

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes December 4, 2009

Senators Present: Nancy Brent for Anne Hamblin, Anne Nail, Teresa Smoot, Becky Burton, Cherie Clifton, Aimee Martin, Matt Craig, Bill Netherton, Tom Shelton, Jnita Collins, Pam George, Denise Hirsch, Jana Comerford, Jill Gibson, Duane Lintner, Claudie Biggers; Nichol Dolby

Senators Absent: none

Guests: Dr. Lana Jackson, Sabra Gore, Bob Guston,
Claudie Biggers called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Guest Presentation: Dr. Lana Jackson, Career Clusters

- The Career Clusters initiative has been in existence at the national level since 2002, and has been at Amarillo College for the past two and a half years.
- Forces driving career cluster implementation are: 1) rapid advances in technology that require mastery of foundational skills that can be applied to any job within a group of similar careers, and 2) federal funding (Perkins money) which is tied to career clusters.
- At the national level, 16 clusters, representing professions with commonalities of purpose, knowledge and skills, have been identified.
- AC currently has 12 clusters and AISD has 15 clusters.
- Career cluster implementation requires the alignment curricula from high school through graduate school.
- Faculty are going to input all of their curricula into a database called WIDS (Worldwide Instructional Design System).
- WIDS will allow faculty to identify commonalities across courses and programs, align knowledge and skills across classes, and streamline course offerings across program while identifying gaps and/or redundancy in curricula.
- Every program of study in a cluster must have the same 9-15 hour core of classes.
- College Relations is working with Career Clusters to create new brochures that cluster common professions into one brochure and provide better information to prospective students.

Reports

1. Salary Committee: Duane Lintner reported that the committee has met and will stress requesting raises that meet Amarillo CPI, increase rank pay, and increase part-time pay. During recent meeting with Dr. Matney, he suggested that the Salary Committee meet with the President's Cabinet instead of just with the College President but the Committee has decided they prefer to meet with Dr. Matney and Terry Berg.
2. Elections Committee: no report
3. Courtesy Committee: Jana Comerford welcomed new faculty member Bob Guston who accepted invitation to visit the Senate meeting.
The Courtesy Committee has sent out the following cards since the last Senate meeting.

11/9/09	Bobby May	Math	Illness. Card delivered to Math Dept.
11/12/09	Debbie Lemmons	NA	Sympathy card re. death of Mardy Lemmons

11/12/09	LaVon Barrett	Nursing	National Certification as Nurse Educator
11/20/09	Family of Thomas George Reeve	British tourist	Reeve was murdered in Amarillo.
11/20/09	Carol Buse	CIS	Completion of Ph.D.
12/2/09	Central Texas College	Fac. Sen.	Condolences re. Fort Hood massacre
12/2/09	David White	College Relations	Congratulations on NISOD Award. Recognizes extraordinary service to the institution.
12/2/09	Courtney Milleson	Advising and Counseling	Congratulations on NISOD Award. Recognizes extraordinary service to the institution.
12/2/09	Janice Easterday	Adm. Asst., Music Dept., Div. of Lang., Com. & Fine Arts	Congratulations on NISOD Award. Recognizes extraordinary service to the institution.
12/2/09	Dr. Bob Banks	Psychology	"Badger of Honor" award for student engagement
12/2/1009	Dan Porter	Biological Sciences	"Badger of Honor" award for student engagement

4. Academic Technology Committee: Duane Lintner reported for Vicky Taylor-Gore.
5. IT Council Report: Claudie Biggers noted that faculty who drop online classes will now be removed from AC Online. Update 7.4 for AC Online will go live in Summer 2010 but will be available for faculty to experiment with in a sandbox environment at <http://amarillodev.angellearning.com>. Claudie said that in the recent faculty forum, Lee Colaw provided faculty with a timeline that included moving from Angel to Blackboard NG in 2014. Claudie encouraged senators to distribute IT handouts/tipsheets to faculty in their respective divisions. Claudie also noted that new advancements allow accessing Colleague online and intercom systems are being installed in new classrooms
6. Faculty Development: Pam George reported that Heather Voran showed the committee around the CTL new lab, discussed upcoming classes and the FACulty Matters. To access the Faculty Matters forum, you must add the component "Community Groups" to your AC Online homepage
7. Questions Committee: Bill Netherton went over the recently submitted questions and the Senate advised him on where the questions should be sent.
8. Survey Committee: Jill Gibson reported that in a recent meeting, Dr. Matney suggested the need to present a combined, all-employee survey that is anonymous. Senators discussed the need for open-ended questions in the Survey. Danita McAnally will be leading an effort to coordinate all work groups.
9. CCSSE Analysis Team: Aimee Martin reported that the CCSSE team will present a program on Institutional Assessment and the CCSSE on January 13.
10. Conversations on Student Success: Becky Burton reported that this month's conversation is on experiential learning. The group is meeting Friday Dec. 11 from 1-3.
11. Legislative Committee: Aimee Martin reported that Ann Hamblin is working to get Board of Regents candidates to come to campus for an informational forum.

12. Technology Committee: Pam George reported that she has uploaded last two months' minutes.
13. Mead Committee: Claudie Biggers advised members of the Mead Committee to start considering changes to Mead award.

Items for Discussion

1. Meeting with Dr. Matney: Claudie, Duane and Jill met recently with Dr. Matney to discuss recent issues including
 - a. How to handle the fact that online faculty evaluations have not been distributed this past summer and fall semesters, which will impact needed feedback and applications for rank and tenure/performance review paperwork. Jerry Moller will discuss this with the Rank and Tenure Committee
 - b. All faculty evaluations and curricula vitae may be required to be placed online according to the Texas Legislature
 - c. 7.4 update for AC Online needed to be announced
 - d. WebCT Developmental server turned off without notification but now it is extended until January 29.
 - e. Need for an extension on turning off portal tools to allow training. Now the MyAC LMS tools will be turned off on January 29th.
 - f. Numerous committees that dealt with online learning were consolidated into ITC and ATC; however, faculty do not have representation. We suggested the creation of a new committee that is entirely comprised of faculty.
 - g. Dr. Matney agreed to provide funding to get faculty together for lunch/idea sharing/camaraderie
2. Faculty Forum

Claudie reported that the Faculty Forum had a good turn out by both administrators and faculty
3. Student Study Camp was a success with 70 students in attendance. It was suggested that we try to find a way to help students with financial hardships.
4. The 2010-2011 Academic Calendar was shared with the senate and it will be approved at the next Board of Regents meeting.
5. November minutes were approved. Becky Burton made the motion and Jnita Collins seconded the motion, motion passed.
6. Denise Hirsch mentioned changing the date of the January meeting from the January 22 to January 15. A motion was made by Denise Hirsch to vote on date change via email and Dr. Nichol Dolby seconded the motion, motion passed.
7. Anne Nail moved to adjourn. Tom Shelton seconded the motion, motion passed.
8. Meeting adjourned