Faculty Senate Meeting  
October 20th, 2011  

Members Present -  

Marie Brown, Delaine Gilcrease, Jim Giles, John Griffith, Keith Heffner, David John, Loretta Kissell, Sally Kroelinger, Charles Lewis, Maria Martell, Jeff Messer, Paul Nunez, Janice Reilly, C.J. Robb, & Phil Waclawski  

DCA Liaison -  

Nora Reyes  

2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. - Guest: Sasan Poureetezadi, MCC VPIT  

VPIT Poureetezadi introduced himself and indicated that he is enjoying his initial months at MCC. He emphasized his goals of providing outstanding customer service and corresponding infrastructure within the broader context of a strategic technology plan.  

He emphasized both the fluid and participative natures of the aforementioned strategic plan.  

Additionally, he emphasized a focus on refining and evolving procedures that enable, for example, systematic replacement of technology. He noted that there are 1,875 on-campus computers that are five (5) years or older and thus should be replaced. He acknowledged that an associated funding model must provide a foundation for both specific technology replacement and broader strategic technology plan implementation. Accordingly, he emphasized that novel funding streams specific to technology evolution must be developed.  

VPIT Poureetezadi reiterated a desired emphasis on customer care / service and stakeholder buy-in. Thus, he indicated that a strategic technology plan must include a customer delivery model.  

He proposed that each department should have a technology representative / liaison who can work with technology professionals in order to facilitate productive decentralization.  

VPIT Poureetezadi supports a federated model that includes selective centralization and selective decentralization as per the prior example.  

President Heffner acknowledged that he has enjoyed interacting with VPIT Poureetezadi and senses a very genuine sincerity, a strong task orientation, and a correspondingly strong faculty support orientation.
One senator asked if Red Mountain campus Internet access can be improved. VPIT Poureetezadi indicated that a new technology delivery model may be necessary to address that issue. More generally, he emphasized the importance of empowering technology, i.e. technology that faculty feel empowered to access and utilize.

He noted his advocacy for ubiquitous wireless Internet capability.

VPIT Poureetezadi mentioned that there must be a balance between ensuring adequate, appropriate security and delivering necessary functionality.

Another senator asked about a potential technology fee and if there has been any administrative feedback concerning such a proposal. VPIT Poureetezadi responded that he has not advocated for a technology fee and believes that such advocacy is likely more effectively communicated by a senior, district-level administrator.

He stressed that it is extremely difficult to remain current with ongoing technology developments in the absence of a tangible revenue stream such as could be secured through a technology fee.

I. General

A) Meeting called to order at 2:55 p.m.

B) Approval of the Agenda -

Unanimously Approved.

C) Approval of Minutes -

October 6th, 2011 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes Unanimously Approved with One Abstention.

II. Old Business

A) Approval of Faculty Senate Committees and Chairpersons

1) Distance Education Committee

President Heffner reviewed an electronic mail communication providing an overview of the prior academic year’s committee activities and interactions.
Discussion ensued as to the value of maintaining an operational committee. One senator asked about the specific goals of the College E-Learning committee.

President Heffner suggested that it might be worthwhile to solicit reports from the E-Learning Committee and / or to review the Committee Wiki. President Heffner indicated his intent to formally interact with the E-Learning Committee chair.

Consideration of the Committee was tabled with an intent to revisit associated issues subsequent to President Heffner’s intended interaction.

B) College Plan Approval Vote -

One senator noted certain errors and omissions in a May 2011 version of the Plan and indicated that such errors and omissions have been addressed in the current version of the Plan.

The senators emphasized that most of the errors and omissions were primarily related to format and thus not substantive errors and omissions.

Motion to Approve College Plan as Edited.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

C) MCC Fundraising Campaign Update -

President Heffner reviewed a recent meeting with MCC Fundraising Campaign administrators subsequent to a related, prior meeting with Dr. Pan in which faculty leadership emphasized the importance of a less aggressive approach from Campaign administrators in encouraging fundraising from faculty.

President Heffner noted that he has invited a Fundraising Campaign administrator to address Faculty Senate in an upcoming meeting.
III. New Business

A) Discuss Creation of a Senate Subcommittee Tasked to Plan and Implement Information Dissemination Ideas -

One senator shared a representative idea in which long-term residential faculty interact informally through a “coffee meeting” simply to initiate relationship building and enhance understanding of the College, colleagues, etc.

Another senator specifically suggested a series of interactions comparable to the previously-existing “Friday CUPPA” characteristic of recent, prior semesters.

Several senators recalled early years of College employment / service in which they were not aware of the scope and magnitude of College activities.

Four (4) individuals volunteered to serve on the proposed subcommittee.

B) Schedule One Faculty Senate Meeting at the FA Office? -

President Heffner asked the Senate if the Senate would consider conducting a meeting at the FA Office.

President Heffner proposed holding such a meeting on Thursday, December 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2011.

It was agreed that a Faculty Senate meeting would be held on the proposed date.

IV. Information / Discussion

A) Lunch w/ Senators: Scheduled during New Faculty Experience (NFE), 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., Friday, November 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2011 -

President Heffner noted the upcoming lunch / interaction and a corresponding goal of promoting new faculty understanding of both the Faculty Association and Faculty Senate.
B) Raising the Profile of the DFA - John Griffith

It was proposed that the award should be presented on the first day of the annual Fall Convocation.

It was similarly proposed that the awardee be afforded the opportunity to address College faculty subsequent to receiving the award.

President Heffner reminded the Senate of his strong interest in and intent to be involved Convocation planning.

C) IA Updates on Internet Sites -

President Heffner reviewed a recent meeting with three Institutional Advancement (IA) officers. He noted that certain College Internet sites are being dismantled and other College Internet sites are being temporarily suspended. A corresponding goal of such dismantling / suspension is to initiate a process oriented toward standardization of College Internet sites.

President Heffner also noted there will eventually be Internet links specific to Faculty Senate committees.

D) Updated Constitution (from May 2011) Will Be Posted in the Near Future -

President Heffner indicated that he will post the updated Constitution in the near future.

E) Dr. Pan Is Scheduled to Meet Chairs in order to Discuss Ending Late-Registration -

President Heffner noted that Dr. Pan is scheduled to meet with DCA on Monday, November 7th, 2011 in order to conduct an exploratory conversation addressing the possibility of ending late registration.

One senator asked if Dr. Pan has a corresponding plan to address this issue with Faculty Senate.

President Heffner indicated an intent to invite Dr. Pan to discuss the issue with Senate.
V. Reports

A) Department Chair Association Liaison Report - Nora Reyes

No report.

B) President’s Report - Keith Heffner

1) Building Committee meeting -

President Heffner addressed the recent renovation of Theater Outback; he indicated that a district fund is being accessed to fund the renovation.

He noted that approximately $1,000,000 is available to address a series of remaining projects prioritized by the Building Committee.

President Heffner emphasized that buildings that necessitate repairs are being prioritized for funding and corresponding repair.

2) Faculty Executive Council -

President Heffner noted recent review of issues identified for Meet-&-Confer from the various MCCCD colleges.

He indicated that the “or designee” clause / issue may not be addressed by Meet-&-Confer this year.

President Heffner noted that the most recent meeting included extensive discussions that will be summarized in an upcoming Meet-&-Confer update.

3) Red Mountain MoU -

President Heffner indicated that the document is essentially complete.

C) President-Elect’s Report - Sally Kroelinger

No report.
D) Recording Secretary’s Report - Jeff Messer

Recording Secretary Messer indicated that September 2011 meeting minutes have been submitted for posting to the Faculty Senate Internet site and that approved October 6th, 2011 meeting minutes will be submitted for posting next week.

E) Business Secretary’s Report - Marie Brown

No report.

F) Treasurer’s Report - Phil Waclawski

Treasurer Waclawski indicated that he is expecting receipt of an updated Faculty Association membership list in the near future.

G) Past-President’s Report - John Griffith

Past-President Griffith addressed the viability of Red Mountain-based committee meetings.

Two senators agreed to formulate survey questions designed to address the desirability and viability of meetings localized to the Red Mountain campus.

H) MCCFA Legislative Committee Report - Erin Rawson

President Heffner indicated that he intends to secure a report from Erin Rawson in the near future.

I) MCCFF Report - Janice Reilly

Senator Reilly reminded Senate that the Emergency Fund has been fully utilized and emphasized that MCCFF nevertheless continues to attempt to devise funding opportunities for in-need students.

J) Zone and At-Large Reports and Significant Happenings / Issues -

One senator noted a recent bomb scare in a Southern / Dobson campus building.

Another senator noted faculty dissatisfaction with the soon-to-be-imposed smoking ban.

A senator asked about potential mechanisms / policies specific to enforcing the upcoming ban.
Several senators noted that it is appropriate to communicate perspectives on the new policy to the MCCCD Chancellor. The senators emphasized, however, that all such communications should be specific and respectful.

Another senator noted that several faculty did not receive the recent electronic mail communication formally announcing the soon-to-be-implemented smoking ban.

A senator emphasized that all faculty should follow appropriate process and policy with respect to duly accommodating disabled students.

Yet another senator noted a recent incident in which a disabled student had to be forcibly removed from an assistant chair’s office and thus reiterated the importance of following appropriate process and policy with respect to duly accommodating disabled students.

K) Faculty Senate Committees: Faculty Staffing, Faculty Travel, Honors Program, Advisory Committee, Student Outcomes, CTL Advisory, Distance Education, Faculty Social,

The Faculty Staffing Committee (FSC) met Friday, October 14th. President Pan and Vice-President Mabry met with the FSC to discuss the state of the College and also to communicate decisions regarding the staffing of faculty lines for the coming 2012-13 Academic Year. During the discussion, the financial state of the College was described as “stable” even though there will be a give-back to the District for the current fiscal year. The President and Vice-President are committed to increasing the number of Residential Faculty at the College, though there are certainly other areas with full-time staffing needs and other budget pressures that must also be considered. The President and the President’s Cabinet take very seriously the issues associated with bringing new full-time employees to the College and seek to make as certain as possible that so long as what is known about future budgets does not change dramatically, there should be no reductions because of budgetary issues. The President, in consultation with the President’s Cabinet, has approved 18 Residential Faculty Lines to be hired for the 2012-13 Academic Year. The FSC also considered three requests and discussed Committee processes for the Replacement Faculty Line balance of the meeting. The FSC will meet again on Friday, November 4th from 2:30 to 5:00 pm.
It was suggested that Faculty Senate should be apprised of Faculty Staffing Committee recommendations to College administration and noted that there has been a traditional commitment to apprising Faculty Senate of such recommendations.

It was noted that CTL Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, October 27th, 2011.

VI. Review of Items to Report-Out to Zones / Issues Bin -

No items reported.

VII. Announcements / Good Of The Order / Adjournment -

Adjournment at 4:26 p.m.