

Oakland Community College

2008-2009 COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE
MINUTES OF June 25, 2009
Orchard Ridge Campus

The College Academic Senate was called to order at 3:22 p.m. by Chair Mary Ann McGee. The following individuals were present:

Auburn Hills:	S. Dry, J. Farrah, B. Konopka, G. Mays, S. Miller, G. Rockind, L. Wallace, R. Ston, P. Dolly
Guests:	M. Kersten-Hart, L. Huber
District Office:	C. Maze, L. Nadlicki, T. Meyer
Guests:	C. Brantley, C. Mathews, L. Redmond, M. Schmidt, C. Tanner
Highland Lakes:	E. Fett, S. Hanna, V. Kroll, J. Lobert, L. Mastin, M. Ston, G. May
Guests:	V. Kloosterhouse, C. Roman
Orchard Ridge:	T. Baracco, J.J. Berry, A. Frank, M. Kokoszka, M. A. McGee, L. Roberts, D. Schmeichel, N. Valenti, J. Shadko
Guests:	S. Baier, J. Cronin, T. Ingram, R. Long, L. Nemitz, D. Nowack, C. Nykamp, P. Ping, D. Strand
Royal Oak/Southfield:	E. Abbey, D. Johnson-Bignotti, S. Labadie, M. K. Lawless, R. Nagler, A. Sargeant, B. Sault, B. Stanbrough, S. Reif
Guests:	L. Crews, D. Mathews

2) Acceptance of Agenda:

MOTION: To accept the agenda as written.

MOTION: To add a report from the “Diversity Committee” under “Administration.”

MOTION: To accept the Agenda as amended. Seconded, passed.

3) Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 28, 2009 as written. Seconded, passed.

4) Leadership:

- Chair Mary Ann McGee reported the following:
 - She thanked the Standing Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Committee Chairs, their committee members and all the others that worked very hard this year on Senate related items.
 - The annual Senate Leadership retreat will be held on Tuesday, August 4th. The deans will be asked to join Senate Leadership for lunch and the afternoon session of the meeting.

5) Presentation

- Budget Cuts & Shared Governance

Chancellor Meyer thanked the Senate for the opportunity to address the Senate. It is important during times of change to keep communication open. OCC has never really had to face a substantial decline in revenue. We can't control the state of the economy, and we need to have discussions about how we are going to fit into the new economic reality of the future. He welcomes this opportunity to decide how we start to make decisions. Decisions are a process, not a final decision. It is important to have an understanding of what we are facing. The release time/supplemental contract cuts will be discussed at the next Chancellor's Council meeting. The Chancellor asked Clarence Brantley to provide an overview of the budget, and Cathey Maze to address some of the issues related to budget cuts.

Clarence Brantley reported that he did budget presentations at all of the campuses and District Office. He highlighted the following: The College's source of income is from property taxes, revenue from tuition usually breaks even, and state appropriations are not going up this year. The State has agreed to provide the same revenue as in the past but this doesn't account for any new money. Next year, state appropriations will go down. Each year there has been a 3 to 5 million increase in property tax revenue. However, this year there is a decline by a little over 5.3 million dollars. OCC needs to make a 3.5 million dollar reduction in next year's budget. In order to stay within the 80 – 20 range, 2.5 million has to be made in personnel cuts. The proposed cuts made at OCC did not directly impact full-time employees. OCC has been planning for cuts, and we are able to move through the process by only touching the fringes on the budget. The intent is to focus on academics and not impact those areas. Overtime is being reduced for all classified, maintenance, and public safety employees. All projections indicate that the value of property is at the bottom line. It will be 10 years before the value returns to where it was in 2006.

Cathey Maze highlighted some of the issues as follows: Chancellor's Cabinet knew the budget had to be balanced and they tried to do it in a thoughtful way and by following the 80 – 20 rule. They didn't want to lay-off employees or impact their base salaries. The Cabinet agreed to make cuts across the board in overtime and release time. The postings for release time/supplemental contracts were not sent out until after the Board approved the budget. A lot of personnel are impacted by the cuts but this is a fair way of dealing

with some of the budget shortfall. The postings on campus will also reflect a 30% reduction. Besides release time and overtime being cut, the Athletic budget has been reduced. The Cabinet stands behind the athletic program as it exists, but no new growth will be supported at this time. Student workers are being cut but the College can fall back on work-study students. Tutors are also being cut that are paid as part-time employees. The cuts made are not meant to overly impact students. We will have to learn to deal with less over the coming years.

The Senate reacted as follows:

- The financial crisis is understood and cuts have to be made. The crisis was solved by a limited group of people. Why wasn't this done in the spirit of shared governance in the beginning? Why wasn't this discussed at Senate? The Senate would like to have a voice before the decisions are made.
- The Chancellor cited definitions of shared governance, and he indicated that this isn't a done deal – we aren't closing the book.
- Where are the boundaries of shared governance?
- Anything that deals with academic affairs should be brought to the Senate first for discussion.
- A recommendation was made that Senate Leadership, the Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs and the Chancellor hold a meeting during the summer to discuss this topic.
- The Senate has a process and definition of shared governance but it wasn't followed.
- Making overtime cuts in the bargaining groups isn't a decision that would be made by Senate.
- To what extent has academics been impacted with these cuts?
- The word “students” was cited in the e-mail. Students depend on OCC for more than just teaching.
- Cutting the tutoring budget is an enormous concern because of the type of students we serve at OCC.
- The ASC faculty work with tutors everyday and they were never asked how cutting tutors would affect students. Tutors served 1,200 appointments last semester and they only billed 800 hours to the college.
- Students are attending health orientation sessions that are 65 years old, and the critical thinking and critical writing skills that students possess have declined. How are we going to help these students?
- What specifically falls in the category “other” where cuts will be made? Clarence Brantley responded as follows: coaches, part-time hourly employees, assistant building managers, temporary employees, tutors, life guards, etc.
- Campuses are having discussions on how to allocate resources.
- The College is trying to reallocate resources in a way to minimize the impact on students.
- Targets are being set for campuses to look at and prioritize.
- Grant funding is available through the recovery act. The College needs to set this as a priority and be aggressive about submitting valid proposals.
- This is a conversation we should have had 3 or 4 months ago. This is a process that should have already happened – have conversation before cuts are made.

Chair Mary Ann McGee summarized the dialogue as follows:

- The Senate is about all of us – we make better choices when we think together.
- Priorities need to be set.
- There should be discussion at Senate before decisions are made.
- The core activities of the institution should be protected.

There needs to be articulation between CPC, Chancellor’s Cabinet and the Senate.

6) Old Business:

- Web Site Redesign Recommendations

At the May CAS meeting, the Web Site Redesign Committee was asked to submit their recommendations in writing to the Campus Senates for discussion at their June meetings. The committee is proposing seven (7) web site redesign recommendations as follows:

- Reevaluate and redesign the college homepage.
- Emphasize college-wide role on college web site.
 - Reduce separations of campuses.
- Create a college-wide calendar to include: all activities, athletics, Student LIFE, registration dates, etc.
- Reduce and restructure the number of links on the home page.
- Incorporate an online catalog program that will merge catalog information from Datatel online and ready for print.
- Implement and enforce OCC’s own content management system to keep consistency throughout the OCC web site, and among campuses and departments.
- The faculty to have the ability to update content in a timely manner with their preferred software.

Marilynn Kokoszka presented the following motion on behalf of the OR Campus Senate:

MOTION: The Orchard Ridge Academic Senate moves to endorse the Web Site Redesign Recommendations with change to the last bullet so the “faculty and staff with college websites have the ability . . .” be added. Further we suggest that Facebook/Web 2.0 & New Media be considered by the committee as well. Seconded.

The Web Site Recommendations (listed above) with a Friendly Amendment by the OR Campus Senate passed.

7) New Business:

- None

8) Standing Committees:

- *Academic Master Plan/Shawn Dry*
Shawn Dry reported that the committee has finished their work for this year. He has received updates from all the campuses and they will be posted on Infomart. His annual report will be posted on Infomart as well.
- *Academic Standards/Jennifer Craft*

Mary Ann McGee reported that the committee will have a Consent Agenda in September.

- *Curriculum/Mary Kay Lawless*
Mary Kay Lawless presented the final Consent Agenda for the academic year.

MOTION: To accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded, passed.

Mary Kay Lawless thanked the committee members and Leanne Nadlicki for all their hard work.

- *Curriculum Review/Gail Mays*
Gail Mays reported that the “2008-2009 CRC Annual Report to the College Academic Senate” was available on the distribution table. They are finished with all their reviews until next year.
- *Student Life/*
No report.
- *Student Outcomes Assessment/Leslie Roberts*
Leslie Roberts reported that the “Student Outcomes Assessment Committee Report for 2008-2009” was available on the distribution table.

Leslie Roberts presented a “College-Wide Rubric Adoption and Revision Consent Agenda.” Two new rubrics will be adopted: Social Responsibility and Aesthetic Awareness. Two Effective Communication rubrics will remain unchanged: Effective Communication – Speaking, and Effective Communication – Writing.

MOTION: To accept the SOAC Consent Agenda. Seconded, passed.

A recommendation was made to send Consent Agendas to Senate members via e-mail before the CAS meeting for review.

- *TMC/Judy Matteson*
Judy Matteson reported that the faculty showcase was held the morning of May 29th (Commencement Day) at the AH Campus. The presentations that were videotaped can be viewed in the TLC’s on campus. TMC held their annual retreat on June 19th.

9) Ad Hoc Committees:

- *General Education Outcomes/Gail Mays*
Gail Mays reported that the “Ad Hoc General Education Committee Report for 2008-09” was available on the distribution table. The committee developed a fast-track process for moving existing General Education Attributes attached to courses to appropriate General Education Outcomes. Presently, the committee is developing criteria for courses to be added to the General Education List. The committee completed their requirements for this year.

The committee would like to lodge the “Questions that need further consideration by the ad hoc General Ed Committee (listed on back of GE Committee Report)” for further discussion at the Campus Senates.

- *Liberal Arts Review/*
Mary Ann McGee reported that the Liberal Arts Review committee will start meeting in the fall. Committee members have been identified and they will be reading information over the summer.
- *Distance Learning/Judy Matteson*
Judy Matteson reported that the committee met last week and they created a mission statement that includes objectives to be accomplished and assessment of the objectives. The committee will be meeting a couple times over the summer.

10) Administration:

- Tim Meyer updated the Senate on the status of filling the Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs position. The Search Committee recommended 3 candidates for the position. Two of the candidates became unavailable and one wasn't suited for the position. The Search Committee was commended for their outstanding job in interviewing and screening the candidates, and he expressed sincere appreciation for the committee members. A Search Committee will start the process in the fall to fill the vacant position. In the in-between time, the Chancellor is in the process of looking for an external interim that will be able to step right into the position. This is a serious search for leadership; the committee will be looking for the very best to fill the position.
 - CASSC Update
No report.
 - Diversity Committee Report
Jackie Shadko reported the following: The Diversity Committee sponsored several activities last year. Their theme was “Creating Linkages.” They were involved in “OCC Reads,” the Veterans Affairs Workshop, and the development of a classroom assignment database housed on Blackboard (if interested in viewing – contact Eric Abbey). They also sponsored several wonderful speakers on the different campuses. Diversity month was April 2009 and it was packed with a lot of activities. Their monthly meetings included specific topics of discussion. She will put a full report on Infomart. She also announced that Sally Hanna will be taking over as Chair of the Diversity Committee.

11) Community Comments:

- The Senate applauded Cathey Maze for her tremendous job in serving as the Interim Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs for the past two years.
- The book entitled, *When the Emperor Was Divine*, by Julie Otsuka was selected for next year's “OCC Reads.” The theme will be “Liberty Denied” and the event will be launched on September 24, 2009.
- Sally Hanna announced that Leonard Pitts (diversity speaker) has been selected to speak on October 9th before Discipline Day.

- Pam Jackson announced that the Promise Scholarship has been taken away, but they are working on getting it reinstated. These students may need other assistance in order to attend OCC next year.

12) Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned: 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Valenti, Secretary

Nancy K. Szabo, Recording Secretary