

Notes from ACADEMIC SENATE PART-TIME FACULTY COMMITTEE

Monday, March 26, 2012; 11-12:30, College Conference Room

Present: Michael Lambe, David Milroy, Melanie Quinn, Michael Orr, Narges Heidari, Barbara Blanchard, Janet Castanos. Department Representatives: Becki Thompson-Biology, Dan Greenheck-Math, Maxine Goldberg-ESL. Guests: Patrice Braswell-Burris-SOC Representative, Cheryl-Ann Phillips, President ASGC.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Michael noted new department representatives; Rebecca Thompson-Biology and Maxine Goldberg-ESL. The committee members introduced themselves and the noted the department/division they represent.

Michael asked the members to review the minutes from the February 27, 2012 meeting. Motion was made to approve the minutes.
M/S/U Milroy/Quinn

Narges reported she would be unable to attend the next committee meeting, April 23, due to a schedule conflict and asked the committee to consider a date change for the next meeting. After much discussion it was determined the committee was unable to move the meeting date; Barb offered that once an agenda is available for the meeting, if Narges had any information or concerns to bring forward she would be happy to do that for her.

II. Discussion of P/T instructor availability to students-ASGC President Cheryl-Ann Phillips

Agenda note; this item was delayed until Cheryl-Ann was able to make it to the meeting as she was coming from class.

Janet introduced Cheryl-Ann as the ASGC President and gave a little background on the report/conversation that occurred at the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council meeting and reviewed the report she had given to the ASPTFC.

Cheryl-Ann introduced herself and gave a little of her background as a student at GC. She relayed her experience while pursuing her degree in Arabic; while taking Arabic 1 & 2 she was fortunate to have a part-time instructor who was willing to meet with her outside of GC, as he did not have office hours on campus, and was able to give her the help she needed to pass the course. As a student in Arabic 3 she had a much more difficult time being successful in the course; she had a part-time instructor who did not have office hours on campus and due to work schedule was unable to meet outside of the classroom time. She noted that once she reached Arabic 4, she had a full time instructor and had access to regular office hours on campus. Cheryl-Ann noted as an English speaker taking Arabic it was very valuable to her to be able to work with her instructors.

Cheryl-Ann reported it is not uncommon for her to talk to students who are struggling in courses and unable to meet with instructors due to the lack of office hours for part-time faculty. She noted for some courses the tutoring center is available, but the staff is not

always familiar with the assignments and are not always able to assist the students. She explained some part-time faculty are available to students, while others are not. She noted that sometimes that is due to teaching at multiple colleges or that part-time faculty are not compensated for office hours and therefore not contractually obligated to offer them. In closing she noted the need for student access to part-time faculty is there, some students are failing due to lack of access and instructors can help students.

Much discussion occurred regarding the situation. Some items mentioned were;

- The committee is aware that this is an important issue for students.
- The Senate passed a resolution in support of Part-time office hours (12-3-07)
- Research needs be done to find out the cost of P/T office hours, what formula other colleges use to assign P/T office hours.
- Money is not available at this time, but it is a good time to do research, raise awareness and recognize it as an important issue, and make it a priority for when funding returns.
- Raise student awareness to ask for help when needed.
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their academic career.
- Bring issue to AFT with the support of the ASGC and Senate.

A motion was made to write a resolution in conjunction with ASGC to send forward to the Academic Senate and AFT.

M/S/U Milroy/Orr

III. Professional Development Workshop with Deborah Shanks-Denise Schulmeyer

Denise reported she had contacted Deborah regarding the Fall flexweek activity; Deborah would be available for the workshop, but she would need a 3 hour time slot. Discussion occurred regarding changing the proposed activity to accommodate this. Some items discussed were;

- Move workshop to the Spring flexweek; in order to be used for professional development credit work needs to be completed in the first 12 weeks of the contract period.
- Concern if done at a later time, separate from flexweek, poor attendance may be an issue.
- It was suggested this might be a timelier topic as there may not be many new hire part-time faculty members.
- If have only Deborah's presentation at flexweek request the Dean's do new hire orientation.

It was determined the committee would like to move forward with the presentation by Deborah Shanks. David noted her workshop is very informative and interesting for Part-time faculty and she is the expert in retirement for Part-time faculty. Denise will move forward with plans; arrange for speaker, room, etc... David to confirm food will be provided by California Part-Time Faculty Association.

- Deborah Shanks Workshop
- Fall Flexweek, after department meetings
- Tuesday, August 14, 2012 5:00-8:00pm

- Committee would like to use Griffin Gate

IV. Peer/Manager Evaluation Form-Michael Lambe

Michael reviewed the Peer/Manager Evaluation Form and the changes to the form; addition of “Department, Division, College and District requirements are followed”, the addition of the .5 to the scoring section, and a Self-Evaluation section. Mike reported that the Part-Time Faculty members at Cuyamaca had asked to the addition of a Self-Evaluation on the in order to have an opportunity to have their work/activities outside of the college known. It was also noted that Accreditation Standard III would now contain a section regarding faculty participation in SLO’s and it must be included in the evaluation process; the self-evaluation section would give faculty an opportunity to highlight SLO participation. The committee discussed the form and the following items were mentioned;

- Self-reflection is an opportunity to share outside activities, highlight work at other campuses, and opportunity for growth.
- It’s not uncommon to have a self-reflection section on evaluations in other fields or at other institutions.
- It’s nice for managers to have the extra information; it’s helpful in the evaluation process and is a record that can be taken to other jobs.
- It’s a step towards a more meaningful evaluation process and is not an uncommon piece to evaluations.
- Will it have a negative effect on the re-hire process? The rehire preference process is outlined in the contract and a self-reflection piece would have no bearing on it.
- The biology department already does an annual self-evaluation and finds the process helpful.

A motion was made to accept/support the Peer/Manager Evaluation Form.

M/S/P Orr/Castanos (1 opposed)

V. AFT Discussion

Michael reported that there is a sense of a lack of support from AFT for the Part-Time Faculty; some discussion occurred regarding the cost cutting options that could be suggested to GC and the District, but AFT is unwilling to support at this time. Barb noted that this committee meeting was not the venue to discuss contract issues and it would have to wait for the proper place. David reported that Sunny Cooke suggested a meeting between the ASPTFC representatives and AFT representatives. David and Michael will move forward with organizing a meeting.

VI. Process for Elections

Michael reported that after much discussion at SOC that the election of Divisional Senators would occur at the Division meetings. This will allow for the greatest Part-Time faculty participation. A call for nominations will go out in the late Spring, and then Senate Officers will attend Division meetings to take any nominations from the floor and conduct the election. Department Representatives will be elected via the department meetings, in a way feasible for the departments.

In closing David noted that the Part-Time Caucus would be holding a dinner meeting in conjunction with the Spring Plenary Session. The Spring Session will take place April 19-22 in San Francisco. The dinner will be Friday April 20th. David noted for more information visit; www.asptfacultycaucus.info.

Meeting adjourned 12:20pm

Next Meeting:

Monday April 23, 2012 11:00-12:30pm College Conference Room 10-106