



Classified Senate Minutes

Room: College Center Rm. 227

March 12, 2009

In Attendance: Ericka Adakai, Shauna Weiner, Nicole Diamond, Rachel Chavez, Greg Menchaca, Olivia Wolfe, Rena Negrete, April Ramos, Sharon Kelly, Josue Abarca, Vince White, Nancy Livingston,
Absent: Monica Hagmaier, Starla Battiest, Fatima Villegas

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ericka Adakai called the meeting to order at 2:03pm. The minutes were approved with corrections. A report on the food for the Open House was added to the agenda.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION: REGULAR BUSINESS

Ericka Adakai reported from her meeting with **Dr. Hodge**. They had a discussion about the **Budget Talking Points**. There is not a clear answer on how the budget changes will affect classified staff. Nothing has been decided about employees taking furloughs or positions being cut. It has been determined that vacant positions will not be filled and there will be no COLA advancement money this year, even though CSEA tried to negotiate for it. The District's projected budget for next year is contingent on the state's May Revise, which will come out in June. Once the revised budget is released, then definite decisions can be made based on an actual budget, and the District will know what type of finances they are working with. Ericka said classified staff members have contacted her for answers on how the budget cuts will affect the college. Unfortunately, even the administrators don't have answers. So, with the help of **Rene Negrete**, Ericka sent out an informative email depicting a timeline on when specific budget issues will be discussed. Ericka's purpose for the timeline was to help classified to know when to ask questions and start looking for information. Ericka wanted to provide some type of awareness even though definite answers are not available at this time.

Ericka suggested for Classified Senate members to access the **PAC** minutes online. She did highlight that **Associated Students** has a food bank that gives out food gift certificates from grocery stores such as Food for Less, and bus passes. These items are given to those in need one time per semester per person. Ericka encouraged committee members to get the word out to their constituents to donate to **CareBank**.

Ericka also wanted to point out that Rajan Vaidya, A.S. President, approached her at PAC, inquiring how classified staff responded to the smoke-free campus questions in the recent questionnaire. Ericka will email him the information.

Final arrangements on who is attending the **Classified Leadership Institute** conference need to be decided. Ericka has already requested funds and made arrangements for her travel. **Rene Negrete** has applied for the scholarship that is available through **4CS**. **Rachel Chavez** suggested

at least one new senator should attend in order to carry on what is learned from the conference into next year's senate committee. Ericka announced that because District enters the requisitions for the travel requests, they are asking that there be no name changes. It creates a lot of work for them. Ericka wants Classified Senate to handle these arrangements as organized and professionally as possible for District. She would like anyone who is interested in attending to submit a request only if they are able to commit. **Nancy Livingston** announced that she attended the conference last year. She felt she learned a lot about classified senate and was amazed at how big the shared governance really is. The deadline to submit requests for interest in travel to Lake Tahoe for the conference is Wednesday March 18th.

SENATOR REPORTS:

Nancy Livingston reported the **procedure booklet** still needs a title. The handbook will be saved under the H:drive. Discussions on possible names and other details were tabled for a later discussion.

Vince White reported the **Diversity Committee** is currently revising their mission statement. Since the resignation of **Cindy Vyskocil**, the committee is under going changes. For example, the awarding of diversity funds is now being issued under the Cadena Transfer Center's general budget. They are also looking at changing the name of the committee from **Equity & Diversity Committee** to **Campus Diversity Committee**. Vince will be addressing PAC about the issues.

Classified Open House: **Rachel Chavez** and **April Ramos** reported on the status of the food for the Open House. Sodexo will be catering Mexican food. The total will be \$7.95 a person. Sodexo was not the lowest quote for food, but they are also providing the chaffing dishes and warmers at no cost. Committee members approved to spend \$1,627.56 for Sodexo to cater the food.

Ericka expressed her vision for the Open House event. She encouraged members to be actively engaged, wear their names badges, and possibly wear the same color shirts to identify the Classified Senate from Classified staff at the event. She wants committee members to support one another and to reach out to the luncheon attendees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No comments at this time.

Meeting adjourned: 3:05pm

The next meeting will be held on March 26, 2009 in rm. 227.

Shauna Weiner-Recording Officer