

Faculty Development Committee

Tuesday August 25th, 2015

12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Members Present: J. Adams, R. Cabral, K. Oborn, C. Rutan, K. Schaefers, C. Smith, D. Vera-Alba

Meeting began at 12:31 PM

1. Order of the Agenda: The agenda was approved without changes.
2. Introductions: The committee members all introduced themselves.
3. Committee Charge: The committee reviewed the new charge of the committee (approved on August 21, 2015).

*The Faculty Development Committee creates faculty development resources for local senates and advises the Executive Committee on the offering of professional development events and policies and processes related to faculty development. Through the Professional Development College, the committee supports local faculty development and provides guidance to enhance faculty participation in the areas of faculty development policies, innovations in teaching and learning, and other topics related to the 10+1 academic and professional matters, as well as improve the professionalism of community college faculty. The committee advocates through breakout sessions and Senate publications for the importance of faculty development activities related to, critical issues related to student success, and quality faculty teaching and learning, academic and professional matters, and of the need for appropriate levels of funding for such activities.*

During the discussion about the charge, J. Adams suggested that two resolutions that have been assigned to the committee should be incorporated into the charge as ongoing tasks (12.01 F14 and 12.03 F14). C. Rutan will review the charge, makes changes to incorporate the resolutions, and send a draft out to the committee for review.

1. Review of Assigned Resolutions

Three resolutions (19.03 S13, 12.01 F14, 12.03 F14) were assigned to the committee at the August Executive Committee meeting. Resolution 19.03 S13 calls for the creation of a toolkit of best practices for evaluating faculty. The committee will discuss a possible survey at its September meeting to find out what colleges are currently doing. Any best practices will require consultation with local bargaining units to be implemented on a campus.

After reviewing resolutions 12.01 F14 and 12.03 F14, J. Adams suggested that these are ongoing activities that the committee should be doing every year and that they should be incorporated into the charter. C. Rutan will work on incorporating these resolutions into the charter and send a draft out to the committee.

While discussing resolutions, J. Adams discussed a new vision for this committee. The Academic Senate offers many professional development opportunities and will have even more options as new modules are created for the professional development college. Often the events are offered because something new has come up and we react by offering breakout sessions, general sessions, or regional meetings. The Senate leadership feels that the committee needs to look at what the Senate is currently offering in professional development, determine if it is serving the needs of faculty, and develop a plan for professional development going forward. C. Smith mentioned the need to identify the gaps in what is being offered, how it is being offered, and access to what is being offered. Many colleges send senate leaders to professional development events, but it isn’t clear how that information gets back to local faculty. Do the individuals attending Senate events share the information or do a few individuals keep it such as a Roundtable report as shared by D. Vera-Alba? During the year the committee will survey the fields about the current professional development offerings as well as review the evaluations from ASCCC institutes and plenary sessions to see if there are areas that need improvement. The committee will then make suggestions to the Executive Committee about possible changes to senate events and new modules that could be offered through the Professional Development College.

K. Schaefers mentioned that part time faculty often teach at several colleges that may not be geographically close to each other. Many times a part time faculty member might want to attend a professional development activity, but the college that offers it might be far away. If the senate could find a way to offer some activities for part time faculty (through the PDC) it would reduce the travel burden that many part time faculty face.

The September meeting will focus on what information needs to be collected and how best to proceed with the development of a new professional development plan.

1. Final Recommendations from the Taskforce on Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy

The committee members were encouraged to review the final recommendations from the Workforce Taskforce and to attend one of the town hall meetings for more information.

1. Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI)

The Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) has approached the Academic Senate about partnering for some professional development activities. Most of the professional development offered by the Senate is through Senate Institutes, Regional Meetings, and Plenary Sessions. These partnerships could be a great opportunity to provide faculty with access to professional development in areas that they have not had before, but that are related to the academic and professional matters under senate purview. While no specific topics were decided on, events on topics like budget development and program review were discussed. The committee sees the initiative as an opportunity to help faculty leaders become better advocates at their campuses and hope that we could partner in areas where other groups have significant expertise.

1. New Resolutions for Fall Plenary Session

The committee members were encouraged to think about possible resolutions for the Fall Plenary Session and were informed that all resolutions are due by September 16, 2015.

1. Fall Plenary Breakouts

C. Rutan suggested a breakout on closing the professional development loop and ensuring that information gained while attending conferences is being shared with local faculty. J. Adams suggested that this breakout could also be used to gather information from the attendees about what types of professional development activities they are looking for and how well the Academic Senate is doing at meeting those needs. The committee agreed with this approach and C. Rutan will submit this as a possible topic for the fall plenary session.

J. Adams also suggested that members of FDC could report back to the committee about the breakouts they attended at the plenary session to help the committee in the review and future planning of future professional development opportunities.

1. Scheduling Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Faculty Development Committee will be on Saturday September 26th, 2015 at West Los Angeles College.

1. Other

K. Oborn suggested having a plenary breakout session about the Chancellor’s Office Flexible Calendar program. J. Adams suggested that plenary might not be the best place for this, but that it could be incorporated into the annual Leadership Institute to inform new senate presidents.

Meeting adjourned at 2:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Rutan

Minutes approved on September 26, 2015