**Academic Senate Minutes 4-6-2009**

**Members:** Tom Wagner, Daniel Vega, Carol Farrar, Cathy Brotherton, Dorothy Reina, Debbie Makin, Dina Humble, Zina Chacon, Bob Prior, Debbie Smith, Jim Thomas, Margarita Shirinian, Domnique Hitchcock, Peggy Campo, Lisa Nelson  
**Visitors:** Dr. Lowenstein, Chani Beeman, Paula McCroskey, David Mills, Joe Eckstein  

Call to Order at 1:30 pm  
We postponed approval of the minutes because we did not have them.

**Officer and Administration Reports**  
**President**  
- Tom spoke of the upcoming meeting AS State Plenary meeting which occurs next week during spring break in SF. He mentioned that Richard Mahon is running for one of the state positions and Tom will also attend this meeting.  
- We are going to be asked to review proposed changes for our current bylaws. We will not have the second meeting for April but those who can meet will do so at this meeting time on April 20 to review the changes proposed by Sharon Crasnow.  
- The April 20, 2009 meeting for AS is not going to occur but senators are encouraged to come at the normal time to discuss the proposed changes to the bylaws.

**New Business:** Chani Beeman and Paula McCroskey spoke to us about testing and the accommodations that must occur for the students. The American with Disability Act of 1990 requires that the college provide disabled students with appropriate accommodations.

- We were provided with the current letter given to the teacher to notify them of a student’s need for accommodations during testing. We were also given a proposed new procedure. The senate is to review this and take it to the departments they serve. The Diversity, Equity and Compliance department would like input from the departments and Academic Senate on the new procedure.  
- Faculty is responsible for making sure that their online classes are accessible for students who have needs in their classes. Paula mentioned that Brian Brautigam is available for all in the district to help make your online class compliant with the requirements for DSPS students. Paula also mentioned that she is available for help. We are to have comments back to Chani and Paula by 5/4/09 in electronic form.

**New Business**  
**Accreditation Self Study Review**  
- Gaither Loewenstein mentioned that state CTA is challenging the requirement to measure SLO’s. They feel that additional pay should be set aside for this duty. We are going to continue to measure them, pending this decision.
• David Mills as the editor and Dr. L asked for approval of the substance of the document. If there are changes those can be changed up until the time of submission in May.
• Cathy Brotherton motioned to approve this and Dina Humble seconded this proposal. A discussion followed. The Academic Senate approved the 2009 Self Study in substance. The current draft of the 2009 Self Study was approved by all eleven voting members.
• Prior to the accreditation visit in the fall, the Academic Senate will hold a meeting to allow the writers to review the standard they are responsible. It will also allow us all to be familiar with the accreditation visit procedure and then be better able to answer questions from the accrediting team.

Norco Commencement and Faculty Reception
• **Commencement** – As a senate we liked the celebration and would like it to be the same this year. Bob Prior is our speaker this year.
• The faculty reception is handled by Dr. Dieckmeyer and the senate is fine with this. They do not wish to be involved in the planning.

Old Business
• Administration Retreat Policies and Procedures – Tom will attend this and report back to us what happens there.
• Elections – Elections for the next two years after spring break.

Committee Reports
• **Curriculum Committee** – Dina Humble is our curriculum committee chair. She spoke of the updates and the curriculum process.
• **Academic Standards committee** – a sub-committee for standards. We need representation from Norco.

Open Hearing – We need to show a strong attendance of members of the Academic Senate. We had two meeting with no quorum in attendance. This week we had full participation with several new members.