

Lansing Community College  
Academic Senate Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2017, 9-11 am  
Administration Building Board Room

Senators Present: Allen James, Argersinger Marvin, Azima Alex, Boeve Matt, Bryant Ed, Conner Christine, Curtin Michelle, Deines Tim, Dietrich Nancy, Droste Ivan, Dutcher Peggy, Edwards Rob, French Ann, Garayta Cheryl, Gonzalez Lucas, Gruesbeck Nikki, Gustin William, Harned Dan, Hilker Jennifer, Janowick Jeff, Johnson Leslie, Kelland Mark, King Terrence, Lee Eliza, Leventhal Judy, Lin Megan, Luke Jim, Macomber Zach, Manning Christopher, Mutty Sue, Pogoncheff Elaine, Prystowsky Richard, Sawyer Suzanne, Smelker Christopher, Sperling Tedd, Swain James, Thomas Ed, Tobin Pam, Werner Joe, Wilkerson-Johnson Veronica

Senators Absent: Bubb Kevin, Clifford Katie, Del Castillo Monica, Garcia Bo, Hagen Karen, Mattson Dave, Mesler Vern, Reglin Jill, Storie Cindy, Wilhm Cathy

- I. Call to Order: 9:04
- II. Roll Call: 9:06
- III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved at 9:06
- IV. Public comments (also permitted during the meeting with the permission of the Senate)
  - a. Public Comment: Robin Pizzo from CCAMPIS stated that there is growing concern that federal money will be cut for programs that aid parents who've decided to enroll in college courses. The Coalition for College and Career Readiness along with CCAMPIS invite you to be a member of the audience during the Parents Speak Forum. We have selected distinguished student parents to share their successes, and challenges along with barriers, and successful support initiatives necessary, to access higher education and services in our community. This event will take place at Lansing Community College's Main Campus, HHS 005-007 on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 from 4:00pm- 6:30pm. Courses focused on public service will also be there including public policy courses, child development courses etc. A formal invitation will come out through the LCC Star.
  - b. Wednesday: Starscapes presentation will take place on Wednesday and Thursday. Only 5 or 6 faculty are covering two days and additional volunteers are needed.
  - c. Faculty Appreciation Day is April 20<sup>th</sup>
- V. President's Report
  - a. Leslie will continue as the CTE director, and we will start a new process for fulfilling this role next academic year.
  - b. While the Academic Senate has been serving a number of roles, its chartered purpose is to "provide faculty input and advice to the administration concerning issues of College-wide educational philosophy." We seek a "consensus" and "student learning is the ultimately goal of the Academic Senate.
  - c. The purpose of the Academic Senate is to get information and collect insights from faculty across campus.
  - d. The Academic Senate provides input on reorganization, capital improvements, use of college finances, and even in grant funding. The Senate communicates with the Provost

on a number of topics. We coordinate the Academic Senate standing committees in terms of reporting, membership, and goal-setting.

- e. Consensus shapes our goals, processes, and discussions. Ultimately, we must return discussions back to the goal of consensus. The Academic Senate needs to continue to provide a meaningful advisory capacity.
- f. The starting point for discussions and shaping ideas into concrete actions should also start in the Academic Senate and also these efforts should be reported back to the Academic Senate on a regular basis. Moreover, the Academic Senate needs to be more involved in the concepts and ideas at an earlier point. There is also value to always reporting to the Academic Senate even on subjects that are not clearly connected to the Academic Senate.

VI. Provost's Report

- a. The Provost has recently attended two major conferences, which led to his missing the last two Senate meetings.
- b. The Title III grant was submitted yesterday at 3:00 pm. These are culture-changing grants and provide substantial resources. The hope is that ours will be granted.
- c. Academic Success Coach Update - By week 14, there are only six more success coaches to be hired.
- d. HLC Update: Terry Hartle from ACE (American Council for Education)
  - i. Higher Education is not as high a priority for the current administration as it was for the Obama administration.
  - ii. Constituent voices matter so higher ed people should call representatives if they have concerns about higher ed-impacted policies, proposed or current.
- e. Jeffrey Salenko, author of *There's Life After College*
  - i. More and more employers are hiring employees out of internships. They want someone seasoned and want to have a good understanding of the worker's abilities before hiring them into full-time positions. Many recent college graduates knew how to take a course but did not know how to learn. They struggled with communication and writing, organizational skills, planning and being detail-oriented, customer service along with "core skills". The skills are creativity, curiosity, humility or humanity, and digital skills. We need to do more than just provide content delivery.
- f. AAC&U Conference Update – Becky Wai-Ling Packard:
  - i. Her message was that faculty have to practice the things we're really good at. Too often we walk into class and make mistakes because we don't practice situations where we have to practice diversity and empowerment. She noticed that students all protected each other during the plenary discussion which was packed with college administrators. She asked how often faculty and staff support each other. We often undercut or mock others rather than adopting the perspective of the students.

VII. Action items (none at this time)

VIII. Consent Agenda

- a. ENGL 122 revisions were submitted by the Curriculum Committee. There were no objections to the acceptance of the revisions.

IX. Other Reports and updates

- a. Student Senator reports
  - i. No report.
- b. Online Learning Committee mentoring proposal—Leslie Johnson

- i. Kara Christiansen and Leslie Johnson
      1. These recommendations came from the need to improve online teaching. To facilitate these improvements, a team approach to mentoring online instructors has been created. Newly trained instructors would be paired with OL faculty, Instructional Designers, and subject matter experts during their first semester. This formal pairing improves results in the online classroom. Many instructors have been referred to the CTE due to issues in their online classroom during periodic reviews and this mentorship program is meant to address the issue.
      2. There is now a mentor-mentee meeting timeline. There are pre-semester, semester, and post semester meetings. There is, as always, continuous improvement.
      3. Contact Leslie Johnson with questions.
      4. Currently the number of mentors and mentee will depend on funding available. Currently 25% of the courses are taught online and thus faculty need to make sure that online courses are ADA compliant.
      5. President Janowick asked us if there was need to discuss this with our faculty peers. Many believed that this is needed. There will be a review at the next meeting and then we will vote on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The Powerpoint presented in the meeting will be sent out as soon as possible.
  - c. CASL Report –Peggy Dutcher and Karen Hicks
    - i. Senator Dutcher and Karen Hicks reported on the progress of the 2016-2017 assessment results.
    - ii. Five metrics were used across campus and another was added this years. See presentation Powerpoint for great detail.
    - iii. Metrics and targets have been developed to determine what should be learned by our students, and they should also establish what we want faculty to instruct in our courses. We ask ourselves what curricular goals we want to meet and that are within our reach. We can also compare our results to other AAC&U institutions.
    - iv. As a college, LCC did very well. Improvements were made in students’ success assessment strategies and increasing student learning by creating moderate level cognitive skills for LCC graduates.
    - v. There was a lot of work developing plans for increasing assessment.
    - vi. Provost Prystowsky asked, “Are instructors familiar with Bloom’s Taxonomy?” There was uncertainty regarding the answer to this question.
- X. Recognition of departing Academic Senators
  - a. Departing Academic Senators: Jim Swain, Rob Edwards, Suzanne Sawyer, and Jim Luke. They were deservedly applauded for their great work.
  - b. We particularly thanked Jim Swain for inventing the word “de-silo-ization.”
- XI. Introduction of new Academic Senators
  - a. Megan Lin, Jennifer Hilker, Christopher Smelker, Suzanne Bernsten were introduced.
- XII. Officer Nominations
  - a. President: Mark Kelland
  - b. Vice-President: Peggy Dutcher, James Allen
  - c. Secretary: Eliza Lee, Megan Lin

XIII. Discussion items

a. Statement of Student Expectations

- i. Senator Sperling suggested urging students to commit to awareness of support services. We don't want to shift blame onto students, though. It's up to the institution to make sure students know where to find relevant student services. Provost Prystowsky pointed out that asking questions should not be a mandate for all students. This was the passage: Commit to asking questions and being an active learner.
- ii. Senator Allen: We need to provide opportunities to connect students with corresponding faculty responsibilities. Senator Pogoncheff supported this.
- iii. Senator Werner advised we should change language to committing students to seeking out support for their courses. Being an active learner is important and very necessary. "Attempting" is a weak word. We should be using words that are stronger.
- iv. President Janowick pointed out that students who make an effort to finish the class to simply try that, even if they fail the course, they will be more likely to finish. Committing to asking for help, then, seems reasonable. (Odessa College)
- v. Senator Sperling stated students need to commit to a dialogue about support services. He also stated students should have an expectation that they participate in class activities.
- vi. Provost Prystowsky stated that data determined that providing expectations is shown to improve student opportunities.
- vii. Senator Lee wondered what Senator Gonzalez thought about these expectations.
- viii. Senator Gonzalez reminded everyone that students sometimes feel there is a disconnect between faculty and students. The intent is to make sure there is communication between both sides, and students have a responsibility as well. But there are also times when faculty don't do that as well. An example would be an online instructor not responding to their students. Neither side is without blame here, but students need to know what we can expect from faculty.

Adjourned at 11:01

Respectfully submitted by Chris Manning