Santiago Canyon College SPRING 2014 FACULTY FORUM
Unofficial Highlights—SCC E-203, 12:00-1:40, February 6, 2014

1. Chair release – Narges Rabii
   a. The amount and continual shifting of work can be overwhelming for department chairs.
   b. FARSCCD is working on a formula to determine release time
      i. The formula is based on the number of faculty, number of sections, and FTES generated for that department in the Fall semester.
      ii. There is also an X-factor that will impact the amount of release time
         1. Some departments must meet requirements from outside agencies.
         2. Some departments spend significant time on budgeting, ordering, and maintaining supplies.
         3. A department may have higher numbers in Spring than in Fall.
      iii. Once the formula and X-factors are in a more finalized version, departments will have a chance to give feedback to FARSCCD.
      iv. The formula will come up for a vote in April and, if approved, will be piloted in the next academic year. There will be no retroactive pay for previous years.
      v. This process for determining release time is meant to be transparent and non-negotiable.

2. FARSCCD – Barry Resnick
   a. The responsibility of FARSCCD is to manage the contract. This includes
      i. Making sure that administration is following the contract to the letter.
      ii. Helping faculty with issues with administrators.
      iii. Negotiating future contracts.
   b. FARSCCD currently has 320 faculty members.
   c. Academic and curriculum issues are Senate responsibilities.
   d. The new, already approved, contract should be available online soon.
   e. Future items for negotiation include
      i. Raising the 0.85 lab pay rate
      ii. Getting a17th step
      iii. Additional LHE for Senate leadership
   f. Concern was expressed about the longevity of the inequity in pay between the Writing Center and the science labs.
   g. Contact your FARSCCD representatives if you have issues or suggestions.

3. Senator Reporting– Corinna Evett
   a. The role of an Academic Senator is to represent their faculty.
   b. To facilitate the process of dispensing information and seeking input, each Senator has been assigned a group of faculty.
   c. Faculty now have a specific Senator with whom to voice concerns or questions, though faculty are free to talk to any Senators.
   d. The Senator faculty list is at the Senate webpage or at this link:
   http://sccollege.edu/Departments/AcademicSenate/Documents/2013-2014/list%20of%20senators%20and%20faculty%202013-14.pdf

4. New hires: Corinna Evett
   a. Per the minutes of last semester senate meetings, the following is a reminder of the consultation process that transpired regarding faculty hires:
      i. The District Human Resources Committee recommended 28 new hires for SAC and 1 new hire for SCC in order to maintain the Faculty Obligation Number.
      ii. SCC committed to 2 new hires, but is flying 4 positions: Water Utility Science, Mathematics, American Sign Language, and English.
         1. Water Utility Science was unable to hire last year due to a weak applicant pool.
         2. It is possible that more money may be found, possibly due to retirements, which would enable SCC to hire more than two positions.
   b. Comment:

       i.   There was concern for applicants going through a lot of work to apply for positions that may not be available.

5. Implications of the pursuit of growth – Craig Rutan
   a. For several years, our District has been in a reduction mode, but now is dealing with restoration.
   b. Intersession was part of this attempted restoration and was funded out of the District stabilization fund.
      i. SAC was able to generate 400 FTES.
      ii. SCC is meeting its initial target of 1.67% growth, but not the hoped for target of 3% growth.
      iii. It is not clear if the FTES generated during Intersession will affect the split in the budget allocation model.
   c. Spring enrollment is down at both campuses. Some possible reasons:
      i. Other colleges, who are also chasing growth money, are advertising and offering additional classes.
      ii. Our Spring calendar starts later than other colleges in our area.
   d. Enrollments are relatively flat across the state.
   e. In an attempt to increase FTES, SCC may grow Summer session and offer Intersession next year.
      i. Intersession and Summer enrollments are not used in requesting new hires or in determining chair release time.
      ii. In the future, the colleges are responsible for paying for Intersession, as well as summer.
   f. The District Planning and Organizational Effectiveness Committee should discuss Intersession and the other attempts at growth.
   g. Any money beyond our budget that was spent in the attempt to grow will come out of next year's budget.

6. Adjunct re-hire rights – John Smith
   a. The restoration factor offered by the State has not taken into account that the San Francisco area colleges have lost students and are down about 5000 FTES. This may increase the amount of growth money available for other colleges.
   b. Programs such as EOPS, Counseling, and DSPS have been cut drastically.
   c. $100 million was set aside for student success. The Faculty Association for California Community Colleges (FACCC) wants the money used to target specific things, including adjunct faculty pay for office hours.
   d. Many other districts have implemented part-time prioritization rehire rights.
      i. An adjunct faculty who has been teaching a certain number of years would be placed on a list based on sonority and the department would work down the list when offering classes.
      ii. There was some concern that years of experience does not necessarily equate to quality of teaching. Some departments have limited adjunct pools to choose from.
      iii. Prof. Smith asked departments to think about what they would be willing to adopt in regards to rehire rights.

7. Virtual Office Hours – Michael DeCarbo
   a. Faculty may have schedules that make it difficult to offer office hours at times that best fit student availability.
   b. Some colleges allow faculty to schedule one of the five required office hours as virtual.
   c. At SCC, for every 3 units taught online, a faculty member must offer one of their office hours as virtual.
   d. Comment:
      i. Some faculty felt that students are more likely to participate online rather than attend a physical office hour. Other faculty disagreed.
      ii. It can be hard to end an online office hour if students are still online.
      iii. Some students may have difficulty getting to a computer, so perhaps online office hours should only be offered when the library or computer labs are open.
      iv. How do we guarantee that faculty are actually responding during an online office hour?
   e. FARSCCD is now aware of the interest and will bring forward the possibility to administration. There may be more discussion in the Senate.

8. Accelerated Degrees – Corinna Evett
   a. Associate degree in one year
      i. Many skills, including social and time management, are being learned in a college environment. Education is not a sprint, but involves lifelong learning.
      ii. There are already ways for students to accelerate time to degree (e.g. AP classes, college courses while in high school, summer school).

      iii.   It may be difficult for students to transfer because they wouldn't have completed enough units in their first fall semester, which is when they would need to apply.

      iv.   Advertising an accelerated degree might attract students for the wrong reason.
1. Some students might not really understand the time commitment.
2. Some may not have the necessary skills and would be set up for failure.

      v.   There would need to be a way for students who need to leave the accelerated program to get back into the mainstream program.

      vi.   Perhaps CTE degrees would best work in an accelerated model because the students are more goal-oriented.

  b. Other options
      i.   Put more community college classes in the high schools.
      ii.   Pursue an accelerated degree as a pilot.

  c. A resolution regarding the accelerated degree may be introduced in the Senate.
      i.   An introduced resolution does not mean a decision has already been reached.
      ii.   A resolution is a formal way to encourage and focus discussion.
      iii.   Resolution can be approved, amended, voted down, or postponed for further discussion.
      iv.   There are other colleges who are on record in opposition of accelerated degrees.

9. Senate Scholarship – Michael DeCarbo
  a. In the past, the SCC Academic Senate contributed $500 each year to a scholarship.
  b. A few years ago, the OSHER Foundation offered the possibility of a perpetually funded scholarship if the Senate was able to raise $13,000.
      i.   The possibility went to the faculty for a vote and was overwhelmingly passed.
      ii.   Through donations and a contribution of $4000 of Senate funds, the money was raised.
      iii.   The new scholarship is $1000 each year and requires no further Senate funds.
  c. The Senate later learned that the scholarship needed to have a BOG waiver requirement.
      i.   Of the 68 applicants last year, 34 had at least a 3.5 GPA, and only 17 of those received BOG waivers and were eligible for the Senate scholarship. The Senate Executive Board was able to find an outstanding applicant even with the BOG restriction, but it does limit the pool.
      ii.   Only 4.2% of the other SCC scholarships have a BOG waiver requirement, but they may have other requirements.
      iii.   The SCC Foundation is willing to buy back our scholarship, but the Senate would then need to donate money each year if it was decided to offer another scholarship.
      iv.   Some faculty felt that the Senate should not use dues to fund scholarships because many faculty already contribute to other scholarships.
      v.   Prof. DeCarbo did an informal survey of other community college Senates and found that the majority use dues to give scholarships and to provide food for meetings.

10. Naming of facilities – Corinna Evett
  a. A request was received to name the SCC library after Lorenzo Ramirez, who was involved in the fight for desegregation in Orange County schools.
      i.   Pres. Vazquez was approached first and responded that a campus-wide process must be followed before making this decision.
      ii.   The Board of Trustees was then approached, and though they were supportive of the idea, they encouraged the chancellor and college president to further investigate the matter.
      iii.   An SCC ad-hoc committee was convened to discuss this specific request. It includes 2 librarians, a faculty and classified member of the facilities committee, the dean from that area, a student, and the SCC foundation president or designee.
  b. The current administrative regulation on naming a building is vague and needs to be revised.
  c. Comments:
      i.   There is often money donated when a building is named after someone.
      ii.   It costs money to change signage and publications to reflect a building name change.
      iii.   SCC could offer to name a room or other area, instead of a whole building.
      iv.   Santa Ana may have set a precedent with the Caesar Chavez Building.

11. Other Comments:
  a. Department chairs have been given duties due before classes start.
  b. The last day of January was considered a flex day, which allows faculty to receive a paycheck in January.

    c.   Adjuncts usually receive four paychecks each semester; it is not clear how working in June will affect this.

12. The Faculty Forum in Fall 2014 will include a potluck and will be held on the Thursday of flex week.