

Los Angeles Community College District

District Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2012

1:30-3:30 p.m., Board Room, District Office

Roll Call

Committee members present as indicated (X).

Academic Senate

David Beaulieu	X
Dana Cohen	X
Jeff Hernandez	X
Lauren McKenzie	X
Tom Rosdahl	X

L.A. Faculty Guild

Carl Friedlander*	X
John McDowell	X
Armida Ornelas	X
Olga Shewfelt	X
Joanne Waddell	X

Unions/Association

Allison Jones or Bobbi Kimble	X
Leila Menzies	
James Bradley	
Velma Butler	
Lubov Kuzmik	
Richard A. Rosich	
Jim Adams	

College Presidents

Farley Herzek	X
Jack E. Daniels III	X
Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh	X
Monte Perez	X
Kathleen Burke-Kelly*	X
Marvin Martinez	X
Roland Chapdelaine	
Sue Carleo	X
Renee Martinez	X

Also Present

Resource Persons

Daniel LaVista
Cathy Iyemura
Jeanette Gordon
Vinh Nguyen
Jeanette Gordon
Adriana Barrera

District Office

Michael Shanahan
Perin Reid
Chito Cajayon

Guests

Alice Taylor
Mary-Jo Apigo
Leonard Apenahier

Rolf Schleicher
Don Gauthier
Ann Tomlinson
Allison Moore
Barajas, Leticia
Maureen O'Brien
Mary Gallagher
Ferris Trimble
Mark Wood
Kristin Blackburn
Rosow, LaVergne
Carlsen, Paul
Furukawa, Tom
Abbie Patterson
Luis Rosas
Susan McMurray

1. Call to Order

Carl Friedlander called the meeting to order at 1:40. He noted briefly that the only agenda item was to discuss an important item that would be going to the Board the following week.

Jeff Hernandez asked about plans for the distribution of growth money in the event of Prop. 30 passing. Vinh Nguyen replied that it would be on the next meeting's agenda.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without change.

3. Approval of Minutes for Sept. 5th

The minutes for Sept. 5th were approved without change.

4. Recommendation from Executive Committee

Kathleen Burke-Kelly summarized the discussion in the recent Executive Committee meeting regarding a special fund allotment for the three colleges recently accredited, Harbor, Southwest, and West. The first two have been placed on probation, with West given a warning, and all three have reports due to the Board in February and to the ACCJC committee in March. Given this timeline, it is not feasible to wait to the November DBC meeting to take action. The specific recommendation from the Executive is that each college be given \$200,000, for a total of \$600,000. This is below their original requests, which totaled \$740,000.

In addition to this emergency request, the Executive discussed briefly the long-term need to set aside \$1 million/yr. for district-wide accreditation needs.

Presentations from each of the seaside colleges followed.

Marvin Martinez led the report for Harbor, assisted by the accreditation co-chairs, Jim Stanberry and Ellen Joiner, and Senate President Susan McMurray. Key points included:

- Budget has been reduced from \$30m to \$26m in two years.
- A 6% cut was enacted this year.
- The number of deans has been reduced from seven to four.
- There was “devastation” at Harbor when Martinez began at Harbor, with budget and morale low.
- Faculty made efforts to cut budget in earlier years but were thwarted by the previous administration.
- Use of the amount requested (\$249,000) was specified.

Jeff Hernandez asked whether these were on-going or one-time expenses. Tom Rosdahl said it would have been better for the district and college to have prepared more in advance, as was

done when Gary Colombo was the Vice-Chancellor. David Beaulieu detailed the extensive work Colombo did with the District Planning Committee, et al., creating accreditation documents. Joanne Waddell asked what the plan was to keep the work going after the allotment was spent.

Southwest College followed, with Jack Daniels leading the presentation. He was assisted by Allison Moore and new Senate President Leonard Apenahier.

- Southwest was on probation in 2006 and taken off in 2008.
- 96% of its budget goes to personnel costs.
- Need technical assistance.
- ACCJC is directing some steps Southwest is taking.
- Recommendations don't appear serious enough to merit probation.
- Colleges in California under fire by ACCJC.
- Southwest needs to go deeper, not just do a nice website.

Hernandez asked whether they weren't requesting on-going expenses. Beaulieu noted that no one had ever challenged Southwest's claim that 96% or more of their budget goes to wages and benefits any given year. He also pointed out the very low educational attainment rate in the Southwest service area.

Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh and accreditation chair Allison Taylor made the presentation for West.

- West is at 97% personnel and utility costs.
- It doesn't get any allocation change benefit until later.
- There was disagreement at ACCJC as to whether to give West a warning (as opposed to probation).

Burke-Kelly and Olga Shewfelt both supported the colleges' requests. John McDowell agreed, but said all the district colleges have needs and that we should set up an ongoing fund from the contingency reserves. Hernandez said he would only support the motion if we made such an ongoing commitment. He asked whether a consultant at the district level wasn't needed.

Abu-Ghazaleh amended the motion from the Executive to return to the amounts of the original request (\$249k for Harbor, \$279k for Southwest, and \$210k for West). Hernandez offered a second with the addition that the Executive would explore insuring that ongoing accreditation costs are included. Shewfelt and Beaulieu spoke in favor, with the latter arguing that the Executive's lower totals were arbitrary. McDowell spoke against, saying that this would set a bad precedent. The amendment passed with one dissenting vote.

In the final discussion on the main motion, Monte Perez cited the need for faculty reassigned time. Rosdahl reiterated the need for district staff to be more involved.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30. *Next Meeting: Nov. 14*