

College Senate Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 18th, 2018

PCR

Senators in Attendance: C. Yiamouyiannis (Chair), M. Basche, J. Christie, M. Proulx, J. Thomas, J. McNamara, A. Lemire, M. Kriscenski, Josiah Ricardo, A. Marrero, J. Christie, S. Adams-Roberts

Guests: D. Harris (CEO), M. LaPierre-Dreger (Dean), J. Hummel, J. Ricardo, M. Mercado, S. Rocco-Foertsch, M. Ligon, G. Murphy, D. Arrington, S. Calhoun-Ward, Marcus Lawson

Meeting called to order at 2:33

1. Motion to approve agenda - M/S/A
2. Motion to approve Minutes of November 15th - M/S/A
3. Legislative Issues and Administrative Council (John McNamara)
 - Legislative session starts January 9th. This will be a long session, with an anticipated deep dive into legislative challenges. Among those are anticipated bills that will incorporate free tuition in at the community colleges or adoption of the Pres. Ojakian plan. Beth Bye is no longer the Chair of Higher Education & Employment Advancement, new Chair to be decided after Governor Lamont is sworn in.
 - CCC Foundation will have golf tournament fundraising event.
 - Dr. Harris related the following: position for Regional VP is about to be posted. CCC is building new partnerships with Hartford Public Schools, Info Systems, and Global Atlantic.
4. Proposed FYI Course Committee (Marie Basche)
 - The course will be called “College and Career Success”. Marie presented the work and discussion that has gone into this. There seems to be general acceptance of the need for the class, but the method of implementation is not embraced across the board and is generating resistance. Marie pointed out that “College & Career Success” will offer greater flexibility for degree programs and the importance and benefit of the class for all students.
5. General Education Core Committee (John Christie)
 - John reported that he does not feel that the committee has fully accomplished its goal. John feels that the core that is being presented as of this date has few credits and not enough writing requirements. It offers too many options that allow students to bypass courses that offer critical skills. There is no general consensus as of yet regarding the College Success course. The committee has to determine if it wants to approve the course as core that will reduce credits from other possible core classes.
 - Dr. Yiamouyiannis asked for clarification as to who should take the course and asked if students with advanced credits or applying to selective programs such as nursing should take the course. Marie felt the course was beneficial to all students regardless of credit level. This comment sparked some discussion and debate with different viewpoints on the course.
 - Dr. LaPierre-Dreger and Dr. Harris pointed out that we are in the early stages of approving core requirements before the anticipated consolidation date of 2024 and have ample time to work out the questions of the course when and if it is approved to be a core requirement.

6. Dr. Yiamouyiannis presented information on the Governance group.

- Dr. Yiamouyiannis presented that we should start to discuss the governance at our college to see what works and does not work in light of the fact that as we consolidated the system, there will be eventually one, overseeing governance board for all the colleges.
- Having a clear understanding of the new governor's view on the consolidation plan is extremely important as this point to determine if our work in these matters should move in the present direction.

7. Argelio Marrero presented the final withdrawal form. In the list of reasons for withdrawal filled in by a student, the one labeled "Instructor Difficulty" was removed after several requests.

8. Standing Committee Reports

(A). Mike Ligon (CAP)

- Presented new language that will be put in the student handbook and catalog that was approved.
- Also presented a change of course name from Hispanic American literature to Latino Literature to update and improve transferability.

(B). Josh Hummel (Technology committee)

- Improvements are being made in the Cyber labs. If instructors wish to use the 21st century classroom, must go through Ryan and the Committee.

(C). Suzanne Rocco-Foertsch (College Affairs)

- The college will be using the Convention Center for Graduation again this year. There may be no food served but looking into other options like coupons to local restaurants, etc.
- Dr. Harris commented that due to time constraints this year, they went with the Convention Center but other cost saving venues will be researched for next year.
- The keynote speaker will be Dr. Ortiz of Piece of the Pie.

(D). Marcus Lawson FFFSD

- Reported that professional day could not be on a Saturday due to union guidelines. It was suggested that FFFSD find suitable dates and discuss with Dr. Harris.