

Oxnard College Academic Senate
Minutes of the Meeting of September 13, 2004
2:30 p.m., LS-6
(FINAL October 4, 2004)

- I. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. The following were present:

Officers: Lynn Fauth, Mary Jones, Jenny Redding, David Magallanes, Tom Stough.

Voting Senators: Michael Abram, Jack Ahrens, A. Hayashi for Mark Bates, Bret Black, Robert Cabral, Elissa Caruth, Gloria Guevara, Greg Kaapuni, Christine Mainzer, Gary Morgan, John Norbutas, Leo Orange, James Peterson, Winston Sarafian, Ana María Valle and Ralph Smith.

Non-Voting Senators: Cecilia Milan.

Guests: Felicia Torres and Jan Straka.

- II. Additions to the Agenda**—none.

III. Announcements

Classified Senate President F. Torres announced a Multicultural Arts Day, to be held on April 13, 2005. The last such event was in 1998. F. Torres is coordinator along with J. Straka. They asked faculty to talk up the event with students and to be speakers. J. Straka will be the lecture coordinator. In addition, professors are asked to design their class lectures around the conference's topics and themes. This is an outreach program for High school students, who will be encouraged to attend OC. MAD will be placed on the next Academic Senate agenda.

President Fauth reported on his meeting with new Chancellor Meznek. Pres. Fauth found him well-prepared and direct and noted that Board members have faith in him. Meznek is approachable, but businesslike.

President Fauth also reported information from the Deans' meeting: new student numbers are down. Returning student numbers have also declined. There is speculation that the new presence of CSU Channel Islands is a contributing factor. Numbers for part-time students are also down. However, these statistics don't include OC's high school and late start classes.

The President has received a letter of appreciation for the leadership of E. Carruth in the English Council of California Two-Year Colleges (ECCTYC). L. Fauth has also received a letter of appreciation from OC alumna Daria Krupkopva. Ms. Krupkova's

missive was submitted to, but not published by, the OC Observer. Portions of both letters were read by L. Fauth and D. Magallanes.

A. Rodriguez was congratulated in absentia for his attendance at a White House Conference during Hispanic Heritage Month.

The President also reminded the Senate about the OC Science Fair, to be held April 27, 2005 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

IV. Public Comments – None.

V. Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the meeting of August 23, 2004, were approved (moved by G. Morgan, seconded by W. Sarafian, carried).

VI. Treasurer’s Report – D. Magallanes reported that the Senate has \$1,132.90 on hand.

VII. New Business

a. State Academic Senate Issues – the President reported that changes are “in the works” for the State Disciplines List. Also, the State Senate is seeking to increase Associate of Arts/Sciences requirements for Mathematics and English. The President asked faculty to caucus with their departments and collectively reach a “sense of the [OC Academic] Senate” on these issues.

Senators were also asked to nominate their peers for any or all of the following awards:

Laroche Award

Exemplary Program Award—with a deadline of Dec. 1.

Hayward Award—which provides a cash stipend to four faculty statewide.

Diversity award—for excellence in assisting underachieving students.

Faculty were asked to see Pres. Fauth for nominating materials.

b. State Senate Fall Sessions--The Fall Session of the State Academic Senate’s Area C is scheduled for 16 October at West Los Angeles College. The Senate’s Plenary Session will be held from 28-30 October in Newport Beach.

c. Board of Governors Nominations—There are two BOG openings available. President Fauth was a finalist during the Wilson Administration. Previous finalists are eligible for consideration and Fauth is interested in serving. The Senate concurred with this desire by consensus.

d. Facilities/Auditorium/Classroom Buildings—The President reported on changes in direction and priorities as described by College President Lydia Ledesma-Reese during the Facilities Planning Steering Committee meeting held on 1 September. Because of State funding restrictions, a 400-seat OCTV/Auditorium will be built in place of the Integrated Arts Center. The Black Box Theatre will be retained, but the planned “green room”, dressing rooms and studios have been cut. Also, the Classroom building has been enhanced. Total cost: \$ 16 million, including \$ 5 million in anticipated State funding for the auditorium. President Fauth indicated that the Chancellor has made his decision to go ahead. A. Hayashi lamented that this was “not what we were hoping for” and that previous assumptions for the Theatre Arts program were based on incorrect statistics. President Fauth emphasized serving on building committees to insure, for example, that the auditorium will be built in such a way that deleted facilities can be easily added later. He also mentioned the College’s interest in creating an “institutional presence along Rose Avenue” rather than a jumble of warehouse-like buildings. The College President was quoted as saying: “this is the way it’s gonna be.” As far as the Chancellor is concerned, Measure S policy involves business decisions having nothing to do with shared governance—and the Board concurs. Library/LRC renovations will come later because of required moves of offices and personnel. However, the Library is “in the queue” to be rebuilt. A. Hayashi repeated: serve on building committees, now. President Fauth reminded faculty to be assertive.

e. Bridgepoint Education—Dissatisfaction was expressed with recent *Ventura County Star* reports that Ventura College, through Bridgepoint, would be offering bachelor’s degrees. In fact, such degrees will be awarded by Bridgepoint for life learning as well as for classes taken at District campuses. Concern was also expressed about Bridgepoint’s practice of sending recruiters to hire away District faculty.

VIII. Old business—Computer access in Library /Databases/Laptops.

M. Jones reminded the Senate of Debra Cronin’s and Rene Rodriguez’s presentation last year in response to dissatisfaction expressed by Rena Petrello. Petrello received only 20 faculty responses to her survey. Nothing has happened with this since then because of Rodriguez’s retirement and Petrello’s transfer to Moorpark College. Many assembled concurred that the College’s IT department has become overly protective of the network at the expense of education. A.M. Valle noted that an important issue was parity with other campuses regarding faculty access to install software and connect laptops. Vice Chancellor V. Belinski was quoted as stating that there must be a balance between security and student learning. D. Magallanes emphasized the importance of dialogue with the IT department. W. Sarafian asked if any plan exists for computer replacement. Answer: yes, a five-year plan is in place. A.M. Valle asked all to remember when there was no IT Department in charge of these important issues.

IX. Action Items

A. Senate Representatives to Committees—President Fauth distributed a ballot. He emphasized that Senate representatives are in addition to, not in place of, departmental representatives. Discussion followed and consensus was to take a written vote, with the votes to be compiled by the Secretary and results to be announced by email.

B. Reimbursements—President Fauth asked the Senate to pay Hotel & Restaurant Management for hospitality expenses (ca. \$ 130) related to the Flex Week breakfast for new full-time faculty. Treasurer Magallanes requested reimbursement for \$ 48.26 for the desk set gift to Past President M. Jones. (Moved A.M. Valle, seconded L. Orange, carried unanimously.)

C., D. Professional Development/Sabbatical Chairs—for Brown Act reasons, the previous votes had to be retaken. Motion to approve Liesel Toles as Professional Development Chair and Tom Barth as Sabbatical Chair. (Moved W. Sarafian, seconded R. Smith. Carried unanimously.)

X. AFT Report—by A.M. Valle. Per Side Letter agreement between AFT and the District, \$ 18000 will be distributed to department chairs to partially cover their lost income due to 2003-04 budget cuts. Faculty members have been calling the union regarding management interpretation of these assignment issues. Feel free to speak with A.M. Valle as union steward. Union dues are going up soon. The District's chief negotiator is now Bill Studt, who also served as Interim Chancellor. Unpaid faculty volunteerism was discussed. Ask the Union Office for any needed clarification.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Stough, Secretary