

LEGISLATIVE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

11:00am – 4:00pm

ASCCC Offices

One Capitol Mall, Suite 340, Sacramento

Minutes

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1. Call to Order – 11:31am
   * 1. Members present: Julie Adams, Julie Bruno (chair), Dolores Davison, Sam Foster, David Morse, Stacey Searl-Chapin
     2. Guest: Jonathan Lightman, Executive Director, FACCC
2. Welcome
3. Approval of the Agenda -- Approved
4. Approval of the October Minutes (Attachment: October 28, 2015 minutes) -- Approved
5. Discussion items, with action as needed
   1. Legislative Agenda (Approved by ASCCC EC 11/04/15) Committee members and Mr. Lightman discussed the following items:
      1. Audit Fee
         1. This item is on the Board of Governors’ legislative agenda and also appears in the Workforce Task Force recommendations. One option is to remove the fee from Ed Code (currently set at $15), but an alternative option would need to be included. Originally, the amount was set as a percentage increase of unit fees (150% of $5 fee at the time of codification). It is presumed that colleges would want the auditing fee to be at least equivalent to the credit unit fee. Because it is a fee, and we have a position against fees (as do other organizations), opposition from system partners including the Student Senate is likely.
         2. It would be useful to continue to educate on the purpose and benefits of auditing. Many colleges eliminated auditing. Research on the topic would be helpful. A survey might prove useful. Questions may include:
            1. Do you have an auditing policy?

If so, how many students use it?

* + - * 1. How aware are your students/faculty of your auditing policy?
        2. If you do not allow auditing, do you know why not?
        3. If you no longer allow audits, what caused the change?
        4. Please attach audit policy if one exists.
      1. CFT, CTA and CCCI have indicated an interest in revisiting the course repetition and repeatability regulations. Discussion at Council of Faculty Organizations (CoFO) indicated that the issue has more to do with serving community members that had supported college bonds than course repetition for credit students. Changing the audit fee may address this issue since increasing the audit fee would provide colleges with a viable way to serve community members.
      2. There is a desire to serve two different populations: 1) students who need to take a single course to improve job skills through additional practice, refreshing knowledge for certification or licensure or refreshing skills at one level before entering the next (Spanish II before Spanish III, etc.) and 2) community members who want to repeat courses for life long learning purposes such as art, physical education, etc. Perhaps both populations may be served by creating a policy that allows for fee changes with each time a student takes the course (move from unit charge to 150% or other charges) so that as repetition increases, so would fee charges.
      3. Action: Bruno will create a survey to bring to the ASCCC Executive Committee meeting in January.
    1. Stand Alone Course Approval: Jackie Escajeda, Chancellor’s Office Dean of Curriculum and Instruction, and Davison are writing a report for the legislature on the status of stand alone courses. Vince Stewart, Vice Chancellor of External Relations, will also participate in crafting the report. It is important to return stand alone approval to local colleges to address curriculum needs, especially for CTE programs. There is a perception that curriculum processes lack the nimbleness to respond quickly to local needs. A return of stand alone approval will help address this issue since it provides a mechanism for faculty to quickly develop curriculum.
    2. Mental Health Service – This issue is not controversial. Colleges should provide some level of mental health services for students including access to mental health professionals. The controversy is how to provide the services and how resources should be allocated to address the issue. FACCC is in conversation with interested parties but there is no proposal just yet. It may take the braiding of funding – nonprofit, local, and state – to provide the resources needed to address the issue. It would be best to have something in education code rather than a budge request. Mental health services also came up in the Campus Safety discussion (see below, #v).
    3. OER – Prior to the passage of AB 798, the ASCCC consulted with other parties interested in OER. The League (CCLC) was supportive of the idea OER but like ASCCC, thought that AB798 was not adequate to address the needs of the CCC system and students. The ASCCC Executive Committee will be discussing this issue at their meeting in January. There may be a need to provide guidance to faculty regarding textbook royalties. Clearly, education and professional development on OER is needed. AB798 provided a small foundation and ASCCC wants to maximize the effect to better serve community college students.
    4. Campus Safety – Campus safety is not a singular topic. It involves a number of issues including addressing firearms policies and mental health services.
       1. There is some confusion of faculty responsibilities regarding identifying and assisting students with mental health issues. ASCCC could assist in aligning local policies statewide and educating faculty.
       2. One idea was to approach the mental health services by including it within a more comprehensive discussion on student health issues. Perhaps having conversation with Covered California.
       3. Currently, colleges have varying levels of services for students. It is necessary that colleges provide the highest level possible to improve campus climate while saving lives. The system should work toward having a significant level of these services on all CCC campuses.
       4. FACCC is visiting Washington, DC at the end of January to discuss two issues with federal legislators: accreditation and campus safety. There appears to be a window of opportunity to address these issues and it is important that all are involved.
    5. AA to MA Pathway – Morse and Bruno met with Thuy Nguyen, Vice Chancellor of Legal Affairs, to discuss creating a pathway for CCC students to return to local colleges to teach. A larger group, with representatives from ASCCC, CCLC, CIOs and FACCC, to discuss the idea and propose a plan. The binge and bust cycle for hiring will need to be addressed so that students who enter the pathway will be guaranteed an opportunity to be hired when awarded degrees. It may be beneficial to look for grant opportunities and maybe even set up a non-profit to address the issue.
  1. ASCCC Advocacy Day (Approved by ASCCC EC 11/04/15) – This will be a separate event from the ICAS advocacy day to discuss and promote the work of the ASCCC.
     1. Other organizations hold advocacy days at various times of the year: CCLC in January, FACCC in March, ICAS in April, and CTA in May. CCA no longer hold an advocacy day. The bulk of bills for a legislative session come out by end of February. The ASCCC could hold the advocacy event in May to highlight technical expertise.
     2. ASCCC is concerned about new legislation aligned with SB 42 that usurps the mission and values of the CCCs and governance. ASCCC should promote the significance of the work accomplished through our existing structures and outline where we could achieve more. It might be helpful to visit legislative offices to ask for additional funding.
     3. Committee members determined that a Monday in the month of May would be the best day for the ASCCC advocacy day and to utilize the traveling team format.
     4. Action: Bruno will submit to the Executive Committee a date and time for the ASCCC Advocacy Day for consideration at the January meeting. Additionally, she will request volunteers from Exec and LAC for advocacy training with Jonathan Lightman and participation in the advocacy day.
  2. Resolutions and Priorities (Attachment: LAC Priorities and Resolutions) – Committee members reviewed list and requested that resolution 6.03 (S15, Dual Enrollment) be sent to the Educational Policies committee to assist with implementation of AB 288. Members decided to label resolution 6.04 (S15, Faculty Hiring) as “in progress” since it is a two-year bill. Resolution 6.05 (S15, Textbook Affordability) was deemed complete. The status of resolution 6.06 (S15, Placing Limitations on Overload Assignments) will return to “in progress” since AB 373 is a two year bill.
  3. Instructional Design and Innovation Institute update – One general session and two breakouts on Civic Engagement.
     1. Civic Engagement General Session – The workgroup will meet on December 18 to plan the general session.
     2. Civic Engagement breakout from West Valley College will follow general session.
     3. Public Service Announcement breakout from Solano College has a civic engagement and citizenship theme.
  4. Legislative Liaison Position (Attachment: Legislative Liaison Email) – Committee members determined that a Rostrum article describing the reasons for and implementation of the three liaison positions (CTE, Legislative, and Noncredit) would be useful to the field. The article will include a comprehensive introduction of the liaison positions and then detail specific information about each position.

1. Spring 2016 Plenary
   1. Breakouts
      1. Legislation and Advocacy – include proposed legislation and discuss the ASCCC Advocacy Day
   2. Resolutions
      1. Possible resolution on OER and faculty coordinators
   3. Other - none
2. Update on Education Code 66025.7: By July 1, 2015, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, using common course descriptors and pertinent recommendations of the American Council on Education, shall determine for which courses credit should be awarded for prior military experience. Committee members discussed issues with prior learning credit.
3. Jonathan Lightman provided a report on the work of FACCC including an update on Accreditation and NACIQI as well as legislation AB 626 and AB 404.
4. Members were informed of the following ASCCC events:
   1. CTE Curriculum Academy – January 14-15, Napa Valley Marriott
   2. Instructional Design and Innovation – January 21-23, Riverside Convention Center
   3. Accreditation Institute – February 19-20, Marriott Mission Valley - San Diego
   4. Academic Academy – March 17-19, Sheraton Sacramento
   5. ASCCC Spring Plenary – April 21-23, Sacramento Convention Center
5. Other
   1. Next Meetings:
      1. Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 12:30pm-2:30pm, CCC Confer
      2. Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 12:30pm-3:30pm, CCC Confer
      3. Friday, April 29, 2016, 11:00am-4:00pm, In person to prepare for ASCCC Advocacy Day
6. Adjournment - 3:25pm