Academic Senate of Imperial Valley College

Unadopted Minutes

5 February 2014

A. Call to Order—The meeting was called to order by President Lehtonen at 1:31p.m.

Present—Eric Lehtonen, Laura Mosier, Scott Simpson, Frank Hoppe (proxy for Cathy Zazueta), Dave Drury, Frank Miranda, David Scott Sheppard, Caroline Bennett, Russell Lavery, Rick Goldsberry, Bradford Wright, Ralph Marquez, Norma Nunez, Michael Capeci, Mike Palacio, Robert Baukholt, Daniel Gilison, Michael Heumann, Allyn Leon, Mary Lofgren, Barbara Nilson, Frank Rapp, Christina Shaner, Ed Wells, Kevin White, Kathy Berry, Ricardo Ibarra.

Absent— David Zielinski.

Visitors—Tina Aguirre, Marian Bonheim, Ted Ceasar, Sheila Dorsey-Freeman, Gayla Finnell, Martha O. Garcia, Eric Jacobson, Victor Jaime, Ralph Marquez, Brian McNeece, Jill Nelipovich.

B. Visitors' Comments—There were no visitors' comments.

C. Consent Agenda

1. M/S/C (Nilson/Nunez) to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

D. Reports

1. President—President Lehtonen welcomed all present to the Spring 2014 semester.

   He further acknowledged and welcomed Marian Bonheim as the interim Director of Human Resources.

   He announced to the Senate that for the Spring 2014 semester Vice-President of Academic Services Kathy Berry would be seated at his right-hand side during Senate meetings in recognition of the importance and value of Vice-President Berry's position as an academic administrator.

2. Past President—There was no Past President's report.

3. Treasurer—Senate Treasure Caroline Bennett reported that the Senate had spent $725.00 on travel for President-Elect Michael Heumann to travel to a leadership conference and that as a result the Senate balance stands at $4,155.59.

4. Associated Student Government—Associated Student Government President Ricardo Ibarra reported that the ASG had chartered six news clubs at Imperial valley College and planned to

conduct a survey assessing whether or not to recommend a mascot change for the college's athletic teams.

5. Part-Time—There was no Part-Time Faculty Representative report.

6. Curriculum Committee—Curriculum Committee Co-Chairman Michael Heumann reported that the first meeting of the Spring 2014 semester for the Curriculum Committee shall be Thursday, 6 December 2014.

7. Basic Skills—Basic Skills Co-Coordinator Jill Nelipovich reported that changes to the Basic Skills funding regulations for 2013-2014 required that allocations for the year must be spent in two academic years rather than in three as in previous years.

She further reported that the allocations for Imperial Valley College Basic Skills had been reduced to $200,409.00 from $250,000.00 in previous years, though the difference may be reimbursed following reapportionment.

She concluded her report by informing the Senate that the IVC Basic Skills Committee had funded seven embedded tutors in Basic Skills English and math classes as well as on additional tutors in the Math Lab.

8. College Council—College Council Co-Chairman Daniel Gilison reported that the College Council had approved the standing rules for the Competitive Athletic Committee which shall require faculty as members.

He further reported that the College Council had accepted the 2014 Accreditation Warning Follow-Up.

9. Campus Hour/Professional Development— Campus Hour/Professional Development Chairwoman Tina Aguirre reported that the Campus Hour/Professional Development Committee had met and is working to generate and publicize a calendar of events for Campus Hour; examining professional development for the campus; and conferring with the Associated Student Government to co-ordinate events more effectively.

9. Budget and Fiscal Planning— Budget and Fiscal Planning Committee Co-Chairman Kevin White reported that the committee had met and recommended to President/Superintendent Victor Jaime strategies for attaining a 16% reserve status; suggested strategies for funding retirees' insurance benefits; and approved the 2014 Accreditation Warning Follow-Up.

11. Vice-President for Academics Hiring Committee—College Council Co-Chairman Daniel Gilison reported that he had met the Senate's request to place two faculty members on the Vice-President for Academics Hiring Committee and that the two faculty members selected are James Patterson and Lisa Solomon.

12. Distance Education— Distance Education Committee Chairwoman Gayla Finnell reported that the Distance Education Committee will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, 12 February 2014 and that currently there are fourteen distance education courses being offered in twenty-

seven separate sections, while twenty-eight more courses are in development as on-line or hybrid courses.

Chairwoman Finnell concluded her report with public thanks to Allyn Leon for his work as Interim Chairman of the Distance Education Committee and to David Zielinski for his work as past chairman of said committee.

E. Update on Previous Discussion and Information Items

1. Academic Senate By-Laws Review—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen informed the Senate that President-Elect Michael Heumann shall oversee the review of the "Academic Senate for Imperial Valley College By-Laws" to be conducted during the Spring 2014 semester. He further requested volunteers from the Senate to assist with the initial review process.

2. Alternative to Committee Requirements—Frank Rapp

Secretary Frank Rapp requested that Senators request that faculty members from their departments provide him with suggestions for alternatives to committee requirements and that they do so no later than 26 March 2014 so that he may compile the suggestions in order to create an action item addressing this issue.

F. New Discussion and Information Items

1. +/- Grading—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen initiated a discussion regarding the possibility of instituting the option to give + and – grades in addition to the current letter grading system. He further stated that he intended to use discussion and feedback from senators and faculty, in addition to research of other California community college grading practices, to determine whether or not to generate action by the Senate on this issue.

Discussion ensued including concerns regarding the ramifications of a "C-" grade; a dual grade system (i.e.: A/AB/B/BC/C/CD/D/DF/F); whether or not there are sound pedagogical reasons for instituting any such change; whether or not the students would actually benefit from any such change; and whether or not the any such change would have negative or positive effects on student motivation.

2. Academic Senate Election Process—Frank Rapp

Secretary Frank Rapp officially announced that in accordance with the Senate By-Laws the general election for three (3) At-Large Senators for terms beginning 1 July 2014 and ending 30 June 2017 would be held before the eighth week of the Spring 2014 and that he would make requests to division deans to select division representatives for the 2014-2015 Academic

Senate, said division representatives to be determined before the end of the eighth week of the Spring 2014 semester.

3. College Council Revampent—Daniel Gilison

Vice-President Daniel Gilison informed the Senate that he and Superintendent/President Jaime had met with College Council Co-Chairwoman Yethel Alonso to discuss possible changes to the College Council for the purposes of possible improvements to the committee and/or its procedures and practices. Alternatives discussed include changes to the agenda development process, reduction of meetings from twice per month to once per month, and electronic submission of reports from College Council subcommittees.

4. Academic Senate Fund Raiser—Eric Lehtonen

President Lehtonen informed the Senate that his personal resolve on this issue was to improve both the fund raising process and the results of said fund raising from the previous years of his Senate presidency. He further stated that he was disappointed both in his own prior lack of such resolve and in ridicule of the Senate's focus on and results of fund raising. He reminded the Senate that the fund raiser was to generate scholarships for students and should not be seen as a political issue.

He concluded his remarks by announcing that Vice-President Berry had volunteered to host the fund raiser at her home this year.

G. Action

1. 2014 Accreditation Warning Follow-Up—Eric Lehtonen

M/S/C (Heumann/Nilson) to accept the "2014 Accreditation Warning Follow-Up" as presented.

Vice-President Berry informed the Senate of key provisions of the follow-up in regard to specific aspects of the accreditation warning and how said aspects are addressed in the follow-up.

Following her report, the vote was as follows:

Laura Mosier, yes;

Scott Simpson, yes;

Frank Hoppe (proxy for Cathy Zazueta), yes;

Dave Drury, yes;

Frank Miranda, yes;

David Scott Sheppard, yes;

Caroline Bennett, yes;

Russell Lavery, yes;

Rick Goldsberry, yes;

Bradford Wright, yes;

Ralph Marquez, yes;

Norma Nunez, yes;

Michael Capeci, yes;

Mike Palacio, yes;

Robert Baukholt, yes;

Daniel Gilison, yes;

Michael Heumann, yes;

Allyn Leon, yes;

Mary Lofgren, yes;

Barbara Nilson, yes;

Frank Rapp, yes;

Christina Shaner, yes;

Ed Wells, yes.

H. *"For the Good of the Order"*

There were no "For the Good of the Order" items.

I. Adjournment

President Lehtonen adjourned the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the IVC Academic Senate shall take place on 19 February 2014 at 1:30p.m. in the IVC Board Room.