

Academic Senate Meeting, March 29, 2011

Reports of Standing Committees, Statewide Senators, and Ex-officio Members

Academic Affairs (Snyder):

Diversity and Inclusion: As many of you are aware, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion conducts an annual series of Diversity Focus Groups designed to gather qualitative feedback from HSU community members on issues surrounding diversity and inclusion on our campus. This feedback is published in annual Dissecting Diversity at HSU series. Our most recent focus group series have focused on student feedback, but **our Spring 2011 groups will solicit feedback on these issues from HSU faculty and staff members.**

We need your participation in this process in order to ensure that all voices are heard and that HSU's efforts in this area are serving your needs. We ask that you consider participating and that you encourage your colleagues to participate. Eleven informal focus group discussions are scheduled throughout April, and will take place Fridays over lunch and Wednesday evenings over hors d'oeuvres.

For more information, or to sign up for a focus group discussion, please visit:
www.humboldt.edu/diversity.

Budget Update: We have received our allocation from the Chancellor's Office based on the Governor's January budget. Our final reduction was approximately \$2 million less than our planning number. Our planning number was based on .026% of the system reduction, which is our share of the system allocation. A revised budget spreadsheet is being prepared for distribution.

Given the unstable budget environment, the President, the other Vice Presidents and I are in agreement that we should not revisit the budget proposal for 2011/12 at this time. When we have a better idea of the final state budget, based on the May Revise and the outcome of the Governor's plan to extend some taxes, and how that affects the CSU and Humboldt State University we will review the budget proposal and if necessary bring a new proposal to the UBC.

Integrated Curriculum Committee (ICC) (Moyer): The following is forwarded as an information item from the ICC: The ICC recommends NOT approving the following proposals:

09-087: New Minor in Environmental Science: Energy and Climate – The AMP recommends that we do not approve this minor. Currently, we don't believe that there is sufficient student demand to make this minor viable. The courses in the minor are technical engineering and science courses that have substantial pre-requisites, so the students most likely to be attracted to this minor would be one from majors such as

Engineering, Physics, or Oceanography, where a fair number of majors courses would overlap with the minor requirements. However, these are already high-unit majors (where students have little room in their schedules to add a minor); in addition there are relatively few physics and oceanography majors, so the potential pool of students for this minor is relatively small. In approving other ENVS minors, the AMP considered the number of non-majors currently taking ENVS 110, the gateway course into all the ENVS minors. While many non-majors take ENVS 110 (and many of them inquire about ENVS minors), few of those students are from the target majors.

The AMP recommends that the ENRS department wait a few years to see if greater student interest can be documented. The number of ERE students seems to be increasing, so perhaps this will result in more ERE students expressing interest in an Energy and Climate minor and/or more ERE/Physics/Oceanography/etc. students showing an interest in the subject by taking ENVS 110.

10-275: NAS 200: Indians in American History - proposal to accept the course as meeting Institutions requirements. The ICC recommends not approving the proposal because it does not clearly demonstrate how the course meets the requirements of Executive Order 405, which establishes the standards for Institutions courses. While the ICC does not recommend approving the current NAS 200 as an Institutions course, it does believe that a NAS Institutions course would be valuable for our students, and thus strongly encourages the NAS department to develop a course that would meet the requirements of E.O. 405.

Staff Council (Crowder-Fiore): Staff Council is starting a new service to the campus, similar to the community flamingo fundraiser. For only \$5, we are delivering gnomes to someone's office for a special occasion or just for fun. Email Brooke Crowder-Fiore for an application and/or more information.

Academic Policies Committee (Van Duzer): The APC will be bringing a policy for awarding Posthumous Certificates of Achievement and Degrees to the senate at the next meeting.

Senate Finance Officer (Mortazavi): See attached "Budget Impacts on HSU Budget" and message from Provost Snyder (above).