LOS RIOS DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE (DAS)

Minutes

November 3, 2015

Los Rios District Office

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Roster			
DISTRICT ACADEMIC SENATE			
Brian Robinson	FLC	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	X
Julie Oliver	CRC	AS President	X
Shannon Mills	CRC	AS Vice President	X
Scott Crosier	CRC	AS Secretary	X
Georgine Hodgkinson	CRC	AS Past President	X
Carlos Lopez	FLC	AS President	
Paula Haug	FLC	AS Vice President	X
Francis Fletcher	FLC	AS Secretary	X
Ginni May	SCC	AS President	Excused
Troy Myers	SCC	AS Vice President	
Steve Cirrone	SCC	AS Secretary	
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)	
Guests:			
Cathy Chenu-Campbell	SCC	Librarian	X
Sue Lorimer	DO	Deputy Chancellor	X
Jason Newman	CRC	LRCFT College President	X
Jamey Nye	DO	Associate Vice Chancellor, Instruction	X
Victoria Rosario	DO	Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Services	X
Roy Simpson	CRC	Mathematics Faculty (Dept Chair)	X
Joseph Steever	SCC	Mathematics Faculty (Dept Chair)	X

Preliminaries (10 minutes)

1. Call to Order---3:04 pm.

Approval of the Agenda--approved

Announcements---none

Approval of the October 20th minutes---approved

Public Comment Period (3 minutes per speaker)---none

Introduction of Guests—noted in attendance roster.

Decision Item (15 minutes per item)

2. Hiring Manual Revision (first reading)---

   CRC, SCC and ARC, CRC, and SCC---reported no feedback at this time; FLC—gave update, emphasizing that all faculty input had been evaluated by the task force.

Discussion Items (15 minutes per item)

3. Competency Committees and Quorum---Corbin and Robinson met with the chairs of writing and reading competency committees. Questions still linger on how many members, especially discipline faculty/subject matter experts, need to be present for voting.

   A proposal was discussed for the DCCC to evaluate competency committee votes when they are presented to the DCCC. Robinson will check minutes of the competency committees to determine the scope and extent the challenges faced by committees.

Action:
Robinson will report back.

4. Equivalency Processes

   Robinson contacted J.P. Sherry, LRCCD General Counsel. He will get back to Robinson, probably in a couple of weeks.

5. Graduation Requirements-R-7241

   Robinson contacted Sherry and he will get back to Robinson, probably in a couple of weeks.

6. District-wide assessment processes

Lorimer provided a back of assessment policies and procedures, including district portability. There was also a discussion of communication difficulties regarding the faculty appointments to a task force to further discuss assessment alignment policies. Recommendations from this task force for assessment policies were made both to DMSSS and DAS. After District guidelines and procedures were implemented, there were concerns expressed. Lorimer noted that any changes would need to be done in an orderly process and be in compliance with state laws and regulations (e.g. Title 5)

Two mathematics faculty members (Simpson and Steever) joined the discussion, especially expressing concerns of recency issues in terms of assessment. The example was given of a student assessing into a certain math level, starting a class, withdrawing from the course, and then coming back ten years later to take a math class. The past assessment placement would probably no longer be accurate or appropriate. It was asked if an unofficial assessment process was possible. The use of the ARC self-assessment (which is not a tool validated by the CCC Chancellor's Office) was suggested as such an informal tool to be used.

Rosario noted that informal assessment does not exist in California and that many rules govern assessment. In regards to self-assessment, she suggested the use of boot camps, study materials, and self-diagnostic tools.

It was noted that there is more interest in the recency of assessment scores as opposed to challenges to the prerequisite for a course.

Lorimer noted that very legitimate issues have been raised and that discipline experts need to take a look at the state and local rules and regulations, especially exploring the the "gray areas."

It was noted that SCC is a pilot in the statewide Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) and that the current plan is that all four colleges in the district will be using the CAI instrument by Spring 2018 for use for placement in Fall 2018.

Action:

Robinson will contact Lorimer, Rosario and Nye for further discussions.

Action:

Attendees to the ASCCC Fall Plenary Session will make contact with assessment experts for further information.

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

ARC---There is a situation where staff in the district Human Resources office appear to be confused about the difference between course designators and the discipline(s) assigned to courses. For example, courses in the Art History curriculum at ARC have the discipline of "Art" assigned (as opposed to Art History or Art History OR Art) in the approved COR, and HR might

not correctly interpret this situation to allow a faculty member with the Minimum Qualifications (MQ) for the Art discipline to teach these courses

Reports (5 minutes per item)

8. Meeting with Deputy Chancellor Lorimer---districtwide assessment processes was discussed; also the need to emphasize student persistence from the fall to spring semesters.

9. DCCC Report (Corbin)---see Appendix A

10. District Matriculation (Degn)---no report

11. Ed Tech (Beyrer)---Civitas staff has met with district Institutional Research staff; discussion on distance education and the upcoming district strategic plan---how can students be successful before taking online courses?

DETC would like to continue its current process for approving changes to specific tools and plugins within D2L notwithstanding this wording in R-7145 section 4.1.1: *District-wide learning management system platform and distance education tools shall be recommended by a learning management system work group...* DETC feels that the "district-wide" modifier implies that the LMS Work Group's efforts should be focused on more substantive changes to the learning management system.

In regards to faculty Gmail accounts, the request was made for local senates to consider if whether there is a faculty interest in giving access to all faculty to Los Rios Gmail. Currently that is done by request to the IT help desk.

12. ASCCC (May)---no report

13. LRCFT (Newman)---coaches, future of Prop 30, campus safety, district strategic plan and use of outside agencies

Future Agenda Items

Future Events

1. ASCCC Plenary Session—November 5-7th

Adjourned---adjourned at 4:46pm

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APPENDIX A:

DCCC Report to the District Academic Senate, November 3, 2015

1. Curriculum: All curriculum from the October 30 DCCC meeting was approved. New items and deletions have been forwarded to put onto the November 18 Board Agenda.

2. Thematic Blocks and Families:

• Approved a new thematic block in MATH (SCC).

• Approved a new Fitness (FITNS) family—Dynamic Fitness—for intense fitness courses that can include aerobic and anaerobic conditioning, strength and endurance training, and individual and team fitness concepts.

o This is the first new family since the original development of families; because putting courses into families has a significant impact on students, DCCC will develop a process for requesting new families that will is similar to the process for new thematic blocks and designators.

3. SAG: Phil reminded us that creating new designators was meant to address the problem of a current designator running out of numbers; however, some developers have been keeping the current number of a course when shifting it to the new designator. This should not be happening. Instead, developers need to start with the lower numbers.

4. Independent Study: There is inconsistency across the District in designating Independent Study as lecture or lab even though for the most part the courses are offered as lab. Title 5 does not specify one or the other, but since these courses are lab courses, the four colleges will be revising them so that they are all lab.

• FLC is interested in dropping the lower value of the variable unit to a half unit, but the committee decided not to make that change at this time.

5. For Future Discussion:

• Streamlining the approval process for CTE programs and courses.

• ADT for Computer Science: The TMC for this ADT includes several high-unit courses, so like many colleges, we have not been able to put the ADT together under 60 units; however, other colleges have achieved this, so it is possible. Because we are not offering the ADT, then we should not be offering the local degree, but there is more than one local degree, so it is not clear which one we will no longer offer.

o This issue—high-unit courses within ADTs—is one of several that colleges are struggling with; there is a possibility of working with the Chancellor's Office and the Legislature to modify the legislation or interpretation of the legislation to better address the needs of students