Faculty Senate Meeting  
September 19th, 2013  

Members Present:  
Jeff Andelora, Christine Beckman, Marie Brown, Steve Budge, Debra Campbell, Elliot Cherner, Kevin Healy, Pam Harrison, Lufti Hussein, Loretta Kissell, Jeff Messer, Paul Nunez, Janice Pierson, Denise Quintrall, Robert Soza, Phil Waclawski, & Eddie Webb  

Department Chair Association (DCA) Liaison:  
Debra Bitter  

GUEST: Mr. Sasan Poureetezadi  
Vice President of Information Technology (VPIT)  

VPIT Poureetezadi indicated his desire to directly interact with stakeholders and, more specifically, to solicit feedback that would contribute to continuous improvement in the IT function.  

VPIT Poureetezadi asked Senators to offer questions prior to his formal presentation.  

VPIT Poureetezadi responded to a senator’s question regarding a $6,000,000 commitment to district network security enhancement by indicating that he does not have specific information concerning that significant commitment.  

Another senator asked about the scope of the compromise to the district’s network during the summer of 2013.  

VPIT Poureetezadi emphasized that it is imperative for district to secure ongoing data from individual colleges concerning on-line course offerings.  

VPIT Poureetezadi noted his excitement that district administration is seeking information and data from individual colleges.  

VPIT Poureetezadi noted that campus bandwidth is significantly enhanced relative to 2-years ago.  

VPIT Poureetezadi reminded Senate of the Information Technology (IT) PC Refresh program.  

VPIT Poureetezadi invited Senators to continue communication via electronic mail.
VPIT Poureetezadi reported the following: 1) initial absence of an IT Strategic Plan, subsequent formulation of such a plan, and eventual President Cabinet’s approval of the aforementioned plan 2) a historical absence of a metric or metrics that could measure, for example, customer satisfaction 3) a desire to share evolving metrics with stakeholders 4) name change from Information Technology Services to College Technology Services 5) creation of service-level agreements designed to enhance Ethernet capability, for example, 6) Prioritization oriented toward improving classroom technology capabilities with the attendant formalization of an appropriate service-level agreement 7) design of a Computing Commons via the MCC library that allows access to course-specific technologies 8) desire to enhance customer-level service that ultimately enhances teaching and learning 9) improved commitment to information security 10) improvement information sharing with both other MCCCD colleges and the district IT function.

I. General

A) Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

B) Approval of the Agenda -

Motion to approve was advanced

Unanimously approved

C) Approval of Minutes –

September 5th, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes were not offered for approval, and it was noted that both September 5th, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes and September 19th, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes would be considered at the October 3rd, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting

II. Reports

A) Department Chair Association Liaison Report - Steve Budge

DCA President Budge attended the meeting in-place of DCA Liaison Bitter and informed the Senate that the process of evolving the Academic Master Plan continues through meetings with multiple stakeholders.

DCA President Budge noted that there are two Academic Master Plan meetings scheduled for Friday, September 27th, 2013.
President Nunez asked DCA President Budge about educating the faculty concerning the relationship between the Academic Master Plan and other, related College planning resources.

President Nunez mentioned both the eLearning Standards document and the Underage Student form that he sought to discuss later in the meeting.

DCA President Budge mentioned the most recent CEC meeting and a corresponding discussion about potentially consolidating district online offerings.

DCA President Budge noted Dr. Pan’s robust advocacy for preserving MCC’s independence in offering online courses.

DCA President Budge also shared district arguments for consolidation related to cost-effectiveness and retention.

One senator noted that there is a lack of clarity in comparing district online success rates to, for example, MCC’s success rate in providing online offerings.

Another senator indicated that success rate(s) and cost(s) are not metrics per se and thus cannot be utilized to justify a purported superiority in providing online course offerings.

Yet another senator reiterated that the district’s purported data justifying success is not clear.

B) President’s Report - Paul Nunez

President Nunez related that Dr. Pan has recently stated that an additional option would be a centralized online resource detailing district online offerings yet continuing to allow / enable individual colleges to independently offer online courses.

President Nunez noted the existence of Internet-based MCCCD Governing Board outcome metric definitions and an associated resource that supposedly compares district online success rates to individual college online course success rates.

A senator noted that Rio Salado College has twelve (12) residential faculty.
President Nunez reiterated that he has yet to locate data supporting the contention that district on-line course offerings yield higher success rates than individual college on-line course offerings.

A senator noted that it is very rare to have the opportunity to review district-generated data.

Yet another senator noted that it is important to operationally define success.

Another senator reminded Senators that any district metric would inevitably reflect the district’s financial responsibility.

C) Vice President’s Report - Robert Soza

VP Soza noted that there is district-wide need for a FPG - PRC representative, a Library alliance representative, a Common Pages representative, and an Early Alert representative.

D) Recording Secretary’s Report - Jeff Messer

Recording Secretary Messer reiterated that both September 5th, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes and September 19th, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes would be considered at the October 3rd, 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting.

E) Business Secretary’s Report - Marie Brown

No report.

F) Treasurer’s Report - Phil Waclawski

Treasurer Waclawski noted his ongoing preparation of the Senate’s current financial position statement.

Treasurer Waclawski noted that prospective Faculty Association (FA) members can secure a discount by formalizing membership prior to October 8th, 2013.

President Nunez reminded the Senate that the aforementioned discount is in the form of a rebate and thus full payment must be offered with a subsequent rebate being provided.

President Nunez indicated that he will forward information detailing current FA members and non-members.
G) Past-President’s Report - Jeff Andelora

No report.

H) Faculty Senate Committees -

1) Faculty Staffing
2) Committee’s Committee
3) Faculty Travel
4) Honors Program Advisory Committee
5) Student Outcomes
6) CTL Advisory
7) Professional Right and Responsibilities
8) Faculty Social

President Nunez indicated that both Faculty Staffing and Student Outcome Committees are fully subscribed to and functioning.

President Nunez noted that the Committee’s Committee is seeking three faculty to provide corresponding committee service.

Multiple senators agreed to serve on the Committee’s Committee.

III. Old Business -

A) Academic Master Plan (Standing Agenda Item - Robert Soza) -

Vice President Soza asked Senators to encourage faculty to read the evolving Learning Priorities and to improve their corresponding understanding of the current Master Plan development process.

B) Distinguished Faculty Award (DFA) -

President Nunez distributed a brief document detailing the history of the DFA and asked that Senators not only read the document but also consider the future fate of the DFA.

President Nunez reviewed some criticisms of the DFA such as the scope of the application process for the award.

C) Maricopa Priorities: Status -

President Nunez noted Dr. Pan’s recent electronic mail message concerning the Priorities Steering Team and associated teams.
IV. New Business -

A) Membership Drive -

Previously discussed.

B) New Student Underage Forms -

President Nunez noted that underage students undertaking coursework at a community college presents certain unique challenges.

Vice President Soza reminded Senators that both District legal function and FA legal function have no legal standing in attempting to prevent an underage student from enrolling in a course / class.

President Nunez reminded Senators that courses should not be modified consequent to the presence of an underage student.

Vice President Soza noted that the evolving document should explicitly reflect that faculty do not need to modify course content due to the presence of an underage student or students.

A senator noted that the aforementioned document should also address potential safety-related issues.

Yet another Senator suggested that the document should be notarized.

One senator emphasized that both in-class safety and campus safety issues should be addressed and codified in the evolving document.

A Senator noted that feedback concerning the evolving document must be submitted by Friday, September 20th, 2013.

V. Information / Discussion

A) Senator Duties -

President Nunez reviewed the fundamental duties of a Faculty Senator.

B) Robert’s Rules of Order: Concise Overview -

President Nunez provided a simplified overview of Robert’s Rules of Order.
President Nunez indicated his desire for Senators to be aware of the aforementioned Rules in order to enhance the efficiency with which Faculty Senate meeting are conducted.

C) Meeting Date at Red Mountain -

President Nunez proposed an October 17th, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting at the Red Mountain campus initiating at 3:30 p.m.

D) Faculty Social -

President Nunez articulated his support for a once-per-semester Faculty Social.

One senator proposed a Social at the Southern / McClintock location of Nello’s Pizza.

Another Senator proposed Floredino’s as a potential location for a Faculty Social.

President Nunez proposed a date of October 18th, 2013.

VI. Zone and At-Large Reports and Significant Happenings / Issues -

One senator asked that faculty keep Delaine Gilcrease in their thoughts and prayers.

A senator reported that Robert Samsen has been recognized as one of the nation’s most accomplished Cisco trainers.

One senator noted that the current eLearning document is currently open for feedback / commentary.

One senator noted constituent concern regarding the eLearning Committee’s latitude to formalize standards that might interfere with faculty instructional rights as codified in the RFP.

The senator correspondingly noted implementation of eLearning standards could therefore be extremely difficult.

The senator indicated that a broader discussion might involve consideration of the “gatekeeper” for pedagogy.

The senator emphasized that the Senator’s constituents contend that any minimum course standard should be and must be established by faculty.
VII. Zone Issues for Reporting Out from Today’s Meeting

A) Academic Master Plan - encourage to read
B) Update from Sasan Poureetezadi
C) Four district committees that seek participation
D) Encourage FA membership
E) eLearning Standards are under discussion

VII. Announcements / Good Of The Order / Adjournment -

President Nunez noted that the next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for October 3rd, 2013 and will be conducted at the Southern-&-Dobson campus

A motion to adjourn was advanced

The motion was unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.