



Faculty Association of California Community Colleges

**Board of Governors Meeting
LAX Westin, Los Angeles
May 15, 2009**

Minutes

Key Decisions and Actions:

1. Approved empowering advocates to continue engaging in discussions with the other system parties on AB 551
2. AB 1157 was passed with one abstention

Members Present: Teresa Aldredge, Homer Arrington, Cynthia Alexander, Ramona Barrio-Sotillo, Dennis Frisch, Mary Ellen Goodwin, Lisa Gunderson, Richard Hansen, Bill Hewitt, Kathy Holland, Roger Marheine, John McDowell, Mitra Moassessi, Merylee Shelton

Members Absent: Jim Custeau, Jeanne Dunphy, John Smith, Chuck Van Patten

Staff Present: Silvia Farias, Bryan Ha, Jonathan Lightman, Andrea York

Liaisons Present: Paula Muñoz, EOPSA; Molly Smith, CCCAOE; Shaaron Vogel, ASCCC

Part A: Introductions

Call to Order

President Bill Hewitt called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. He welcomed all those present and gave a special welcome to Bryan Ha, FACCC's new Membership Director.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Mitra Moassessi was appointed parliamentarian. Dennis Frisch will take over when she leaves at about 2:00 pm.

Passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Hewitt proposed the following changes to the agenda: add item (f) AB 440, Transfer Degree, to C.II - Legislative Update; rename item E.I - NLIE Report, Election Results and Recruitment; and add item E.IV.A - Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar. Rich Hansen asked that item B.V - CCCI Report be added to the Liaison Reports.

Passed unanimously.

Part B: Liaison Reports

ASCCC

Shaaron Vogel

Shaaron Vogel reported on the Academic Senate's Spring Session. In an election in which there was a large number of people running for the various Executive Committee positions, Jane Patton was elected as the next president. Four papers were accepted at this session on topics including enrollment management, non-credit, and the philosophy of the community colleges. Vogel also described several of the most important resolutions that were passed at the session. Fall Session is scheduled November 12-14, and there will an Equity Conference next year in February. Vogel expressed her regret that this was not sufficiently coordinated with the FACCC EI Diversity Conference. She also noted that the Senate is working on suggestions to meet the need for qualified community college administrators.

Vogel also reported that the Senate is not necessarily supporting Accreditation Commission (ACCJC) activities. She said that the Senate is concerned that the Commission does not provide training for its site visit teams, and she noted that the current spate of sanctions is not necessarily helpful. She remarked that ACCJC has not been willing to talk with the Senate about Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), even going so far as to tell the Senate not to hold its accreditation conference.

Hewitt thanked Vogel for her service as liaison to FACCC and noted that this is her last FACCC meeting in that position.

EOPSA

Paula Muñoz

EOPSA President Paula Muñoz said that this is not the time to report on the variety of activities of EOPSA because the number one concern is the state cut in the community college budget.

CCCAOE

Molly Smith

Molly Smith, CCCAOE Past President, explained that there has been a major shift in philosophy for the organization toward more activism on Career Technical Education issues. This, she said, led CCCAOE to contract with FACCC for its advocacy in Sacramento. As a result, the group has developed solid relationships with legislators, and the organization is currently tracking seven CTE bills. New leadership has stepped forward, and CCCAOE is working on its strategic plan. Kim Schenk is president.

Smith reported that CCCAOE is working in partnership with the California Workforce Association. The fall conference will be in Long Beach, October 28-30, emphasizing women in trades, technology, and science. The spring conference will be in San Francisco and is being planned in partnership with community college chief instructional officers.

Student Senate

Richael Young

FACCC Executive Director Jonathan Lightman reported for the Student Senate. He noted that planning sessions for the students' March in March were held at the FACCC office under the supervision of Legislative Advocate Andrea York. Lightman reported that new leadership will soon be chosen. The current president, Richael Young, is transferring next year.

CCCI

Rich Hansen

Hansen distributed copies of a resolution passed at the California Community College Independents Spring Conference, May 8-9. The resolution represents a unanimous vote of "no confidence" in WASC, in the ACCJC, and in ACCJC President Barbara Beno.

Part C: Issues and Strategies

State Budget

Jonathan Lightman

Lightman reported that the state budget has dominated advocacy efforts in recent weeks, and he noted that the governor released his May Revision yesterday, May 14. For the current year (2008-09), the revision proposes to cut \$85 million from categoricals across the board with districts given "flexibility" in choosing the program reductions. In addition, the Administration estimates that the property tax shortfall will amount to \$42 million and no backfill is provided. Next year (2009-10), the across the board categorical cut is increased to \$222 million and the funding rate for Physical Education and, so called, recreational courses will be reduced to the non-credit rate, netting the state some \$120 million in savings. The revision also reduces growth funding from three to two percent, saving \$58 million. Lightman ended, noting that student fees are not increased in the governor's proposal.

Lightman said that advocates will be looking closely at the use of federal funding. So far, the community colleges are not slated to get any relief from stimulus money, but the colleges may benefit under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Lightman noted that the role of the community colleges in training and retraining for the unemployed remains their strongest argument. Advocates are also working to provide more federal support for community college students by expanding the scope of eligible expenses under the Pell Grant Program.

It was suggested that K-12 is coming out better in the May Revision due to its support for propositions on the May 19 ballot, but Lightman responded that this notion may be too simplistic. In answer to concerns that community college legislative supporters are leaving community colleges open to financial devastation, Lightman suggested that advocates emphasize the absurdity of current year cuts coming so late in the year when the money has already been spent. It was also suggested that the community colleges should advocate on the basis of the disproportionate hit on people of color when the system is cut, using the example of EOPS students preparing for careers. Lightman noted that FACCC has pressed hard on this issue.

Lightman also reported that the Thursday morning advocacy calls continue and noted that Linda Cushing is organizing advocacy teams in each district. He asked the Board to get involved and a passed around a signup sheet.

Closed Session

Bill Hewitt

Hewitt called the Board into closed session to discuss staffing issues.

Legislation

Dennis Frisch/Andrea York/Jonathan Lightman

Lightman and Legislative Advocate Andrea York reported on the status of FACCC's bills. AB 385, growth, is on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File. FACCC helped Marty Block draft an op-ed piece about AB 385 that appeared in the San Diego Union. AB 381 (Block), SDI, is out of Assembly Committee and gaining support.

Other legislation discussed included textbook bills and CTE legislation. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding changes proposed for AB 551 (Furutani), Property Tax Backfill.

Motion to empower advocates to continue engaging in discussions with the other system parties on AB 551 in keeping with FACCC's principles and past positions.

M/S: Aldredge/Gunderson; Passed unanimously.

Subsequent discussion verified that FACCC will now change its position on AB 551 from support to watch.

The Board also discussed AB 1157 (Block) on the Fifty Percent Law. When asked why a 52 percent figure was used, York reported that in a recent advocates meeting, administrators claimed that 52 percent is the state average, two years ago, of expenses when counselors are included in the numerator. She added that the administrative advocates for the legislation admit that its intent is to provide relief from the current Fifty Percent Law. Board criticisms noted that AB 1157 will not address the present inadequate number of counselors on our campuses, and it will mean a setback in those districts that have hired more counselors than the two year old state average.

Motion to oppose AB 1157.

M/S McDowell/Alexander; Passed with one abstention.

With regard to AB 440 (Beall), Transfer Degree, the Board noted that the Academic Senate opposes the bill but would support it if the program of study for the proposed “transfer degree” were adequate. FACCC will continue to work with the Academic Senate on AB 440.

Retirement

Rich Hansen/Andrea York

Hansen noted that current retirement legislation is technical in nature, and he advised the Board to read the Retirement Committee notes in the meeting packet for a brief summary of the bills.

Frisch recessed the Board at 2:17 pm.

Frisch reconvened the Board at 2:45 pm.

Part E: Operations

Fiscal Condition

Teresa Aldredge

Treasurer Teresa Aldredge gave the FACCC financial report. As is typical for the fiscal year, FACCC has now entered into positive cash flow. She noted the additional revenue from the CCCAOE contract.

Consent Calendar

Motion to approve consent calendar.

M/S – Frisch/Goodwin; Passed unanimously.

NLIE Report: Election Results/Recruitment

Silvia Farias

Program Director Silvia Farias reported that there were many positive comments on the elections and ease the ease of voting using Big Pulse. 713 members voted, approximately

eight percent. Associations like FACCC usually anticipate an eight to 11 percent participation rate. She said there were no major problems except one district that would not deliver the mailed ballots to campus mailboxes. There were also reports of email ballot information ending up in spam filters. It was suggested that use of a “faccc.org” rather than a “bigpulse.com” sender email address might help. The NLIE Committee will investigate part-time faculty access to ballots when they have an assignment in one session of the academic year but are not on the membership roll at the time of the election.

Successful candidates were:

- Secretary – Merylee Shelton, San Jose City College
- Treasurer – Rich Hansen, De Anza College
- Part-Time Officer – Deborah Dahl Shanks, Diablo Valley College
- Regional Governor A – Alex Giardino, De Anza College
- Regional Governor E – Homer Arrington, Santa Barbara City College
- Regional Governor F – Dean Murakami, American River College
- Governor At Large – Eduardo Jesús Arismendi-Pardi, Orange Coast College
- Governor At Large – Roger Marheine, Pasadena City College
- Governor At Large – Chuck Van Patten, Cosumnes River College
- Governor for Part-Time Faculty (South) – Kathy Holland, Pierce College
- Governor for Retired Faculty – Thelma Epstein, retired from De Anza College

Farias urged the Board to get involved in committee recruitment. She will send a needs list to Board, including committee descriptions and interest forms. The deadline for return of interest forms is June 10.

Membership

Merylee Shelton/Silvia Farias

Farias reported that current FACCC regular membership has reached 9379 not including Santa Barbara where a contract membership was recently approved by overwhelming vote of the faculty. Merylee Shelton described incentives that include gasoline cards and Osher Foundation contributions toward the district match that are made in the name of the new FACCC member. She reminded the Board of the pledge to recruit ten new members each during Spring. So far, the total recruited is 37. Farias reiterated that the key is to get FACCC to each board member’s campus, and she urged board members to contact new membership director Bryan Ha.

Part F: Good and Welfare

Tribute to outgoing board members

Bill Hewitt

Plaques in honor of their service to FACCC were presented to outgoing board members Teresa Aldredge, Lisa Gunderson, and Alicia Wang.

Examination of 2008-09 Achievements and Challenges

Bill Hewitt

The Board reviewed their comments on 2008-09 FACCC achievements and challenges.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the Board of Governors at 3:39 p.m.

Passed unanimously.

Richard Hansen, Secretary

Approved by the FACCC Board of Governors June 28, 2009.

(date)

(signature)