

**MINUTES
OF THE
EL CAMINO COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE
COMPTON CENTER FACULTY COUNCIL**

**HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM
March 20, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT: **13 members present:**
Saul Panski, Dr. August Hoffman, Estina Pratt,
Manzoor Ahmad, Pamela West, Darwin Smith, Chris
Halligan, Thomas Norton, Dr. Art Flemming, Shemiran
Lazar, Jerome Evans, Leonard Clark, Annaruth Garcia

MEMBERS ABSENT: **6 members absent:**
Walter Bentley, Tom Rydalch, Michael Odanaka, Shirley
Thomas, Marjerrita Phillips, Mohammad Bouroujerdi,

**ADMINISTRATORS
PRESENT:** **3 administrators present:**
Dr. Susie Dever, Fred Sturner, Keith Curry

VISITORS PRESENT: **6 visitors present:**
Rodney Murray, Axa Maradiaga, David McPatchell,
Aurora Cortez Perez, David Maruyama, Fredwill
Hernandez

28 IN ATTENDANCE

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Saul Panski at 1:45 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The President asked for any amendments to the agenda. There were none. Estina Pratt/August Hoffman (moved/seconded) to adopt the agenda for March 20, 2008. Passed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no meeting last time, so there were no minutes to approve.

IV. REPORTS

ECC Academic Senate Report

No report from ECC.

President's Report

Mr. Panski informed the Council that the ECC Senate is considering asking the State Senate for assistance in matters related to collegial consultation.. The reply from the State Senate is that it is desirable for both parties to ask for assistance. The President of ECC ,however, is opposed to asking for assistance, as he believes that there is no problem with collegial consultation.

Provost's Council Report

Darwin Smith reported that two issues were discussed: 1) a Compton City Town Hall Meeting on the Compton Center and 2) the possibility of having the Area C meeting at the Compton Center. The meeting was poorly attended so there was no quorum. Mr. Smith indicated that the Provost has granted the request to have our campus serve as possible host for the Area C meeting this fall.. We would have to work out the location and the food details. He also informed us that the Provost indicated that at a community meeting that she had attended, she had been treated shabbily.

V. Discussion Items

A. Faculty Concerns---Dr. Pieter Van Niel

A letter written by Dr. Pieter Van Niel was passed out to members of the faculty. Saul Panski noted that Dr. Mary Callahan has concerns about the letter but was not here today to discuss them; she asked that any action on the letter be deferred until the next meeting.

Dr. Van Niel voiced concerns about the status of the Center. After being here for 37 years, he is concerned about the morale on the campus. He spoke about events leading to the "take-over" and its effects on the institution and the communities it serves. He also pointed out that other community colleges on show cause are being given a much longer period in that status compared to our period of four months. He commented on the impact of FCMAT and the lack of collaboration with staff on the part of the current administration.

(For more details please read Dr. Van Niel's letter of concern.)

A discussion followed. Saul Panski thanked Dr. Van Niel and remarked that he was clearly someone very passionate about the issues. He asked Dr. Van Niel to refine the points of his letter to a more concise resolution and recommended that the Council consider approval of such a resolution at the next meeting. Manzoor Ahmad

commented that he felt better after listening to Dr. Van Niel and could feel his frustration. Dr. Hoffman pointed out that no one is all good or all bad, and that it is tempting for people to come in and say that they are going to fix this. Everyone is a stakeholder, and what we need is an attitude change. We have not been in control since 2004 and enrollment is down. It empowers a leader, he suggested, to seek collaboration.

Darwin Smith asked if the resolution will go to the Board. Saul Panski replied in the affirmative. He said that he will communicate it to ECC Senate President as well, and that the resolution will be included in their Senate packet as well..

Dr. Dever added that a top-tier administrator at ECC told her that he always reads the Senate packet, and urged that it be disseminated. Manzoor Ahmad asked that a committee be formed to work on the document. Saul Panski replied that we will wait for Dr. Van Niel's resolution.

B. Campus Preparedness—Fred Sturner

Mr. Panski congratulated Fred Sturner and the Planning Committee on a sterling job.

Mr. Sturner said we are at the beginning stages of planning. He said that he is also finding out that the row buildings present seismic risks. Over the next month a plan will be presented. He is raising everyone's awareness about safety issues.

Dr. August Hoffman raised the issues of other concerns like guns on campus. Chris Halligan added that there is a sense of urgency as we have to have a facilities report for accreditation. Darwin Smith asked if ECC has a plan. Dr. Dever replied that the Office of Safety is responsible for coordinating safety concerns and issues on the main campus.

C. Classroom Survey of Students—Keith Curry

Dean Curry announced to the Senate that this spring, between March 24th – May 22nd, there will be a survey of students on this campus. He outlined the survey process, and passed out hand-outs to all. He informed the Council that instructors can select a convenient date for the survey to be administered to their classes. He also stated that faculty will also be surveyed and that this survey will be online by April 14th. He encouraged all faculty to participate.

August Hoffman commented that this is not a priority at this time. He said that there are so many things that we need at this time and wanted to know what they will do with the data.

David Maruyama reported that the SLO committee is doing an assessment of learning, and is planning an SLO week, with one day's events scheduled on the Compton campus.. A discussion followed about SLOs.

VI. **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Thomas Norton/August Hoffman (moved/seconded) that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 2:55p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Estina Pratt