CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

Corny Rodriguez welcomed Tracy Hall, the new Academic Senate Secretary.

A motion was made to suspend the agenda for a discussion on Financial Aid & Emergency Management Mandates with Dr. Zav Dadabhoy and Primavera Arvizu. M/S/C: Staller/Thorson

Corny introduced Vice President of Student Affairs, Zav Dadabhoy, who advised Senate that Bakersfield College is not in compliance for attendance recording and reporting in two major areas: Financial Aid and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mandates. While the issues are different, they have a common component that needs to be addressed, and a system for attendance and reporting needs to be implemented.

FEMA: In case of a major emergency or natural disaster, we need to have the current attendance record in order to know who was on campus at any given time. This new requirement will necessitate a new system of reporting. We need to be able to provide an immediate and accurate count to First Responders.

Financial Aid: In the Fall semester, there were over 500 students with an “F/E”. If a student receives a grade of “F”, the next step is to determine if the grade was earned or unearned. Attendance should be taken and the last date of attendance for each student should be recorded. According to financial aid requirements, students who leave before the end of the semester must pay back a portion of their financial aid. Corny Rodriguez clarified that “Unearned” is if a student leaves before the last day, and “Earned” is if a student stays until the last day.

Discussion ensued regarding attendance taking procedures such as recording on paper, a magnetic card-reading machine, or an online system such as Blackboard.

Clarification was sought for the Nursing Department, where students often fail by the sixth week and are unable to continue. Would that be considered an earned “F”? Another asked if an “F” would be earned or unearned if a student was absent for a long period of time, yet attended class the last day. The actual date of last attendance matters because of the formula for the students to pay back their financial aid. There is anticipation that the number of students required to pay back financial aid would likely decrease as students become aware it will cost them money. Faculty does not want students to attend class in order to avoid having their financial aid stripped. Someone suggested grading as an earned “F”, to protect the financial interest of the student. All students should be informed of the rules before the semester starts. Regardless of personal feelings, Bakersfield College is out of compliance and we are mandated to report the last day of attendance. If a student fails a class, financial aid will only pay for the student to retake that class once.
Janet Fulks, Title V Update & Multiple Measures Placement Testing

Janet and a multiple measures team from various disciplines just finished a project for multiple measures placement testing. We are not allowed to place students in a class based solely on their placement test, nor can we solely have an appeals process for the student to dispute their placement score. We must use multiple measures. Tests predict how well a student does on tests; courses predict how well students do in courses. Some issues with the placement test are where a student has been placed into Algebra, when they may have just finished calculus with an A in high school. Perhaps using another system such as Accuplacer (rather than Compass), which pulls high school grades into the placement equation, will result in a more successful placement. Other factors that influence success are to give placement tests in the high schools (familiar environment). By doing so more students tested into college level courses, math went from 3% in college-level math last year to 12% in college level math this year when most were tested at the high school. There was an increase in English as well. The lesson is test students where they learn and they test better.

Our success rates are poor for underprepared students; there is only a 38% chance of earning a degree, certificate or transfer, whereas if they start at college level they have a 68% chance of earning a degree, certificate or transfer. So if they test better and multiple measure place them higher, they move into the category of "more likely to succeed" students.

With multiple measures 357 students were bumped to the next level class and 199 students were directed to accelerated courses. With the better placements from high school placement testing and the multiple measures, over 820 student semesters were saved. We saved the students’ time, made more seats available to those who needed the seats, increased the time and units they can use their financial aid for, and saved institutional dollars. Multiple measures was a labor-intensive project, yet the State wants us to do this for all students

The Title V grant application is due May 9th. Factors for grant approval in our favor are 67% Hispanic population, and percentage of high school level at 11th grade. This funding can help us to start utilizing multiple measures on a core group, then expand to 800 students, then 1600, and then all students. The grant was written for us and with us by I can’t figure out the gapWRD faculty and staff. The first draft was provided today, and the deadline is May 9. All of this goes with Sonya – an enthusiastic and active president, trying to reorient what BC does for our students.

Kathy Freeman was worried about the intensive labor requirements with our low number of counselors. Janet replied that this is true, but we are required to do this and we intend to get some faculty to help with the process until we get more counselors. We live in an underfunded system and do what we can.

**Senate President, Cornelio Rodriguez appointed Mark Staller, as Timekeeper for today’s Academic Senate meeting.**

Corny Rodriguez welcomed and introduced Alicia Loken from Nursing/Allied Health who will be serving as a representative for Nursing for Lisa Harding. Lisa will be serving as the Member-at-Large.

REPORTS

President (Rodriguez)

• Corny Rodriguez recently attended a meeting at CSUB regarding ADT’s. CSU had concerns about the number of ADT degrees we are implementing. CSUB had anticipated 4, but there are now about 20.
• The Equity Summit was well attended and presented.
• Voting for ratification of the Constitution & By-Laws will begin this Friday the 25th. Please vote. In October, there were not enough votes to ratify, so we must open the polls once again. There have been no major
changes in language, except the president’s term has increased from one year to two years. Minor changes have been made to clarify language.

- Thank you to those who attended the Board of Trustees meeting.
- Kudos to Kate Pluta. Your presentation at the KCCD Board of Trustees meeting made me go “ouch”. You may not change their minds, but you can change their hearts.
- April 15 meeting of KCCD Board of Trustees Legislative Committee - Thank you Lisa for the baccalaureate information. It is going to be more expensive to offer these classes, but there is legislation. The Legislative Committee is going to write a letter of support indicating their concern is the financial impact.
- The 2015-2016 & 2016-2017 Academic Calendars were discussed at the District Consultation Council Meeting. Also discussion related to wellness and graduation requirements.
- Proposed Addition to KCCD Board Policy Manual. 4D1F – should the last portion of the question go there? There will be a statement added to Board Policy 4D1 that indicates the minimum graduation requirements will not apply to the Associate Degrees for Transfer. Corny will confirm whether the effective date will be retroactive to 2001, or begin now.
- Corny discussed the tentative KCCD budget for 2014-15, and the variance between current year and proposal for next year. Top portion is personnel and the bottom is programs. Tom said there is a difference of 3.5 new positions at the district for 2014-15, and Corny said there are 4. Increases costs at district level. Some concern that there are three new IT positions. Last year we were hit with external virus, so there is a need to prevent any further breaches that could cost millions of dollars. District wants three new IT positions, but what does BC get for that price? See Business IT variance.
- General Liability and student insurance: District received communication from FISK, $200k deficit. Tom will come and discuss if necessary. There was a discrepancy in the figures. District Office will make corrections and send updated copy.
- There has been a procedure change for travel. The per diem rate for lunch increased from $15 to $17 and dinner increased from $28 to $30. Travel must occur before 6:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m. (see page 3, item #2)
- Student workers’ minimum wage is increasing to $9/hr.
- Results of Officer Elections. Thank you all for your hard work.
- Acknowledged Tracy and Jennifer in recognition of Administrative Assistant Day.

A motion was made to move to Unfinished and New Business. M/S/C: Sims/Thorson/yes

CO-CHAIR REPORTS

Accreditation Steering Committee (Pluta)

Assessment Committee (Carpenter)
There was no report for the Assessment Committee.

Budget Committee (Corny Rodriguez and Nick Strobel)
Corny discussed the Budget in his President’s Report. Nick prepared two resolutions for voting and presentation to the District Office.

Curriculum Committee (Rice/Carpenter)
There was no report for the Curriculum Committee.

Enrollment Management
There was no report for Enrollment Management

EODAC (Hirayama)
There was no report for EODAC
ISIT
Additional information can be found on the ISIT Committee Web page at https://committees.kccd.edu/bc/committee/isit

Program Review (Pluta)

SDCC (Giertz)
There was no report for SDCC

Correspondence (Sims)
There was no report for Correspondence

Treasurer (Kim)
Charles Kim reported on Scholarships under New Business.

ASCCC (Staller)
There was no report for ASCCC.

CCA Update (Guidry)
There was no report for CCA.

SGA
There was no report for SGA.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Zav Dadabhoy & Primavera Arvizu, Financial Aid and Emergency Management Mandates

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA (must be added with a 2/3 vote of members present)
A motion was made to add “Item C. Financial Aid Attendance” to New Business. M/S/C: Sims/Thorson/Yes

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS
There were no faculty appointments to approve

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Baccalaureate Degree Task Force (Rigby)
Rigby recommended creating a Baccalaureate Degree Task Force be formed to guide BC through process of researching, planning, and implementing a baccalaureate degree in anticipation of BC being chosen to offer a degree. A recommendation was made that the Task Force be comprised of 8 faculty, including specific representatives from curriculum, program review, and accreditation; two classified staff; one administrative member; and two students.

Academic Calendar 2015-16 and 2016-17
The calendars were originally presented to the Senate on December 4, 2013, and were not revisited after winter break. A motion was made to approve the 2015-16 and 2016-17 Academic Calendar M/S: Freeman/Staller. A friendly amendment regarding the 2016-17 calendar was made by Charles Kim, who suggested moving the day of instruction on November 26, 2016 to August 20, 2016. The friendly amendment was accepted. Discussion ensued to potentially move the whole semester up (start a week early), and take the week of Thanksgiving off. Freeman called for question. There were two no votes /motion approved.
Mission Review (Pluta)
Kate Pluta distributed documents and solicited input on the Bakersfield College Mission Statement. Kate explained our mission is not just for us, it is for our communities and students. A suggestion was made to change the word, “challenging” to “rigorous”. Positive comments were made regarding the use of “diverse, cultural, and foster” and that “Certificate, workplace skills and transfers” are easy to understand. Kate Pluta encouraged everyone to complete survey by Friday at 10:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS
Senate Funds Transfer Request for Margaret Levinson Faculty Leadership Award (Kim)
A motion was made to approve moving $275.00 from the Academic Senate Fund to the Margaret Levinson Faculty Leadership Award Fund. M/S/C: Sims/Guidry

Scholarships
Last year, the Academic Senate awarded five or six scholarships. The current scholarship balance is $1,504. There was discussion about the number of scholarships to be awarded this year and in what amounts. Corny recommended four scholarships at $500 each. Corny and Charles Kim will meet with Financial Aid and report back on May 7.

Additionally, a motion was made to approve seven retiree gifts at $100 each. M/S/C: Sims/Stallworth

A motion was made to extend the meeting for seven minutes. M/S/C: Poetker/Kim

Academic Senate Goals Evaluation (Kate Pluta)
Kate urged Senators to view the four Senate goals posted on the website last meeting and the list of goals and motions compiled at the end of the year be compared. A recommendation was made to take the goals to the Executive Board, so they can make a recommendation to the Senate on May 7.

Attendance Task Force
A motion was made to form a Senate position regarding Attendance prior to meeting with Vice President Zav Dadabhoy. Corny Rodriguez, Wesley Sims and Charles Kim were appointed for this task. M/S/C: Sims/Kim

GOOD AND WELFARE

ADJOURNMENT at 5:12p.m. 
Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Hall