

Minutes Faculty Senate Meeting April 8, 2009

Room 6-130 @ 3:30 pm (Bradenton)

*** Venice minutes were not submitted.**

Attending: Dr. Jack Crocker, Jeff Grieneisen, Gary Russell, Bonnie Rasmussen, Jan Pollock, Judy Bodenweiser, Margie Robertson, Floyd Winter, Nancy Johnson, Don Hall, Luci Frith, Michael Buonanno, Jeff Laborda, Cheri Kittrell, Marjorie Sykes, Sara Anthony, Barry Puett

The following topics were discussed:

- 1- The revised constitution was reviewed and approved by those present.
- 2- Senate elections this year will include a new committee- Third Attempt Waiver. Faculty departmental representatives are asked to submit a picture and paragraph indicating why the nominee feels they are best suited for the position.
- 3- It was suggested that pictures of faculty should be included on their faculty business card page.
- 4- Senate Bill 1908 has been passed by the state legislature. Summary below--
In an attempt to reduce the number of students who need developmental classes when they come to college, the legislature has proposed that students in 11th grade who indicate that they are on a college track be given the CPT (an unfunded mandate that MCC will have to provide). Those who don't place into college level courses will then have the opportunity to register for a remediation course during their senior year (courses in math, reading, and English have been developed by pilot groups of high school and college faculty). If the students pass this course, they will be exempt from having to re-take the CPT for a period of up to 2 years. That means if a student passes this remediation course in English, for example, he/she would automatically be placed into 1101 as long as he/she enrolls within that time period. In the case of reading, students who pass the remediation course would have no reading requirement here (since we don't have any required course beyond college prep.

Discussion continued regarding how many students might be affected, and how rigorous this new course content would be, and how the test would be graded. Gary Russell indicated that the Language and Literature department plans to meet with representatives from both Sarasota and Manatee counties in the next few weeks to discuss these and other issues.
- 5- Courtney Ruffner offered information about UFF (United Faculty of Florida – website located @ FIU) There was a lengthy discussion about whether to invite other collective bargaining representatives from UFF and other organizations to visit MCC before the end of the semester. It was suggested that the reps be contacted to determine what their schedules might allow. Courtney Ruffner will contact the UFF and request pamphlets of literature for the spring and a meeting for the fall. She also said she would research the 28 CCs in terms of their union affiliation.

6- Dr. Crocker reported that the session summaries from the faculty forum on institutional reorganization held at Lakewood Ranch would be sent to faculty next week. He asked Senate to offer suggestions on whom they would recommend to serve on the task force. His intention is to begin working during the summer months.

7- Dr. Crocker also responded to the four recommendations that Faculty Senate send him last month.

- **First day attendance:** Dr. Crocker explained that the administration considers this approach to be “punitive” and at odds with the cc mission and MCC’s open door policy. He stated that our point about denying another student access to the class was a salient point. Apparently, Student Services is in the process of developing 4-5 strategies to deal with this issue. Several faculty members offered some suggestions about how to initiate students during their orientation sessions and via email.
- **Eliminating the 85% student satisfaction requirement in annual evaluations especially in light of the new on-line assessment process:** Dr. Crocker acknowledged the challenges of on line assessment and explained that his approach would be to wait and see how the process worked. He stated that his goal is to be flexible is necessary. If there are dramatic difference in faculty numbers between the on-line results and previous evaluations then he indicated we should look at the process rather than the product.
- **Revisiting the tenure, promotion, and sabbatical process:** Dr. Crocker asked for Faculty Senate input re: who should serve on a committee that would be charged with revisiting these processes. [Courtney reiterated that the senate is an elected body that governs the faculty voice. The document should be worked through via ALL FT faculty not just a small committee of random faculty, staff, administrators.](#)
- **Reduction of office hours from 15 to 10 to be consistent with the other 25 community colleges in the state:** Dr. Crocker indicated that the state has set a minimum office hour requirement, but not a maximum. He stated that he believed that taking this request to the College Board of Directors during the current economic situation would be bad timing and challenging to justify.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Luci Frith

Comment in [blue](#) offered by the senate president.