

LOS RIOS DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE (DAS)

Minutes

April 21, 2015

Los Rios District Office

Roster			
DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE			
Kale Braden	CRC	DAS President	X
Connie Zuercher	SCC	DAS Past President	
Dan Crump	ARC	DAS Secretary	X
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	
B. J. Snowden	CRC	AS President	X
Julie Oliver	CRC	AS Vice President	X
Shannon Mills	CRC	AS Secretary	X
Carlos Lopez	FLC	AS President	Excused
Paula Haug	FLC	AS Vice President	
Francis Fletcher	FLC	AS Secretary	X
Ginni May	SCC	AS President	X
Troy Myers	SCC	AS Vice President	X
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)

Call to Order at

- Approval of the Agenda---approved.
- Announcements---Braden requested someone to represent DAS at the Tenure Reception on Friday, May 8.

Action:

Braden will contact the senate presidents for availability.

- Approval of the April 7th minutes---approved.
- Public Comment Period (3 minutes per speaker)---none.
- Introduction of Guests---none.

Decision Items 15 minutes (per item)

2. Proposed DAS Constitution Change

The DAS Constitution states that the new president take office on May 1. Brian Robinson is the incoming president; however his contract as an interim dean ends on May 31.

The proposal is that the Constitution be amended to provide that the incoming president take office on June 1 (as opposed to the current date of May 1). However, Article IX of the Constitution notes that “the formal motion for change and the final vote shall not take place at the same DAS meeting.” Therefore, the motion will be made today and the final vote will be at the DAS meeting on May 5.

Motion:

Amend Article V, section 6, of the DAS Constitution---replace the sentence “the President shall serve a term of office of two years, beginning at the conclusion of the final regular meeting of the DAS in May” with “the President shall serve a term of two years, beginning on June 1.”

M/S/U

3. Learning Management System (LMS) Work Group Regulation (R-7145) language recommendation

Sue Lorimer, LRCCD Vice Chancellor, Education and Technology, incorporated proposed language from DAS into the regulation---“rely primarily”. The regulation will go to Chancellor’s Cabinet and then possibly to the LRCCD Board of Trustees (as an information item) in May.

Concern was expressed that the workgroup is not faculty-weighted. Braden noted that J P Sherry, LRCCD General Counsel, felt that, at this time, the description of the composition of the work group need to be in this regulation as opposed to R-3412, which is the “shared governance” regulation. It was noted that recommendations from the work group would come to DAS for consideration.

Concern was also expressed that faculty curriculum representation (five members) was not reflected in the regulation. Braden responded that there will be four curriculum representatives with DAS reflecting appropriate college representation.

It was also reported that the workgroup will probably start meeting in Fall.

Discussion Items 15 minutes (per item)

4. District IT Prioritization Process

Membership of Group---it was Braden's understanding that faculty membership would be five---DAS president, plus the four college senate vice presidents; DO thought there were fewer faculty members. There is also a push to get student services administrators on the group, as many of the requests are seen as being student services-based. There will also be a number of people serving as resource staff (in a non-voting ex-officio status)

Braden will be meeting with Lorimer, Doug Meline, LRCCD Associate Vice Chancellor, Information Technology, and Joe Carrasco, LRCCD IT Director, to discuss the group.

Braden noted concern about the allocation of IT resources, i.e. infrastructure as opposed to the instruction needs. He also noted that the setup for checking of English prerequisites is taking a lot of resources. Customization of PeopleSoft has taken much IT staff time; it is anticipated that the upgrade to the next PeopleSoft version will relieve much of the need for customization work.

Other items---

- Need to have input from LMS workgroup into discussions of the IT Prioritization process.
- Need to have discussions of both 1) innovations, and 2) upgrading of current systems/processes.
- Need for regular meeting schedule in order to be informed.
- Need for regular updates of approved projects and "call for proposals" to all interested parties.

Note: following is a statement provided by Greg Beyrer, DETC representative to DAS.

Thanks to Julie Oliver for inviting me to be her proxy at the April 15 meeting. I have the following suggestions:

- *Make clear the role of faculty in the process. There were 18 people in the room and only 3 of us were faculty. Not all of the other 15 were voters, but clearly the faculty vote would have been outweighed had we voted (the vote was postponed). I do not think this is supposed to be a faculty-weighted process, but it would be nice to know.*
- *Include the cost (time and money) and number of students who would be directly affected by the project in the summary sheet*

- *Include an action and be specific and measurable in the title of the proposal (“Modify PeopleSoft to prevent additional leave accrual...” is an excellent title; “Improve Communication Capabilities with Students” is too vague)*
- *Reduce silo risk by giving other groups (other campuses, other departments, etc.) an opportunity early in the process to say that they too could benefit from the project; this would make a proposal stronger*

One other question I have is whether all projects that directly affect instruction should be on this list. The proposal to give faculty access to student ID photos is one of these, but the list does not include integrating publisher resources with the LMS. The learning communities proposal is instructional, but the list does not include making Google Apps easier to use for faculty who want to use those tools with their students. I do not know how comprehensive are the IT projects this process should cover.

5. Distance Education (DE) Course Audit

There was a lengthy discussion about the email that was sent out on Friday about the District audit of DE courses.

Comments/Questions/Responses

- Who did the email go out to? Response---all instructors teaching an online course in the Spring 2015 semester.
- People are really angry, especially with the lack of warning of the timeline.
- This is a negotiated item between the District and LRCFT. If there are questions---contact LRCFT presidents.
- How will accessibility (ADA compliance) be audited? Response from Perrone---it is the District’s assumption that there is ADA compliance for all D2L courses. If another platform is being used, the District feels it is the faculty member’s responsibility for ADA compliance.
- The email was clarifying that they are not looking for ADA issues; it appears to be more emphasis on regular and effective contact as opposed to accessibility.
- The District will make a copy of the class from beginning until April 7, and will look at what has happened.
- Comments from SCC senate meeting today---felt that senate should have been involved, what are instructional expertise of auditors, why is message coming out a week before it is starting, concern that not all faculty teaching hybrid courses did not receive notice, wanted larger districtwide discussion (including senate).

- Glad that wording about this audit will not affect faculty member's evaluation. There needs to be a concerted effort to educate deans about effects of the audit.
- Professional development was mentioned in the email---the De/LMS Coordinators have not heard anything about this---they need to be part of the discussion in order to plan for such activities.
- What is the timeline for correction of needs found in the audits? Response from Perrone--it is anticipated that most corrections will be done by the end of the Spring 15 semester.
- Scheduling issues---if a course section is deemed to be not compliant, what will happen to students that have signed up for the section? How will this affect faculty load?
- Colleges have lost funding because of correspondence courses; usually triggered on findings in accreditation self visit.
- It was reported that DE Coordinators will be responsible for alerting auditors of courses that are being offered on non-D2L platforms.

6. Items of concern for 2015-2016 DAS

- Follow-up of advanced education students. Braden noted that there will be a workgroup
- Hiring Manual; including issues such as appointment of faculty to hiring committees; diversity of full-time faculty and diversity of interviewing pools
- Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) metrics/ceilings, especially on how this fits in with other student success initiatives---e.g. SSSP and student equity plans
- Noncredit and adult education.
- Orientation of new faculty

7. Items from College Senates & District for DAS consideration.

Is there an interest in having a district professional ethics statement for faculty?

Action:

Senate presidents will ask their local senate of interest in a district professional ethics statement for faculty.

Reports---(5 Minutes per Report)

8. Meeting with Chancellor King---no meeting.
9. DCCC Report (Corbin)---no report
10. District Matriculation (Degn)---no report
11. Ed Tech (Beyrer)---no report
12. ASCCC (Crump & Braden)---congratulations to Ginni May on being elected to serve as a North Representative on the ASCCC Executive Committee for 2015-17.
13. LRCFT (Perrone)---no report.

Future Events

1. DAS Meeting, May 5th, 3:00-5:00
2. Los Rios Board of Trustees Meeting, May 13th

Future Agenda Items

1. Academic and Professional issues with Publisher Course Packs
2. Distance Education Ed. Plan for District
3. Student Success and Support Program Assessment group
4. FALL: Advanced Educaiton Policy and Regulation Workgroup

Adjourned---4:28pm