



Classified Senate Minutes

Room: Faculty Lounge

August 9, 2007

In Attendance: Summer Rodriguez, Monica Hagmaier, Chuck Helms, Catherine Parks, Carolyn Whelchel, David Reichert, Shauna Weiner, Rachel Chavez, Olivia Wolfe, Efrain Villanueva, Dina Aguirre

Absent: Laurie Triefenbach, Lora Gauthreaux, Pat Sanchez, Catherine Palmer, Greg Menchaca, Allan Aure

Guests:

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION:

Efrain Villanueva opened the meeting at approximately 10:30 am. He gave his vision for Classified Senate, and his expectations of its members. He saw the senate as a place of honesty, freedom, and wanted it to have an "open forum" style. He wanted each member to feel free to have an open opinion. He expects each member to demonstrate they take Senate seriously through their attendance and punctuality. Things he would like to see in Senate are better communication, some new ideas, an eye-catching webpage and an outgoing newsletter.

Catherine Parks stated a few example issues Classified Senate may address such as changing to a 16 calendar week; replenish classified positions, and mentoring program for new classified.

Catherine also reported on the **Classified Retreat**. This would a retreat for members to get to know their responsibilities as individual members and of the Senate as a body. It would be half a day and a break for lunch. A possible date is set in Sept. More information to come.

Meeting with Dr. Hodge- Efrain reported Dr. Hodge would not accept the initial request of an 8 hr. retreat, but would allow classified to attend half a day and a break for lunch for the Classified retreat. Dr. Hodge also wanted to remind members to be respectful of the student's newly adopted "Smoke Free" Campus policy. She also addressed a concern from some deans about classified being away from work due to senate meetings. It was suggested to re-assign senate meeting times to during lunch. While Dr. Hodge supports the Classified senate, she also agrees with the needs the deans have. Efrain would like at least two members from the E-board to attend the set meetings with Dr. Hodge.

Compressed Calendar – After a preliminary consensus via email, Efrain proposed the meeting dates to the second and fourth Thurs. of the every month from 10-11am. The question was proposed if 11:30am – 12:30pm was a better meeting time, but enough members disagreed and preferred 10-11am. It was left for senators to confirm the time with their managers and report back.

Chuck Helms reported on the **Classified Senate website**. While it is a little sparse at the moment, he claimed it had beneficial information. It can be viewed at <http://classifiedsenate.fullcoll.edu>.

Catherine Parks introduced the new **Senator Mentor Program**. Each senator will have a senator from the E-board as a mentor to call on for questions, or for help disbursing information their assigned dept.

SENATOR REPORTS:

None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Staff Development Funds – No updated at this time.

Classified Employee Recognition – A discussion on **Classified Senate Recognition and Classified of the Year** was opened up. Because of the work required in a short period of time to choose a classified person to be recognized, the periods to nominate a classified person was voted on and changed to two times a year, Fall and Spring, instead of three times a year. A proposal to only have a classified recognized in the Fall and Spring and not to choose a Classified of the Year was denied with only one vote in favor. A second proposal of choosing a classified for Spring and Fall, then choosing the Classified of the Year from the two winners was voted on and passed. A tentative calendar for nominating and voting on classified would be as follows. Nomination for the Fall semester would start around Sept. 26- Oct. 26. Senate would vote between Nov.1-8th. The winner would be announced the week of Nov. 13. Nominations for the Spring semester would be collected between Feb. 11- March 14. Senate would vote through March 27- April 3. The announcement would shortly following. The Classified of the Year would be considered between April 14 -18 and announced in May. These dates my change. It was also noted the nomination forms will be revamped. Denise Cork, Dina Aguirre, and Catherine Parks are on the nomination committee.

Public Comments:

Efrain would be speaking at the Convocation Aug. 17, 2007.

Catherine Palmer will no longer be able to serve on Classified Senate. A replacement is being considered.

Meeting adjourned: 11:00 am
Next meeting to be held on August 23, 2007

Shauna Weiner-Recording Officer