Official Minutes of the CCSF Academic Policies Committee
Monday, 2006 March 27
Ocean Avenue Campus, room Arts 314

Members Present Leonard Arnold, Steven Glick, Bonnie Gratch-Lindauer, Lynda Hirose, Lancelot Kao, Larry Klein, Renato Larin, Fred Teti

Members Absent Larry Damato, Robert Gabbriner, MaryLou Leyba-Frank, Susana Mayorga, Madeline Mueller, Pablo Rodriguez, Lynnette Sheppard, Bruce Smith

Guests Deanna Abma, Julie Harris, Grace Hom

I. Adoption of Agenda
The Committee adopted the agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes
The Committee approved the minutes of 2006 February 27.

III. Members’ Reports
A. Chair Fred Teti reported that the State Academic Senate is preparing for its Spring 2006 session. Important topics to be discussed there include noncredit issues and proposed changes in the 60% rule (for part-time load).

B. Articulation Officer Deanna Abma brought copies of pages of the latest draft of the 2006–2007 Catalog that included changes made based on our recommendations. Abma mentioned explicitly new GPA advisories for non-resident students (p. 53 and p. 58), and the three-fold Major requirement (pp. 57–58).

C. Dean Leyba-Frank was not available to report on majors appearing on transcripts, etc. The Grading Policies Subcommittee is still considering the C versus D issue.

IV. Unfinished Business
A. Accreditation Update
Bonnie Gratch-Lindauer reported that the visiting team’s exit report was mostly favorable. There were three “over-arching” recommendations to continue our work on SLOs, integrating planning into the budgeting cycle, and addressing the fiscal health of the College.

B. Clarification of Study Abroad Proposal for Costa Rica and Nicaragua
The CCSF Academic Senate referred this item (recommended at our last meeting for Senate consideration) back to committee for clarification on the number of units earned. Students earn 5 units total, for 87.5 hours of academic work. The two-week trip provides time for only 80 of those hours. The balance is provided by class meetings before the trip, and by work spent on a term paper. The Committee re-affirmed its recommendation.

C. Discussion of the CCSF Associate Degrees
Committee continued to review Larry Damato’s list of concerns.
1. When CCSF certifies the CSU G.E. for Option B degrees, we require Cs (or better) Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4. However, for many CCSF G.E. areas, we require only Ds (or better). This difference between the degrees should be made more explicit.
2. It is also unclear what rules or guidelines CCSF follows when awarding multiple associate degrees, be they multiple Option A degrees or an Option A and an Option B degree to one student. Teti agreed to draft a letter to the Office of Admissions and Records requesting clarification on these points. Various Committee members felt that we may be trying to accomplish too much with the Option B degree.

V. New Business
A. Proposed Academic Freedom Statement

Brian Ellison, Dean of Instruction, Curriculum, and Tenure Review, asked that we consider broad statements expressing academic freedom (i.e., not just for faculty, but consistent with the faculty academic freedom sections of the AFT2121 contract). The Committee is currently considering the following statement, modified from the Strategic Plan:

“The City College of San Francisco values academic freedom and respects the right of individuals to their opinions. The College encourages a lively, ongoing interchange of views among students, faculty, staff, and administration, and a tolerance of differences.”

Teti will inform Dean Ellison of the Committee’s discussion thus far, and encourage him to discuss the matter with other such bodies as the Associated Students Council.

Summary of Outcomes
• (Item III.C) Teti will ask Dean Leyba-Frank and the chair of Grading Policies for the status of their charges.
• (Item IV.B) We re-affirmed our recommendation on the Study Abroad Proposal for Costa Rica and Nicaragua.
• (Item IV.C.) Teti will write a letter to the Office of Admissions and Records asking for clarification of how CSU G.E. is certified, and of rules or guidelines for multiple degrees.
• (Item V.A) Teti will inform Dean Ellison of our draft of the broad academic freedom statement. A.P. will continue its consideration next meeting.