Los Angeles Community College District
West Los Angeles College at Culver City
Meeting of the Academic Senate
Minutes
November 28, 2006
Winlock Lounge

Senators Present: Patterson, Rod, Vice President; Siever, Patricia, Treasurer; Sweeney, Joyce, Secretary; Aguiar, Aracely; Blustein, Bonnie; Brown, Stephen; Canales, Carrie; Chow, Judy; DuBois, May; Froloff, Cathy; Suzanne Floyd; Hager, Robert; Kazahaya, Dianne; Leonard, Fran; Morrison, Phyllis; Patil, Ashok; Taylor, Alice; Workman, John; Zolner, Paul.
Guests Present: Ichon, Eric; Rouzan, Sherron; Jacobs, Betty;

I. Call to order:
The meeting was called to order at 12:54 P.M. by Vice President Rod Patterson in the absence of the President.

1. Confirmation of the agenda
Accreditation Report amended to informational MSP

3. Administrative Report – Dr. Paul Stansbury
The class schedules for the Winter and Spring semesters are available on campus. The one-stop enrollment will be held on December 13th and 14th. Volunteers are ready for the phone banks, but more are needed.

2. Minutes
Approval of the corrected Minutes of October 24, 2006 MSP
Approval of the corrected Minutes of November 14, 2006 MSP

II. Public Speakers
None

III. Senate Officers’ Reports:
1. President Eloise Crippens
   No report
2. Vice President Rod Patterson
   Hand-outs distributed were (I didn’t get copies) Mr. Patterson made the following points.
   o The Distance Learning (D/DL) committee met December 6, 2006 in Winlock.
   o The Educational Policy and Standards Committee (EPAS) already met twice with work done on the charge to create the D/DL committee. Their next order of business shall be the new Educational Master Plan for WLAC.
Recommended for the Senators’ attention was to read the State Chancellor’s website.

The College Council met November 27, 2006. E-mail was forwarded to each faculty member concerning $125,000.00 available for growth proposals. Faculty proposals for student growth shall be due to the Planning Committee by December 6, 2006, and shall included 17 hard copies to facilitate their work. Commendation was mad to Nikki Jacobson for the excellent job of preparing of the proposal request on line.

And appreciation for the hard work of the progress committees for the update Accreditation Report in the capture of recent campus activities was given.

The Academic Senate was reminded of the changes that will be made to math and English requirements for graduation Fall of 2009. The Math Department is ready to give a report on their preparatory activities.

Senate Bill 361 regarding Community College funding formulae and proposed changes was mentioned.

There will be a “student anxiety workshop” held during the week of December 11th through 14th in BC 101. Faculty is requested to participate in discussions concerning how to prepare for exams.

A request was made to send Marlene Shepard a get-well card since she has had eye surgery.

3. Patricia Siever, Treasurer

WLAC Senate has received $5,000.00 from the District Senate to correct an earlier error. The Treasurer asked for several Senators to meet and create a schedule of how to apportion the dues received to guarantee monies for end of the year scholarships for deserving students. These ideas are to be presented at the next regular Senate meeting, December 12, 2006. The Treasurer is waiting for receipt of a ledger check book which appears to be lost in the mail. Faculty members that have recently received cards and flowers from the Senate have sent appreciation remarks to the Senate.

IV. ASO Report

None

V. Academic and Professional Matters

1. Accreditation – Fran Leonard reporting

There will be a type of Town Hall meeting held on December 7, 2006 at 1 P.M. to discuss the draft update report for Accreditation. All faculty, staff and ASO members are invited to attend. The draft is already available to be read on the website. If any one has remarks or comments, please put them in writing for documentation. There are criticisms being made concerning content. It was recommended that when criticism is heard, to invite that individual to propose a solution. Currently, remarks on “how to make it better” are needed.

2. Student Success – Betty Jacobs reporting
“Incomes” as well as “outcomes” from students should be considered. Ideally, skills that students should have upon entering a class to succeed should be listed in the syllabus. Good counseling is paramount, but currently, WLAC is short of needed counselors. The subject of “faculty advisors” was raised. How can incoming students, in order to improve, be upgraded, and how can WLAC meet the needs of the students that come to us? Richard Olivas commented on the Drummond report from the Times newspaper, of the abilities in Community Colleges to meet needs and abilities of the students. A lively discussion followed. Betty Jacobs assured the Senate that changes are being instituted in the English Department to support the reading aspect of their courses. Bonnie Blustein remarked of the need in the Math Department to teach students to read math problems prior to teaching them to solve them. Is it necessary to expect certain specific things of students before moving them on to higher levels of the departments? It was suggested that intensive, six weeks of four day classes for emersion should be tried. Dr. Stansbury remarked that a steady consistent funding source is needed to alleviate the situation that the whole district, including WLAC is now in. A Brown Bag Lunch meeting was suggested, to create a list of Best Practices to achieve better student success on our campus. A handout on Best Practices was distributed by Fran Leonard.

8. Noticed Motion from Executive Committee. The Academic Senate shall develop a schedule for hearing anticipated reports and recommendations from all Senate Committees. Alice Taylor made a friendly amendment to include hearing reports, “those from all other entities requiring official input or response from the Senate.”

9. Since the CSU has left CAN and are now using their own criteria for articulation, how will that impact WLAC majors? Patricia Siever volunteered to send a copy of the MOU from Drummond concerning articulation via e-mail so the Senators may have a basis for discussion and to develop a strategy. Ms. Siever also volunteered to develop a report on this articulation problem.

10. The Federal Supreme Court will be hearing arguments in two cases that may impact the Brown decision. There is a campus meeting scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2006 for a general information and discussion on this topic.

II. Adjournment at 2:40 P.M.
Next Meeting December 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Sweeney, Secretary