

Solano Community College

Academic Senate CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006
1:30 p.m., Board Room

ROLL CALL

Present: Erin Farmer, Chair; Alex Andaluz, Mark Berrett, Sabine Bolz*, Curtiss Brown; Laurel Jones, Carol Lilleberg, Lillian Nelson, Brad Paschal; Kathy Rosengren, Judy Spencer, Donna Vessels, and Ann Willer

Excused: Glenn Burgess, Quentin Carter and Bob Myers

Guest: Robert Johnson

*Arrived after roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Items are considered routine and will be enacted by the approval of the agenda unless removed from the Consent Items by a Committee member.

CONSENT ITEMS - (None)

It was moved by Ann Willer and seconded by Brad Paschal to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held April 25, 2006, will be approved at a future meeting.

NEW COURSES - (None)

COURSE MODIFICATIONS

- a. (CP-06-12--Resubmitted) FIRE 140 – Fire Tech Academy – Change the method of instruction, prerequisites, catalog description, performance objectives, methods of evaluation, other assignments, content outline and textbooks.
 - a. Action on prerequisites: FIRE 50, FIRE 113, and EMT 212 OR FIRE 128 (in lieu of EMT 212).
 - b. Action on other changes.

It was moved by Carol Lilleberg and seconded by Ann Willer to approve the course action on prerequisites as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mark Berrett and Brad Paschal to approve action on other changes as presented.

It was clarified if there are fees involved that they would be put in the notes section of the Schedule.

The motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM MAJOR MODIFICATION - (None)

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Erin Farmer reported that she and Academic Senate President Gail Kropp attended the State Academic Senate Plenary Spring Session in San Francisco for three days last week discussing academic issues of immediate and long-term concern to community colleges in California. The number of sessions devoted to curriculum processes for Distance Education is clearly an indication of its importance at the moment. All of the breakout sessions emphasized the importance of thorough documentation that demonstrates that courses that have been put online have gone through a rigorous curriculum review process.

Chair Farmer further stated to those who have served on the Curriculum Committee for more than a year that they would probably recall that until the first meeting of this year, our online course additions were treated as minor course modifications, and as such were listed as Consent Items on our agenda, which means that the committee did not look at the course outline before approving the online version of the course. This means that all of our online courses have no documentation of regular effective contact, and most—if not all—provide no indication of how regular course activities and student performance evaluation will be adapted for online.

Chair Farmer stated that she was told as much in an e-mail received from Michele Pilati, this year's State Academic Senate Curriculum Chair, that this is clearly a problem. Chair Farmer offered to share the e-mail with anyone who is interested in her remarks.

In that most of our online courses have not been given the required level of scrutiny, Chair Farmer reported that the Academic Senate voted on Monday, May 1, 2006, to impose a moratorium on new online course approvals. This moratorium will be reviewed in spring of 2007 to determine if the problems have been solved or if we have made substantial progress in solving them.

Chair Farmer concluded by stating that the State Academic Senate is concerned about a bill that will raise the maximum number of part-time load from 60% to 80% and the implications thereof.

Chair Farmer thanked Alex Andaluz, the Academic Student, and Lillian Nelson, the Vocational Student, for the service rendered to the committee on behalf of ASSC. She thanked the committee for their hard work over the semester and wished for everyone a wonderful summer.

REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

There was no report.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Dean Bob Johnson suggested to the committee that the moratorium on new online courses could impact his curriculum program review next fall. It was suggested that the Curriculum Committee pilot the online addendum created by the Senate Ad Hoc committees as part of their effort to work out the "glitches – if any" and that the pilot would include the new online courses that will come out of the Career Technical Division and their program review. Dr. Jones stated she felt this would be an acceptable way to test and at the same time let a group move forward.

As a result of discussion with the committee and Dean Johnson and adjunct being involved with the curriculum program review from his division, Dr. Jones stated that as we look at disciplines doing SLOs, if they are taught by adjunct, there is the challenge of how they will be paid for this work. It was suggested and agreed that Flex Cal credit would be a good method of solving this problem.

Donna Vessels reported that the next curriculum program reviews are as follows:

1. Career Technical Division – Fall 2006
2. Health Occupations – Spring 2007
3. Humanities – Fall 2007

Brad Paschal reported to the committee concerns from the Math/Science Division about the appropriateness of shortened classes in a certain format. He asked if it was possible to use the Section K to identify courses that cannot or should not be shortened. Dr. Jones cautioned that the Section K is not necessarily the appropriate place to make this decision, since administrative rights need to be included and Deans develop the schedule. Brad agreed that this concern cannot be resolved in the near future but requested that it be discussed at a future meeting. Chair Farmer advised she would consider placement on a future agenda next semester. It was suggested by Dr. Jones that this discussion begin in the Enrollment Management Retention Task Force committee where data is available

and is evidence driven. It was also suggested that discussion should be held between Academic Senate and Division Deans. Chair Farmer advised this discussion is taking place statewide.

Dr. Jones discussed with the committee how difficult it is to share information with faculty campus wide and how valuable the Intranet is. She directed the committee to the Intranet site under Enrollment Management Retention Task Force and the information that is being shared about the Appreciative Inquiry held May 4 and the questions and answers that derived from this forum. Part of what came from this opportunity was the difference of looking at a block schedule model which doesn't conflict with contract versus a compressed calendar which would have to be bargained. Dr. Jones stated her concern is that whenever you try to inform people about something there isn't always time or energy or space to get information to everyone. Her response to Brad Paschal and his division, which is a point of concern, is that the College needs to talk about a compressed calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Curriculum Committee, it was moved by Lillian Nelson and seconded by Ann Willer to adjourn the final meeting for the spring semester at 2:40 p.m., to meet again Tuesday, September 12, 2006, 1:30 p.m., in the Board Room (626).

NOTE: The transferability for ART 44 & 45 has been denied by the UC system. The documents required for changing the course numbers to ART 64 & 65 in order to comply with the College's course numbering system are attached (to the agenda) for the Committee's information.

CC Minutes 05 09 06:js

DRAFT