lacking a state plan for our CTE programs at a time when the Chancellor’s Office is calling for external program review in order to be eligible to receive future funding.

It is proposed that a consultant be selected to work in coordination with a District Leadership Steering Committee (to be composed of faculty and administrators) to review and assess a selected portion of our 54 technical education programs. The primary function for the consultant will be to review, assess, beta test and recommend an implementation methodology for selected programs that would be supported and sustained by the District Leadership Steering Committee.
The following are some issues/ideas the Council members discussed in relation to the proposal:

- Committee members acknowledged LBCC lacks a District CTE leadership person
- A past LBCC report indicated 24 of our CTE programs are in dire need of improvement
- Members questioned the use of a consultant versus district employee to complete this work
- Recommendation to possibly roll this into Program Review with assistance from our CTE Committee
- Recommendation to seek a faculty champion and give them the support needed
- Members questioned who has the final decision on spending VTEA funds on a consultant.

No decision was reached on the proposal at the meeting and further discussion was recommended.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.