

LOS RIOS DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE (DAS)

Minutes

April 7, 2015

Los Rios District Office

Roster			
DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE			
Kale Braden	CRC	DAS President	X
Connie Zuercher	SCC	DAS Past President	X
Dan Crump	ARC	DAS Secretary	
Tony Giusti	ARC	AS President	X
Gary Aguilar	ARC	AS Vice President	X
Alisa Shubb	ARC	AS Secretary	X
Tressa Tabares	ARC	AS Past President	X
B. J. Snowden	CRC	AS President	
Julie Oliver	CRC	AS Vice President	X
Shannon Mills	CRC	AS Secretary	X
Carlos Lopez	FLC	AS President	X
Paula Haug	FLC	Vice President	X
Francis Fletcher	FLC	AS Secretary	X
Ginni May	SCC	AS President	X
Troy Myers	SCC	AS Vice President	
Steve Cirrone	SCC	AS Secretary	X
Kirsten Corbin	ARC	District Curriculum Coordinating Committee (DCCC)	X
Greg Beyrer	CRC	District Educational Technology Committee (DETC)	X
Kathy Degn	CRC	District Matriculation & Student Success Committee (DMSSC)	
Robert Perrone		Los Rios Colleges Federation of Teachers (LRCFT)	X

Preliminaries (10 minutes)

1. Call to Order at 3:04pm

- Approval of the Agenda---add feedback from Senates on ARC’s Distance Education rubric for Regular & Effective Contact (REC) and accessibility (ADA).
- Announcements--- ASCCC Spring Plenary Session is coming up – there will be two welcome tables at Spring Fling. Many thanks to our college presidents for this.

- Approval of the March 17th minutes---approved. Note that we should clarify what we call the District Educational Technology Committee (DETC) and REC/ADA.
- Public Comment Period (3 minutes per speaker)---none..
- Introduction of Guests---none

Decision Items (15 minutes per item)

2. Learning Management System (LMS) Work Group & District Educational Technology Committee (DETC) “Academic and Professional” Items

- Basic changes were approved.
- Breyer advocated that the LMS work group be ad hoc and be composed of current DETC with additional representation from other groups.
- LRCCD Regulation 7145 may require further and ongoing discussions about tools and publisher packs; this work group will have to meet fairly regularly.
- DCCC argued LMS should be a committee and there should be DCCC representation of 5 members from curriculum.
- Question about how this group would integrate with the IT Prioritization process. Agreed that decisions of LMS work group need to be considered higher than just any other item on IT prioritization list.
- Agreed that recommendation of the LMS group should be a primarily relied upon item.

Action:

Braden will take these recommendations to JP Sherry, LRCCD General Counsel, and Sue Lorimer, LRCCD Vice Chancellor, Education and Technology.

Discussion Items

3. Underage Students in Class

Vice Chancellor Lorimer confirmed that we should be talking about this topic. LRCCD Policy & Regulation 2210 addresses this issue. It is important to make sure both faculty and deans know what their rights are. It was noted that if AB 288 is passed it will make it easier for underage students to enroll in our classes.

Action:

Braden will meet with Lorimer about what the administrative plan is for following 2210 and report back at the next DAS meeting.

4. Statement of Faculty Ethics

Each college has a statement, but all are more aspirational than enforceable. LRCFT would not enforce a complaint against the code of ethics, especially since each are different at each college.

Interest was expressed in having some guidelines dealing specifically with email practices. District may be interested in shutting down the “Everyone on Exchange” email option. This option is legitimately useful for a lot of normal business functions; it would be against the interests of the faculty in general to have this option removed.

Comments in favor of forming a DAS work group to deal with email ethics:

- Having a simple statement that is clear and easy to find might give people something to refer to that represents the position of their colleagues in cases of poor conduct
- Could show the District we are being proactive on the issue
- Addresses a DAS issue since there is an everyone on district exchange email option

Comments against forming a DAS work group to deal with email ethics:

- Any document produced would not be enforceable
- Colleges have not weighted in on whether this should be a DAS issue
- Colleges already have their own statement of ethics

5. Items from College Senates & District for DAS consideration

Greg Beyrer volunteered to act as the delegate for DAS at the ASCCC Spring Plenary Session.

5b. Feedback on ARC’s DE REC/ADA rubric

FLC is going to use as a guideline for creating own rubric at an April workshop.

SCC – no feedback, did not discuss

CRC – has not come back to Senate

DCCC – should be shared with all DE Coordinators

LRCFT – Negotiations with the District have completed; District audit will begin in April. No knowledge of what rubric will be used. Based on MOU, after the audit, deans will receive a report which may not be used other than to refuse to further DE classes by right of assignment should the professor fail to make changes.

ARC President Giusti requested that the ARC proposed rubric be used to audit ARC’s classes.

Reports

6. Meeting with Mitchel Benson, LRCCD Associate Vice-Chancellor, Communications & Media Relations---Benson is coming up with media strategies for increasing enrollment. He will be asking senate presidents to solicit volunteers.

7. DCCC Report (Corbin)---see Attachment A

8. District Matriculation (Degn) no report

9. Ed Tech (Beyrer)---no report

10. ASCCC (Crump& Braden)---no report

11. LRCFT (Perrone)---see Attachment B

ATTACHMENT A:

DCCC Report to the District Academic Senate' April 7, 2015

1. Curriculum: All curriculum from the March 27 DCCC meeting was approved. New items and deletions were forwarded to put onto the April 8 Board Agenda.
2. SAG: Now that the DE changes have been implemented, Phil is turning his attention to three projects:
 - Changes/Modifications to the screens used by the Articulation Officers.
 - The public catalog
 - Preparing for the new ASSIST program
3. Distance Education
 - The changes to the DE portion of Socrates went live on April 12. There have been a few hitches/bugs reported and fixed. Because of the timing of making these changes live, there was a minimal number of proposals in the pipeline that were impacted by the changes.
4. Course Designators and Thematic Blocks:
 - DCCC approved a new thematic block in ENGWR and WELD (ARC)

ATTACHMENT B:

LRCFT report to District Academic Senate, April 7, 2015

1. The District and LRCFT have signed an MOU on the issue of the audit of online and hybrid classes during the month of April. That MOU is attached to this report. (note from DAS secretary---MOU was in PDF format and I was unable to attach).
2. A student grievance at FLC resulted in the instructor having to change the student's grade. While the LRCFT is contesting the decision of the hearing officer, here are some steps you can take to avoid these types of grievances or, at least, to prevail in the student grievance process. In the particular issue at FLC, although the student was clearly guilty of plagiarism, having used a previously written high school assignment for the current course, the instructor's syllabus was not specific enough in providing examples of what constituted plagiarism. Nor could the instructor demonstrate that she had used a software program to detect plagiarism. As a result, the hearing officer sided with the student and ordered the instructor to change the student's grade.
3. On April 10, anti-pension activists will be in Sacramento for the Reason Foundation's "pension summit". In response, the CFT is putting together a Retirement Truth Squad Rally and press conference, tentatively set for 9:00 am, Friday April 10 outside the Sterling Hotel, 1300 H Street in Sacramento. The goal is to take the initiative in messaging and hit the pension foes on the core message of working to build retirement security for all, instead of taking it away from those who have it.

4. Dean Murakami will be testifying before the Assembly Committee on Higher Education on AB 404. The bill would require the Board of Governors to conduct a survey of the community colleges, including consultation with representatives of both faculty and classified personnel, to develop a report to be transmitted to the United States Department of Education and the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity that reflects a system-wide evaluation of the ACCJC based on the criteria used to determine an accreditor's status.

5. Two LRCFT representatives attended a teach-in and rally at STRS headquarters last week. Participants urged the STRS board to divest the fund of investments in manufacturers of assault rifles.