Student Preparation and Success Committee (SPSC)
Feb. 22, 2010
Minutes

Attended: Kristina Whalen, Sharon Donovan, Lindy McKnight, Carl Jew, Ted Alfaro, Sharon Nunley, Ellen Wall, Jack Sugawara, Madeline Mueller
Absent: Fred Teti, Emily Ostrea, Peter Stoffers, Joshua Neilsen, Paolo Marquez

* bold indicates voting member

I. Reconstructing the Minutes. Kristina Whalen has her backpack stolen with the minutes to the last meeting. She needs help reconstructing the minutes from November 16th.

II. Scholarship Report. Ellen Wall sought the committee’s approval to change the description of the Scholarship Subcommittee’s charge in the Shared Governance Handbook. Currently it reads: To review, assess and make recommendations to applications from students for scholarships. Wall noted that this only covers a small portion of what the scholarship committee does. She proposed: To set up and carry out a system for awarding all types of scholarships to CCSF students. Carl Jew questioned if the committee “set up” the scholarships or if that was the work of the Scholarship Office. Ellen responded that the office and committee are working together seamlessly. Wall also sought support of a resolution that clarified that scholarship solicitation and rankings would not take place until the scholarships had been fully funded. This year the foundation has departed from past practice. Ellen Wall reported that past practice allows students to know that they will receive the scholarship. Sharon Donovan felt that a statement of problem may assist the resolution. The committee approved the following: In order to maximize efficiency of the scholarship committee and assure students scholarships will be awarded, funds, generated from the endowed scholarships through the Foundation, must be approved before students are asked to apply for the scholarships, as per past practice. After the scholarships are awarded by the Scholarship Committee, the checks will be sent to students without needing further approval. If additional funds are found, additional scholarships can be awarded.

Discussion surrounded a need for a deadline for funds to be determined. Wall felt that the committee needed to know by the end of November.

III. Student Equity and Achievement Gap Report.

a. Report to EC. Whalen reported SP&S discussion to the EC on Jan 27th. The report included 1. Discussions about different permutations of the data we were interested in reviewing, including a breakdown by gender 2. Concern that different data sets were being circulated 3. Questions about the SP&S’s place and procedure for submitting recommendations. 4. Whalen also suggested that we look for synergy between SFSU’s Pathway to Graduation document and resolutions being considered at CCSF.

Whalen noted that the student equity discussion that followed the report was passionate. Lindy McKnight stated she received phone calls after the
report. She asked that the committee allow the minutes to reflect that we support the efforts made on behalf of the findings contained in the Student Equity and Achievement Gap Report. The committee agreed that a student achievement gap exists. Whalen stated that her report never intended to reflect otherwise. Wall noted, from an EC member’s perspective, Whalen’s report seemed balanced.

b. Reports from Student Equity Hearings
McKnight reported that lots of passion was voiced at the Financial Aid hearing. At the Student Services hearing the discussions were dominated by issues of space. At the Retention programs hearings Pacific Islander students expressed a need to split from APASS. Donovan noted that the Mission Campus equity hearings centered on the length of the Math and English sequences and the lack of a pass/no pass option. Additionally, professional development training and contextualized learning was discussed. Mueller noted that the AP committee is deliberating over the Pass/No Pass option and noted that professional development has a rich history on campus.

c. Discussion of Stoffer’s suggestions
Due to the late hour, the committee focused on options that would need little or no funding. Carl Jew expressed interest for information about assignments to be viewable in the schedule. Whalen felt this might be resisted by instructors. Students might shop for less rigor. The suggestion was generally supported. Mueller cautioned that enrollment data being visible might hinder low enrolled classes from filling for fear of the class being cancelled.

d. Role of SP &S
Whalen solicited feedback about the role the committee should take as recommendations from the report emerge. Mueller felt the information should be broken down by department as some departments may not have a significant gap. Carl Jew suggested that we consider being a data driven committee and work with research and planning. Donovan suggested that we become a committee that informs the larger campus community of innovation like that in the Metro Health Academy. McKnight noted that our role of subcommittee oversight should not be forgotten.

IV. Meeting. March meeting time is on top of a day of action in Sacramento. The committee agreed to change the date to March 15th at 2:30.

V. Meeting Adjourned.