

Los Angeles Community College District

District Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2011

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	
Tom Rosdahl	X
Michael Climo	X

L.A. Faculty Guild

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

Unions/Association

Allison Jones or Bobbi Kimble	X
Leila Menzies	
Ted Strinz	
Velma Butler	
Lubov Kuzmik	X
Richard A. Rosich	X

College Presidents

Tyree Wieder	
Jack E. Daniels III*	X
Jamillah Moore	X
Monte Perez	X
Kathleen Burke-Kelly	X
Marvin Martinez	X
Roland Chapdelaine	
Sue Carleo	
Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh	

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Amber Barrero

Also Present

Resource Persons

Daniel LaVista
Cathy Iyemura
Adriana Barrera
Vinh Nguyen

District Office

Leila Menzies
Charalambos Ziogas
Ross Lee
Karen Martin
Joan Steever
Michael Shanahan
Chito Cajayon
Camille Goulet

Guests

Ann Tomlinson
Ken Takeda
Paul Carlson
John R. Oester
Mary P. Gallagher
Tom V. Jacobsmeyer
Erlinda De Ocampo
Norvan Berkezyan (ASO officer)
Steve Veres (Trustee)
Maureen O'Brien
Allison Moore
Ferris Trimble

1. Call to Order

Jack Daniels called the meeting to order at 1:35.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without changes.

3. Approval of the Minutes for September 14, 2011

Minutes of September 14, 2011, were approved with just one minor change regarding AtD information.

4. Enrollment Update/Planning

Cathy Iyemura reported there had been a 5% reduction in section offerings in the district this semester, as compared to last fall. Enrollment is down approximately 3% fall to fall, but only 2% in terms of unduplicated headcount. 4,500 FTES will be reported for summer. Most colleges are continuing to reduce Winter and Summer, in order to strengthen their main semesters. Iyemura rough estimate is that we will report around 102,000 FTES this year, down from 109,000 last year, but still well above the 97,000 for which we are being paid by the state (as compared to 104,000 paid last year). Continuing student totals are up by 2,000, but new students are down by 5,000.

5. FON Update

Adriana Barrera reported that our Faculty Obligation Number (FON) for this fall is 1461. That's the same FON as for Fall 2010 but is down by 18 full-time faculty from the number of full-time equivalent faculty (FTEF) submitted for last year's FON report. We reported 1479 FTEF in fall of last year. After separations, retirements, and new hires through mid-May are accounted for, we had a total of 1420 FTEF; 33 faculty have been hired since then (four are in process), leaving a total of four to reach 1461. Our ratio has declined slightly, to 61.8%.

Faculty members had concerns about the need to hire on a continuous basis, with an eye toward the future. In particular, they asked how the targets for next year will be developed. They asked to see targets set this semester, so that the hiring process could begin as soon as possible in the new calendar year. Barrera said the budget just didn't allow for the 17% growth that was initially planned, but did say that the college presidents understood that we need to hire at least some for next year, and that the sooner the better, in terms of getting the best candidates.

The topic will be on the agenda of the next meeting, with the expectation that there will be target totals at that time.

6. Student Success Initiative Update and 2nd Year Funding

David Beaulieu, reporting on behalf of Yasmin Delahoussaye, stated that the allocation and expenditure of the \$1 million set aside last fall for district student success initiatives was reviewed. The money is going to fund *Achieving the Dream* over two years. He stressed that the set aside was a one-time action.

7. Report on Legal Expenses

Camille Goulet explained to the committee some reasons for the sharp increase in the Legal Expense budget:

- more disability issues seen
- the need to hire a district compliance officer
- more whistleblower allegations leading to legal action
- more challenges to hiring decisions (by losing applicants)
- high legal fees and an obligation for the losing side to pay the legal expenses of both sides, even with small settlements, leading to more risky court action
- Los Angeles juries very sympathetic to plaintiffs

The bond program, however, was singled out for special attention. The program can be a drain on the general fund. The logs for LA Times requests, for example, now run to 350 pages, a reflection of the staff time devoted to this. Paying the contractor at Van De Kamp constituted half of all legal expenses last year.

Goulet strongly urged the district to invest in continuing education of employees regarding such issues as retaliation, discrimination, conflict of interest, accommodation of disabilities, et al. She explained the rationale for moving the compliance officers from the colleges to the district office: it will result in more efficient deployment of their services. There was a short discussion about cuts in DSPS services and raised expectations of disabled students.

The chancellor suggested that the colleges share best training practices.

8. Workers' Compensation Report

Leila Menzies, along with Ross Lee from the Risk Management/Workers' Compensation Department, presented a detailed report on the work of that unit over the last three years. The number of back claims has declined from 727 to 130, saving the district a considerable amount of money.

Per Leila's email later: The drop in claims is from 730 to 430 (of these 430 claims, 130 are prior to 2009).

This was done in part by reconstituting the legal panel that reviewed claims. New claims are also declining in number. A new, more aggressive broker (USI) has been very effective. Menzies and Lee visit the colleges every six months and have set up a number of safety programs. Other prevention strategies are being studied.

9. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations

Daniels reported that the committee continues to work on the allocation formula. It plans to have something to report to the DBC by the end of the semester. Carl Friedlander added that it isn't likely that a radical change to the existing formula will be proposed and that any recommended changes or actions will have to be phased in.

Beaulieu summarized the discussion in the Board's Finance and Audit Committee meeting last week, in which Scott Svonkin and Steve Veres expressed an interest in meeting with the DBC Exec in terms of recommendations made by the DBC to the chancellor.

10. DBC Recommendations to the Chancellor

There were no recommendations this month.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15.

The next meeting will be on November 30, 2011.