

District Shared Governance Council (DSGC)
February 2, 2009
Minutes

Members Present: Co-Chair Jing Luan, Lessandro De Sousa, Darne Duckett, Megan Eznekier, Mauricio Flores Hernandez, Ray Hernandez, Charles Jones, Adolfo Leiva, Virginia Medrano Rosales, Martin Partlan, Stephanie Samuelsen

Members Absent: Co-Chair Patty Dilko, Linda Allen, Diana Bennett, Connie Beringer, Jeanne Gross, Teeka James, Brittany Piccolotti, Marsha Ramezane, Laura Saxton

Others Present: Barbara Christensen, Roger Nishimoto

The meeting was called to order at 2:24 p.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Partlan and seconded by Mr. Flores Hernandez to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 1, 2008. Mr. Flores Hernandez noted that Ms. Piccolotti was not present at the meeting; her name will be removed from the list of those present. The motion to accept the minutes as amended carried, all members voting "Aye."

Public Comments

None

Discussion of the Order of the Agenda

None

Board Policies – Chapter 1

Ms. Christensen said the proposed changes to Chapter 1 are being presented to the Council as information. The revisions incorporate changes in the law, changes in terminology used by the District, and changes advised by the Community College League of California service to which the District subscribes.

Regarding Section 1.00, item #2 ("The name is the property of the District. No person shall, without the permission of the Board, use this name or the names of any of the Colleges or other facilities of the District, or any abbreviation of them, to imply, indicate or otherwise suggest that an organization, product, or service is connected or affiliated with, or is endorsed, favored, supported, or opposed by the District"), Ms. Christensen said the language comes directly from the League's suggested language. There was concern expressed at an earlier Council meeting that there is a lack of clarity about the circumstances under which the District or College names may be used. In response, Ms. Christensen said item #3 was added: "This policy does not in any way restrict the ability of an employee of the District from using his/her title or the name of the College of the District in the regular course of his/her duties." There was also concern that there are no stated consequences for violation of this item. Mr. Partlan noted that Vice Chancellor Harry Joel sent an email explaining that violation of the policy would be subject to due process as are all other violations of District policy. Ms. Christensen asked if the proposed revisions to Section 1.00 meet all other concerns; the Council expressed no further concerns.

Regarding Section 1.30, Compensation of Board Members, Mr. Partlan noted that Board members receive health and welfare and retirement benefits, and asked if Board members are considered employees of the District and, if so, if they are considered full-time employees as opposed to part-time. He noted that part-time faculty are not entitled to benefits. Ms. Christensen said Board members are not employees of the District. She said the Education Code states that retiree benefits for elected Board members are discretionary but if benefits are provided, a Board member must have at least twelve years of service with a district.

Ms. Christensen said that a statement was added to Section 1.05, Student Trustee, stating that to be eligible to serve as Student Trustee, the student must “meet any other requirements set by the individual College Associated Students organization in their constitution or By-Laws.” This sentence was added to reflect requirements which Skyline College Associated Students have in their policy.

Board Policy 8.14, Bond Oversight Committee

Ms. Christensen said the proposed changes in this policy are technical. The current policy deals only with Measure C; Measure A has been added. The revisions also remove term limits because, as work has progressed with this committee, it has become clear that there is benefit in maintaining continuity in membership. There were no questions or comments from the Council regarding this policy.

Report from the District Committee on Budget and Finance

Chief Financial Officer Kathy Blackwood was delayed at another meeting and was not available to present this report. It will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Draft Student Fee Policies and Procedures

This item will also be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Accreditation Update

Co-Chair Luan said there is no update; Cañada College and College of San Mateo submitted their October 2008 reports to the Commission but have not yet had a formal response. A report will be provided to the Council when a response is received.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Leiva announced that on February 11, the Skyline classified staff will host a bake sale and gift item fundraiser. He added that the planning of the Skyline classified retreat is in progress.

Ms. Medrano Rosales announced that on March 16, there will be a march from Raley Field in West Sacramento to the State Capitol to express support for California community colleges.

Agenda Building

Co-Chair Luan said that on a regular basis, the Council will receive updates from those who work on the District strategic plan. The plan was reviewed and adopted by the Board of Trustees in December 2008 and will be widely publicized. The Strategic Planning Committee will work to develop evaluation strategies for the plan. Mr. Nishimoto noted that separate environmental studies were done at the District and the Colleges, and asked why the duplication occurred. Co-Chair Luan said that the focus and levels of the environmental scans are different for the District and Colleges.

Mr. Partlan said Ms. James has requested further discussion on the topic of freedom of speech, which arose in connection with Measure 8 on the November 2008 ballot. Co-Chair Luan agreed that this will be on the agenda at a future meeting.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Ray Hernandez and seconded by Ms. Samuelson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.