Oxnard College Academic Senate
February 14, 2005
CSSC 101/102
2:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order—2:38 pm.

Officers Present—Lynn Fauth, David Magallanes, Jeannette Redding, Mary Jones, Tom Stough.

Voting Senators—Christiane Mainzer for Mike Abram and for herself, Mark Bates, Brett Black, Robert Cabral, Frank Castro, Jim Merrill for his position and proxy for Elissa Caruth, Carolyn Dorrance, Gloria Guevara for Winston Sarafian’s position and for her own, Greg Kaapuni, Leo Orange, Gary Morgan, John Norbutas, Jim Petersen, Everardo Rivera, Anthony Rodriguez, Ralph Smith, Ana Maria Valle.

Non-Voting Faculty—V. Viswanath.

Guests—Darla Cooper.

II. Additions to the Agenda—L. Fauth added a request from V. Viswanath for greater support for online courses. Fauth also added a discussion on ways to honor the late Winston Sarafian for his many years of service to the College.

III. Action Items—approval of minutes of January 24, 2005. So moved by G. Morgan, seconded by A. Rodriguez, carried with one abstention.

IV. Committee Reports—

Planning & Consultation Council/Financial Resources—L. Fauth. A Phone survey will be conducted to ask 2908 students who didn’t reregister for Spring 2005 as to why they didn’t do so. A survey instrument has been developed. L. Fauth, J. Redding and D. Cooper are working on this. Financial Aid is providing the funds. Two to three weeks of calling are expected to result in data to help clarify why students fail to reregister. Fauth quoted Cooper as saying that in "normal" times, about 3000 students leave and about 3000 new students arrive each semester. Fauth noted that the Administration's budget meetings are ongoing without Senate input.

Campus Use—M. Jones noted that the Maintenance & Operations staff was recognized at the Committee’s last meeting. The Committee has recommended that Parking Lot B be designated for faculty/staff as part of the campus' reconfiguration. This will cause the smallest loss for student parking. The Committee will submit its recommendation to
PCC/FRC and revisit this issue in about a year's time. The Committee also decided to store the ASG golf cart for the nighttime student shuttle service behind the Bookstore and next to the President's parking space.

PDC—no report.

Curriculum—J. Redding reported that funds are available to assist faculty with data entry on course outlines. The Committee has also begun discussion of incorporating student learning outcomes into the outlines.

Program Review—no report.

Student Services—will meet on Thursday, February 17.

Technology—no report and no meetings have been held.

V. Treasurer's Report—$437.90, unchanged.

Items added to agenda: V. Viswanath informed the Senate that there are server issues cropping up during online course discussions. C. Dorrance suggested Nicenet.org as a possible free alternative for virtual classroom work. She noted that her students are cut off with no warning and no explanation. Fauth agreed to discuss these issues with Debra Cronin. Dorrance suggested that there remains the larger issue of lacking institutional support. The Senate agreed that restarting the Technology Committee was needed.

Committee volunteers: A.M. Valle, Linda Kamaila, V. Viswanath, B. Black. Rick Carnahan and Ken Bailey were suggested as additional members.

Winston Sarafian Commemoration—Dorrance mentioned the plans of Social Sciences: a scholarship, a special collection in the Library/LRC, naming the Library/LRC for him and planting a redwood tree on campus in his name. Fauth suggested that the Senate will support Social Sciences in these endeavors, but noted that there are extensive and restrictive District policies regarding the naming of buildings. A.M. Valle asked: whatever happened to the commemoration for the late Ron Jackson? Discussion followed.

VI. Selection of Nominating Committee for 2005-06 Officers’ Election

T. Stough noted that nominations should be of faculty who are not running for any Senate office. Dorrance nominated G. Guevara, seconded by Valle, carried. J. Merrill suggested Alan Hayashi. Valle nominated Hayashi, Stough seconded, carried. M. Jones nominated Valle, seconded by Guevara, carried. G. Morgan moved that nominations cease, seconded by R. Smith, carried. The slate for Nominating Committee was accepted by acclamation. It was agreed that Fauth, who is not running for Senate office again, would be an alternate member should anyone chosen today be unwilling or unable to serve.
VII. Hiring Priorities: 2004—06 List Revisited

Fauth noted the death of Winston Sarafian, the retirement of Anthony Raptis and the partial retirements (50% load) of Maryellen Kazmark and Colleen Ryan. Also, Paul Shaffer resigned from his position in Auto Technology. This means that there will be four replacement "billets". The College's full-time obligation will be up to five full-time positions. Of course, there are budget considerations as well. Enrollment is down, therefore FTO is down as well. Fauth posed the question: what shall the Senate do? Stick with the current hiring priority list? Or, put a new list together? R. Smith asked: who will be replaced from retirements? Valle suggested that the Senate must consider unfilled billets from retirements in combination with the existing list. C. Dorrance noted that previous policy included both considerations. Discussion followed. J. Merrill: the point of interim review was to address the retirement and death issues. For example, Social Science and Counseling should make their wishes known for replacement hires. Further discussion followed. F. Castro stated that Auto Technology shouldn't be penalized because its new hire resigned. Fauth said that he was hearing support for a mélange approach taking into account program needs, retirements and deaths. He reminded the body that the Senate makes its hiring recommendations, but the President makes the ultimate decision. The President has made known that she wants a "less-political model" for the Senate's deliberations that would account for enrollment pressures and other factors. Fauth asked: "what is the Senate’s pleasure?" It was agreed to agendize a discussion on February 28, to be followed by a decision on March 14. Further discussion followed. Three possible options were mentioned: throw out the old list and start from scratch, give priority for death/retirement vacancies or continue with the 2004-05 priority list. It was noted that budget considerations may make the entire discussion moot. M. Jones urged the Senate not to work at odds with the President.

VIII. WASC Accreditation Report/Program Review/Adjustment

D. Cooper: the Senate needs to be part of a campus dialogue on implementing student learning objectives and, indeed, must take the lead in this process. She noted that the College was, in fact, reaccredited during this visit. L. Fauth noted that the College was reaccredited without major comments, which is true of only about 10% of the institutions reviewed in the current WASC cycle. J. Merrill noted that the College received "some slack" because of recently changed standards. J. Redding: the institutional culture must be changed to accommodate SLOs. Fauth and Valle suggested that the accreditation report gives the Senate more power, which it should use to benefit the College and its students. Fauth noted further that PCC/FRC should become more "proactive" on this issue.

IX. Excellence in Service Awards/Awards Banquet

Fauth reminded the Senate that nominating forms for the Excellence in Service Awards will be out soon, with a deadline around March 20. The awards banquet will be held on May 1 at the Courtyard by Marriott.

X. AFT Report—A.M. Valle. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.