

**Student Equity Committee
2009-2010**

Date: February 25, 2010
Time: 1:00-2:00pm
Location: 1415-01 (Social Science Division Conference Room)
Present: Carolyn Facer, Chuck Helms, Mark Greenhalgh, Stewart Kimura, Pilar Ellis, Adela López, Alin Roman, Emilio Montes, Chris Lamm

Meeting Notes

1. **Associated Students Presentation: Peter Cornett & Tyler McLellan.**
Topic: The newly proposed A.S. Constitution. The Associated Students would like feedback from the Student Equity Committee. Once the final proposal is completed, the Associated Students would like our support.
 - This is a proposed draft of a brand new A.S. Constitution. They are still going through the review process. The plan was a collaborative work by members of the Associated Students. They contacted other campuses to get input into the framework.
 - The proposed A.S. Constitution will completely alter the structure of the Associated Students. (The Old Constitution is on the AS website @ <http://studentwww.fullcoll.edu/as> or go to quick links for A.S.
 - The students working on the new Constitution saw the old document as written by administration to control them rather than to support the students).
 - The students feel that under the present structure there is a lot of bureaucratic red tape and nothing gets done. They need a structure that responds to the students.
The New Constitution:
 - would include a student bill of rights
 - many structural changes to the current system of governance.
 - moving to a three-branch system (instead of a two-branch system). The judicial branch in the addition.
 - senate changes to a board of 15 members responsible for passing legislation.
 - the executive is responsible for overseeing the entire system of government and represents the student of FC.
 - the judicial branch - responsible for ensuring adherence to constitutional law and the enforcement and protection of the bill of student rights.
 - The students have a government to protect their basic rights as a student. (i.e.

Bill of Student rights).

- The new A.S. Constitution creates an entire judicial branch - including a Supreme Court (comprising of 3-5 members). One Chief Justice and 2-4 Associate Justices. All are appointed positions by the Chairperson of the Board and confirmed by the Board.
 - One Lead Defender and one Lead Prosecutor will be elected by the student body.
- They see the Associated Students as a legitimate lobbying power. To support student success and address equity issues.
 - Free Speech was an issue that was raised.
 - Everything is checked by administration - small space
 - There should be an expression of ideas and opinions
 - Freedom of speech has been violated. i.e. (GBLT) - should be able to talk about the concern during the blood drive (not wanting to stop the blood drive but to educate regarding bias laws perceptions).
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- Looking at a Student Union
- The proposed A.S. Constitution will be on the ballot in April
- There was an Article in the Hornet introducing the idea to the campus.
There will be both documents on Face book (old and proposed A.S. Constitution).
- It is not in direct conflict with Board policy.
- **Request to the Student Equity Committee: The A.S. needs feedback by Thursday by 3pm of next week.**
 - Areas for the Equity Committee to look at:
 - The Bill of Student Rights - Amendments - mainly Amendment #9.

Initial Committee Feedback & Questions:

- Amendment 6: already board policy (how are they notified) - logging into My Gateway. Disciplinary action or mark to their record - student will be informed.
- Question re: Article 2, section 3.0
- Question: At the community college, students are not here for a very long time. What plans have you made for students who do not meet the requirements, such as GPA to continue. Ans. The (3-5).
- Judges are appointed by the Director
- ICC has been part of the collaboration. The proposed A.S. Constitution will empower clubs - giving clubs more of a voice
 - Clubs - two weeks (lead time to get on the Master Calendar instead of 6 days for faculty).
- Idea: Create a position for a cultural director (have the international clubs

underneath that umbrella). Idea was acknowledged and will be included in the plan.

- Recommendation: Follow-up again and check Board Policy - be sure the proposed Constitution doesn't run into direct violation of Board Policy. That will slow the process to a slow crawl or even stop you reaching your goals.
- Recommendation: Look at it from the student's perspective. Remember they will likely have a very narrow perspective. That defeats your goal of a collaborative model that works with all sections of the campus.
- Question: are these Bills of Rights really supporting the students?
- Clarify the difference between the Chairperson of the Board and the Executive Director. The Chairperson seems to have a tremendous amount of power and control.
- Review the language to revise any suggestion of power and control. What you do not want to do is replace one oppressive system for another. Students need to feel that their voice is heard by other students (in power) as well. It is an interesting balancing act.
 - Article 1: Section 2.0: "Supreme" over - two things: the word itself and does the Constitution negate all other legislation previous to adoption?
 - Article 1: Section 2.1: same question as the second part of the above "must conform".
 - Article 3: Section 6.1: may appoint...people to "personal" - you mentioned advisory or lobbying roles. The word "personal" is the word in question. It raises lots of questions.
 - Article 4: The Chairman (it is understood that it is a common term; however, chairperson is more reflective of inclusive language).
 - This position has a tremendous amount of authority.
 - Article 6: Section 1.3: "Superior" is a word that is very reflective of what you are attempting to get away from.
 - Amendment One: "entitle" means "to give right to" or "to authorize" ; however, the term "entitlement" has a very negative historical message to many.

Good Discussion: The focus of the Student Equity Committee is to look at all aspects of programs, policies, etc. on campus that impede the students from reaching their educational goals and support them to be successful in life. The students are taking the initiative to be a positive change agent on campus.

2. Campus Website: Follow-up - Held Over

- Chris will send you the Addendum section with the new items added.
Any additional ideas, send to **Chris** and she will send them on the **Marcus Wilson** and the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate.
 - Submit additional information to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee
3. **Develop a Timeline** for the remaining of the semester to evaluate the progress of the Equity Plan in preparation for the End of the Year Report.
- **Mark and Chris** are looking on their computers for the Equity Plan Work Sheets that had the column "progress/status" and will bring to the next meeting.
- **Held over**

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 11, 2010 - Room 1415-01.