College Council
Minutes for the meeting of
March 6, 2008
1 p.m. Winlock Lounge


I. Chair Fran Leonard called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.
   1. The agenda was confirmed.
   2. Minutes of the Plenary Session of February 7, 2008 were approved.

II. There were no public speakers.

III. President’s Report - Measure J
   A. Dr. Rocha noted that the participatory governance process followed is a model, strengthening the college’s governance overall.
   B. Olga asked how the latest version differs from the previous version and asked that the footer be updated or removed.
      Dr. Rocha will remove the footer. He indicated that the “flesh-colored” portion of the handout comes from L. Eisenberg’s office, which separates the campus-specific items, which are not imbedded in the Measure J Proposal, from the “pure” bldg. project.
   C. Dr. Rocha also mentioned that since the Chancellor is going for a bond amount of $4 billion, some amounts on the handout have been adjusted upward to reflect this.
   D. In response to a question by Richard Olivas, there is a Citizens Oversight Committee which meets. Jim Lynch, former president of the Foundation is a member of it; he also serves on the BPM.
   E. In response to Eloise’s question about “what if Measure J doesn’t Pass, Plan B would be to sell the 10100 Jefferson property, 9 acres, which may net as much as $40. million for the college.
   F. Richard O. stated, and Dr. Rocha agreed, that it’s better to purchase, rather than to lease, property.
   G. Jim Goodell indicated that UCLA is seriously considering An RFP for possible incubator space for hi-tech laboratory ideas and also for faculty/staff housing. Any RFP is will considered by the college and after the college reviews and recommends a proposal, Dr. Rocha would present it to the Board.
   H. This action item was approved unanimously by the Council.
      Olga asked that the memo from the AFT Guild West Los Angeles College Chapter on this motion be attached to the minutes.

IV. Executive Committee/Chair’s Report
   A. The Accreditation Progress Report is in final stages of production and due to be sent to the Commission the beginning of next week.
B. The job description for the College Planning Committee faculty co-chair has been finalized after being reviewed and revised based on input received. The announcement now goes forward.

C. The members agreed to change the Executive Committee meeting to follow the CC meeting, effective with the April 3rd mtg. The CC also agreed to begin its meeting promptly at 12:30 p.m., with a light lunch provided, if possible. Fran will email all Exec Committee members to schedule the next meeting.

V. Standing Committee Reports

A. Budget. J. Oester passed out the balanced budget submitted to the District. He explained that, according to past and current practice, it does not reflect the growth in FTES from 6760 to the current 7100. The growth will be recognized in August/Sept. The FTES goal for next year is 7500 FTES.

B. J. reported that the District informed him that benefit costs need to be increased $350,000.

C. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the role of the Budget Committee, including the charge to “If conditions warrant, makes recommendations regarding resolution of any perceived budget problems.”
   1. Pat spoke to the importance of consultation/communication and Senate input regarding academic and professional matters and the AFT Faculty Guild on work conditions with regard to class scheduling, a concern recently raised by the Social and Behavioral Sciences Division.
   2. John raised the issue of raising the average class size to increase efficiency.
   3. Several members mentioned among other things: the work of the Enrollment Management Committee, one of many actions taken to turn-around West’s budget deficit through growth, especially through added sessions and online offerings; and the role of mandates by the Chancellor to the Cabinet and to the VPs, deans, division chairs in response to projected lack of growth and its impact on all colleges.

D. Fran noted that the Council still needs to act on the proposed charges to the Council’s Standing Committees: Planning, Budget and Facilities.

E. E-mail policy.
   A. Action - The Council unanimously approved adding the suggested language from the District’s Technology committee to the current draft policy.
   B. Additional proposed language was distributed to the members for first reading.

VI. Items and issues for consideration from CC members

Bob announced that an earmark by Senator Diane Watson to help integrate Hollywood CPR’s 10 union ____.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.