

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Fall Faculty Conference
September 2, 2014**

The meeting began at 10:25a.m.

I. Rodger Jackson reviewed activities of the senate during academic year 2013-2014.

II. Michelle McDonald presented an update on the status of the Pan College Task Force on University Status.

She reviewed the history of the work of the Faculty Senate Task Force on University Status. Results indicate faculty remain primarily in favor of becoming a university. The Pan-College Task Force worked on the question over the summer. Reflecting the institution's current profile appeared to be the only legitimate reason to change the name.

The floor was opened for discussion. Faculty asked about the estimated total cost of the name change. A projected budget is available in the report. The estimate is \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 depending on staging.

Faculty asked whether Stockton will re-issue diplomas and, if so, for how far back. The Board of Trustees will need to decide.

III. Susan Fahey presented the Report of Task Force on Campus Accessibility.

Overall, the campus is pretty sensitive to the issues faced by disabled campus users, but there is also a lack of awareness of the type and number of challenges and obstacles. Two awareness events held during the last academic year identified problems with parking, lack of signage, doors, and other miscellaneous concerns (e.g., bathrooms, exterior paths, etc.).

The floor was opened for discussion. Faculty suggested people could sign up for cell phone notification about elevators, asked about plans for gender neutral bathrooms, noted that outside noise can be a problem for people in classes with auditory processing or attention disorders, and asked who faculty should go to for their own accessibility concerns. The report recommended that a standing committee of the Faculty Senate be formed to address these concerns.

IV. Vince Cicerello presented the results of the investigation of E-learning.

Main findings were 64% of students interested in more online General Studies courses, 28% were interested in more online courses within their major, 20% of students took at least one online course during Fall 2013, most students do not take more than one online class during in a semester, very few students are taking most of their courses online.

The floor was opened for discussion, but there were no comments from the faculty.

V. Rodger Jackson opened the floor for discussion of issues faculty would like the Senate to address and began with a list of topics raised last year.

Mike Frank suggested re-evaluating the structure of General Studies.

Lydia (last name?) suggested forming a permanent standing Committee on Accessibility to help with Middle States and changing ADA laws.

Christine Tartaro questioned whether the administration might have hand-picked members of the Academic Honesty Policy to get what they wanted, and expressed concern that

the policy leaves loopholes for Academic Honesty Board and Provost to have input about students' grades.

Judy Copeland suggested there needs to be more transparency in the college wide committees set up by administration.

Audrey LaTourette supported consideration of nuances and discretion in incidents of plagiarism, emphasizing that plagiarism is an ethical offense, not a criminal one.

Margaret Lewis suggested Admissions does not consider seats in classes with growing enrollments, and that the administration does not measure the right outcomes or follow-up appropriately with graduates.

Bill Reynolds suggested the senate should have some input into ongoing faculty development so the administration is not the main voice influencing the process.

Nathan Long wanted the college to pay more attention to assessing lifelong learning and expressed concern that COACHE results indicate that women, minorities, and senior faculty feel marginalized.

Anne Pomeroy wanted all students to be able to enroll in introductory science courses in order to fulfill the mission of a liberal arts college.

Earl Benjamin suggested forming a committee to assess effects of the casinos closing in Atlantic City.

Vicky Schindler noted that Atlantic County, NJ had highest unemployment rate in the nation even before the casinos closed.

Tara Crowell suggested PUBH grew too fast without sufficient support and said she has had difficulty getting information about graduates.

Deb Figart suggested a teach-in about the social issues related to Atlantic City's economic problems.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Lyke, Secretary of the Faculty Senate