



**Yosemite
Faculty
Association**

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2006

Location: Faculty Lounge, E. Campus

APPROVED MINUTES

Respectfully submitted by
Sandra Joan Woodside
YFA Secretary

Members Present: 20

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

(1), Jillian Daly, (2) Cece Hudelson-Putnam, (3) Alan Layne, (4) Nancy Sill, (5) Mike Smedshammer, (6) Gene Womble, and (7) Sandra Woodside.

REP COUNCIL:

(8) David Nordin, (9) Paul Berger, (10) Bobby Hutchison, (11) Linda Kropp, (12) Wendy Griffiths-Bender, (13) Emily Malsam, (14) Larry Scheg, (15) David Ward, (16) Brian Sanders, (17) Hanna Louie, (18) Donna Louie, (19) Jon Kropp, (20) Jim Stevens

ABSENT: John Mendes, Laurie Prusso

Non-Voting Members: Brian Sinclair, David Baggett

GUESTS: Jeff Weaver, MJC Sabbatical Leave Committee Chair

A Quorum was established.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10p.m. by President Jillian Daly.

President Daly welcomed Brian Sinclair as the new MJC College Council Representative and member of the YFA Executive Council.

Michael Akard was thanked for his service as the past MJC College Council Representative from 2004 to 2006, and a certificate of appreciation was presented to him.

A short, itemized list of the physical needs for YFA space, when the library is remodeled, was presented to the Representative Council for review as an informational item. The list is available in the YFA office.

MINUTES Approval of the Oct. 11, 2006 Minutes. **TABLED**

The minutes for October 11, 2006 were tabled pending revisions to two sections, the YFA Retreat and The Columbia College VP Report.

President Daly asked permission to take item 3 under Discussion Items, Community College Funding Drive, out of order to facilitate the removal of video equipment after the presentation. The Council agreed to reorder the list of discussion items and move item 3 to item 1.

SABBATICAL LEAVE COMMITTEES REPORT: Jeff Weaver

Jeff Weaver, Chair of the MJC Sabbatical Leave Committee, reported the applications for 2007-2008 were received. There was a total of sixteen applications totaling twenty-three requested semesters. MJC has only 14 semesters available for sabbatical leaves. Professor Weaver noted the quality of the submissions from MJC faculty have improved. The next step for the Sabbatical Leave Committee will be to review the applications, rank them as a list of recommendations and pass them on to MJC President Rose, Interim Chancellor Hodges and the Board of Trustees for specific recommendations and approval.

Gene Womble, Columbia Vice President, reported on behalf of the Columbia College Sabbatical Committee. Three semesters are available to give out for the 2007-2008 academic year. Columbia has a different approach to sabbatical application review. For Columbia, one of the persons on sabbatical from the previous year chairs the committee. The committee reviews applications then returns them to applicants with recommendations for improvement. A total of four applications were submitted, reviewed, commented upon and returned to applicants. Final applications are due November 2. The committee will interview all applicants, and final recommendations will be made to the Columbia College President on Dec 11.

Professor Brian Sanders noted it would help for the Board of Trustees and the District Administration to see a consistent structure in the sabbatical reports. Additionally, the idea used to be that when a sabbatical leave replacement was needed a full-time person was hired. However, that funding has disappeared. This raises a concern on how departments will cover sabbatical leave replacements, especially with the current PTOL funding deficit.

NEGOTIATION UPDATE: Brian Sanders, Bargaining Committee Chair

Brian Sanders reported that the YFA Bargaining Team is currently engaged in Interest-Based Bargaining. As in any type of negotiations, the team is limited in what they can say due to confidentiality agreements which are part of the bargaining process.

Professor Sanders noted that the YFA team has been meeting with the administration's team on an on-going basis. Interest-Based Bargaining is a six step process. Currently the teams have been working through the first three steps on a number of issues. The next three steps focus on the specifics of how the teams are going to achieve the agreed upon items. Both teams have to agree at the table on what the structure should be. Professor Huddleson-Putnam and Vice President of Instruction, Brenda Robert, will do draft language for the contract.

The teams have been working with a facilitator. Because, in the past, the teams never had a consistent facilitator, they have never gone completely through all six steps of the bargaining process. The YFA Team believes that once they go through the whole process on at least one or two items, they will be able to work through issues more efficiently. The Center for Collaborative Solutions, the consulting firm providing the facilitators, has three facilitators who work well together.

Professor Huddleson-Putnam noted that much of the current language in the contract has been there since 1973. The language is very legalistic but has many holes in it. Our team is working to clean up and simplify the language.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Winter Session/Spring Break at MJC

The College Council voted unanimously for no spring break in 08, and the need to study wintersession and gather facts. College Council has taken a stance that we will be a college and district that makes decisions based on data. President Daly recommends we do not start exploring the issue until the new president of Columbia College is in place.

While there is near unanimous opposition to wintersession, the Colleges/District can still go ahead with a study. No decision that affects the entire District should be made in a vacuum.

According to a study by Chaffey College, presented at the State Academic Senate Plenary Session, there are approximately 33 colleges on compressed calendars. Statistically, about 85% of students assess at basic skills levels. At issue is retention of those students. Approximately 9% actually pass transfer level courses. Generally, retention level goes down the first year after compression, then goes back up. Ultimately compression does not appear to affect student retention.

a. YFA Role in Calendar Discussion

YFA position is the calendar is negotiated. Both colleges need to have similar workload etc. Columbia has the same calendar as MJC. A District level committee is being formed to look into the issue.

2. Division Shared Governance Document Reports

Science Engineering Math: are devoting division council meetings to working on the document. They have finished their documentation and handed the report off to the divisional secretary to write up.

Allied Health: are using Lit and Lang's model to see how it can translate to Allied Health. They will be done soon.

Counseling: Completed.

EOPS: are working on their document. They have had cancellations and meet with classified and faculty at same time. They have a rough draft but it is difficult to get everyone to meet. (EOPS is currently in the middle of priority registration.)

Arts and Humanities: They are going to ratify their document next week.

Lit and Lang: Completed.

Phys Ed: Completed and approved their document last year. They will provide a copy to Molly Navarro, YFA Executive Secretary.

Library: YFA has a draft of their document but it has not yet been approved by the division. They are meeting next week and will move to finalize their document.

BBSS: The division began work on their document last year, but the project was met with disinterest. President Daly will call the Dean.

Tech Ed: not sure of status. President Daly will call the Dean.

Ag-not present to report.

3. Community College Funding Initiative

Brian Sinclair gave a short presentation of student fee reduction act. The document gives information on the initiative. There is a need to get the initiative on the ballot, and signatures are needed by the end of November. Voluntary signature gathering is cheaper than hiring paid solicitors, so the drive has been to have educational organizations become engaged in the signature gathering process.

The Initiative lowers tuition fees to fifteen dollars. If the initiative is passed Community College funding will increase. Currently, Community College funding is connected to K-12 growth. This money will be slowly diminishing over time. Community Colleges were to get 10.98% of Prop 98 funds, which they have never gotten. This initiative separates Community College funding from the K-12 growth pattern and brings the Community College portion of prop 98 up to 10.43%, better than it has ever been before.

All the CEO's of Community Colleges are in support of this initiative and many have given funds towards the signature drive. Dr. Williams had originally set aside 40K, but the District eventually gave 1K.

Six hundred thousand signatures are needed to get the initiative on the ballot. FACCC and Bay Area support initiative. They are asking YFA to participate, Anyone who circulates signature sheets need to fill out a form and mail it in with the first signature sheet. An individual only needs to fill the form out once. Signature gatherers need separate sheet for every county. YFA is requesting that each representative get between 12 and 18 signatures. The signatures are needed ASAP. Mail each sheet in as soon as it is completed, don't wait until all are collected.

YFA lawyers are adamant that this is a public institution; rooms used as public forums and therefore it is legal to advocate for certain political issues. The District is taking a more conservative stance on the issue. In order to avoid potential problems, it is easiest to take the signature lists home and get family and friends to sign. YFA cannot advocate a vote, but it can provide information.

FACCS wants every signature to be valid. Actually, 1.5 million signatures are needed to make sure they get 600K validated signatures.

Representative and members can contact FACCC.org and ask questions about the legalities of signature gathering.

YFA has two weeks to gather signatures.

4. SB 361

5. YFA General Meeting at MJC and Columbia College

Columbia College: Date is set for November 28. The Executive Council and Bargaining team will travel to Columbia.

YFA is having a difficult time getting a date for MJC. The bargaining team meets every Friday. Representatives are requested to take the issue back to their divisions. There will be an announcement for the MJC general meeting.

6. YFA Christmas Social?

In the past there have been co Senate/YFA Socials. YFA will move in the direction of hosting a Christmas Social.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT

JILLIAN DALY

1. YFA/Senate Project Committee:

The Joint Project Committee is creating a true YFA/Senate Conferencing Space and Office area. President Daly submitted an initial list of the proposed physical needs for the space.

Rep Council members provided additional ideas for consideration:

- One suggestion is a temporary wall so we could make a large space into smaller conference areas.
- We need dedicated storage space for each body.
- The committee is working with Jim Clark to make a whole faculty area (IRC, etc.)
- Faculty must be able to access the space separate from the Library in order to maintain confidentiality.
- It is suggested this should be a multipurpose faculty space.
- Resource space should be attached but separate. We should be able to have a meeting without denying faculty access to computers.

- Whatever goes into our facility takes money away from the learning resource center.
- We need meeting space in addition to lounge space.

TREASURER/BUDGET ANALYST

NANCY SILL

1. YFA Audit Report

The YFA audit is complete. The audit is performed annually. Professor Sill handed out a summary of the audit report. The auditors gave their stamp of approval of expenditures and collected all of the money we should have collected.

The chargeable versus non-chargeable expenses (those that do not go to the running of the union) were 99.71%. Faculty who do not belong to the union can request reimbursement of their fair share service fee for non-chargeable expenses. This year that amounts to a .29% refund. A full copy of the audit is available upon request.

MJC VP

CECELIA HUDELSON-PUTNAM

No Report

PAC

CECELIA HUDELSON-PUTNAM

No Report

COLUMBIA VP

GENE WOMBLE

No Report

FACULTY CONSULTANT

DAVID BAGGETT

No Report

COLLEGE COUNCIL

BRIAN SINCLAIR

No Report

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.