

Lansing Community College

Academic Senate

MINUTES

4/18/14

Senator Attendees: Alex Azima, Matt Boeve, Ed Bryant, Christine Conner, Willie Davis, Vicki Deketelaere, Darrell DeMartino, Ann French, Catherine Griffin, Judy Goth-Owens, Tammy Grossbauer, Jeff Haynes, Dan Holt, Dedria Humphries, Jeff Janowick, Melissa Kamai-Arambula, Terrence King, Jon Liebold, Peter MacFadden, Rafeeq McGiveron, Elaine Pogoncheff, Tracy Price, Richard Prystowsky, Terrill Putman, Suzanne Sawyer, Hananiel Setiawan, Eric Snider, James Swain, Ed Thomas, Joe Werner

Senators Absent: James Allen, Marcy Bauman, Kevin Bubb, Pamela Erramuzpe, Curlada Eure-Harris, Matthew Fall, Dale Franks, Heather McAlpin, Jerry Onofryton, Kelly Sakkinen, Kathy Shaffer, Cathy Wilhm

Call to Order

President Azima called the meeting to order at 9:37.

Roll Call

Clerk Blundy called the roll. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

President Azima asked if there were any additions/corrections/deletions to the minutes of the April 4, 2014 meeting. The minutes were approved as distributed.

Public Comments (also permitted during the meeting with the approval of the Senate)

None.

President's Report

President Azima indicated the task forces have been doing excellent work. There is discussion and a new way of thinking about how we will put the master plan together. Stay tuned for more information.

Provost's Report

- Achieving the Dream coaches are coming to campus for a site visit next week. There will be an opportunity for the Academic Senate to meet with them on Tuesday, April 22, from 10:30 to 11:30, in the ADM Board room. Please join the discussion if your schedule allows.
- Online Learning Consultant Kathleen Kinney will be on campus May 1-2 for a site visit to gather information and prepare a report on best practices and next steps for us. She will be working with an off-site colleague, Brittney Cunningham. If you have a key role in online learning or are simply interested in taking part in these conversations, please contact Pam Blundy.
- Faculty/Staff/Administrator searches - there are many of them currently in process. To maximize efficiency and consistency, we are appointing one person in Academic & Student Affairs to be the contact with whom Human Resources can work with regarding matters such as where to advertise vacant positions (we don't want to miss opportunities to target and invite specific audiences to apply). Dr. Vicki Deketelaere will be this person. She will work with faculty and others on job postings.

Dr. Prystowsky also addressed the need to deepen the diversity in our applicant pools. There will be conversations with Human Resources regarding this matter, and the Provost will discuss the matter with search committees. Some current searches might need to be extended to allow for us to deepen the applicant pools.

Action Items – None at this time

Discussion Items

- Brief report from the Higher Learning Commission – Jim Luke

Jim Luke indicated 7 people from the college attended the HLC annual conference. Five of them attended the AQIP workshop. Jim had a primetime session on strategic plan strategies; Martine Rife, English faculty, had a session on G2C; Dr. Michael Nealon led a round table discussion. All presentations were very well received.

We are a quality improvement-focused institution for our accreditation. This process has changed, it has been improved and simplified. LCC is in good shape, however we are coming into a critical time period this next two years. There will be a site visit/ quality check-up next year. The following year, we will be up for our reaffirmation quality visit, which is very important. Federal funds and student aid all rest on this accreditation.

- Discussion regarding the proposed conversion of the current six Academic Senate Task Forces into permanent Standing Committees and to form a new “coordinating” committee – Jim Luke

It was discussed with the AQIP steering committee this morning to add a 7th task force to the steering committee. There are currently 6 task forces for each area of strategic focus in the Strategic Plan. The senate has 6 task forces that mirror this for the academic plan. It is recommended that a 7th group to be formed: AQIP and Planning – it will be different from the other groups. The 6 task forces will be ongoing, their focus is strategy, action projects, improvement, etc. These pieces need to add up to the whole and coordinates with what we need to report to HLC to maintain our accreditation. That is what the 7th group will do. Co-chairs will be Dr. Deketelaere, who is the HLC liaison for the college, and Jim Luke has volunteered to be the other co-chair. Matt Fall from Data Science will be part of this group as well. Their role will be to provide tools, templates, consulting, and basically be a “help desk” to the other task forces and be sure our HLC accreditation is always on track. It has been suggested that these task forces become permanent. The AQIP Steering Committee, including the two Sr. VP’s would oversee all 7 task forces and provide communication to ELT and the Board of Trustees.

Other Business

It was moved by Senator Werner that the agenda be suspended to allow conversation with President Knight, who arrived at the meeting. Motion supported.

President Knight opened up the floor for Q&A. Discussion included:

How does the President like living on campus – He indicated it is a privilege to live on campus. There was a function/dinner at the house just last night that included the mayor, and dinner conversation included what an asset the house is for the college and how it will be available for future presidents. Living on campus allows him to “pop in” to various functions at the college in the evenings and weekends.

Tours of the A&S Building – President Knight indicated several groups have been invited at various times of the day. These visits have been very well received and they are fun to give and to attend. There are still items to be installed in the A&S building, so there will be more to see. He recognized David Siwik and Martine Rife, who were instrumental in the overall A&S educational art project. David continues to work in the President’s office on this project. Ernie Block was also recognized for his work in installing many of the displays. Dr. Knight discussed the educational value of the specific themed-classrooms in the garden level. These rooms don’t have windows, so having the art inspires students to learn a few facts rather than have empty walls to look at.

Dr. Knight indicated he intends to speak at the next board meeting about how the college is changing. He has been a president over a span of 30 years and has been able to see how things have worked out for those colleges over the years--he has changed the name of a college, he started a college from the ground up, etc. LCC will change more than any college he has known, in terms of how the college is perceived. He is already witnessing the impact of the A&S redesign in how the college is received and viewed by others. The Gannon building will be next. It will be different, the design--it will be vast. The tipping point is here - we will be installing 20 sculptures over the summer, including a 20 foot tall sculpture. They will be all over campus. After the initial reaction from people, good and bad, they will become community treasures in the years to come.

Oliver Towers status update – would this be a good space for a Veterans Center? Dr. Knight indicated that when we bought the parking lot, there was a clause that the College would have first right of refusal for the building. The Board will have to decide if they want to pick up the option or not. Dr. Knight is not recommending it – it needs complete wall to wall renovation, it is not cost effective.

Update on the Academic Senate Elections – Senator Melissa Kamai-Arambula, Academic Senate Secretary Christine Conner, Center for Data Science Director Matt Fall

Possible Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:15