

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
April 26, 2010

PRESENT: Donald Abbott, Manny Bautista, Bill Brothers, Dave Evans, Guadalupe Gonzalez, Paula Gustin, Tim McGrath, Robert Sanchez, Alison Steinberg, Arlis Svedberg

ABSENT: Yvonne Bergland (excused, proxy to D. Evans), Peter Jacoby (excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER was made by Co-Chair Abbott at 4:06 PM

II. CHANGES TO TODAY'S AGENDA: None

III. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT ON MESA HONORS PROGRAM

Professors J. Safdie and T. Walker reported on the current status of the Mesa Honors Program. They submitted a written report (attached) that detailed the activities and programs conducted by Honors Program over the past academic year. Walker emphasized that the process for the submission and approval of honors contracts has been considerably streamlined and accelerated. Safdie reported that the current budget crisis has prompted the Honors Program to set up a fiduciary fund and that they will be seeking new donations and contributions. Co-Chair McGrath commended the Honors Program, especially noting the excellent work of Safdie and Walker, as well as that of Arlis Svedberg. M/S Brothers/Gustin to accept the report; unanimously approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S Gustin/Svedberg to approve the minutes of 12 April 2010 with changes; unanimously approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Curriculum Balance: Abbott presented the Curriculum Balance report (attached).

The principle conclusion drawn from the report is that the balance has not changed between the three categories of classes over the last four years. The Committee discussed the implications of shifting FTEF from one category to another, especially the impact on students in a time of increasing demand for all classes. The problems of demand versus diversity in the curriculum was a focus of discussion. McGrath pointed out that cuts 'across the board' have serious implications for small programs and classes that have few offerings but that are crucial to program completion. ACAF will re-write Position Paper #2 (describing the process of shifting FTEF) in the fall for submission to the Academic Senate. Abbott will submit the report to the Academic Senate on 10 May.

B. Allocation Process: Abbott reported that Professor Fremland informed the Academic Senate that the Committee of Chairs was preparing their proposal for an allocation process to replace the RAC, and that it should be ready to present to ACAF before the end of the academic year.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Abbott reminded committee members that they could file for their FLEX hours on or after 7 May.

VII. REPORT FROM ACADEMIC SENATE

Abbott reported on actions at the Academic Senate (see Academic Senate minutes); there was discussion of Senate Resolutions 10.04.02 (EOPS Funding) and 10.04.04 (Basic Skills Funding). The sense of the committee directed Abbott to vote in favor of both resolutions.

VIII. Adjournment was made by Abbott at 5:19 PM

Submitted by D. Abbott
Approved 10 May 2010