MERRITT COLLEGE
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
November 3, 2011

PRESENT:

- ✓ Black, Anita (President)
- ✓ Park, Tae-Soon (Vice President)
- ✓ Trotter, Audrey (Treasurer)
- Alexander, Alexis

- Brown, Siri (leave)
- Ciddio, Mary (leave)
- Elliott, Ann
- ✓ Holloway, Jason
- ✓ Litchfield, Ken

- ✓ Love, William
- ✓ McLean, Carlos
- ✓ Mofidi, Fereshteh
- ✓ Murphy, Jon
- Santana, Isela Gonzalez

Absent: Alexis Alexander, Ann Elliott, Isela Gonzalez Santana

Guests: Dr. Robert Adams, Dr. Linda Berry, Dr. Waseem Khaja, Dr. David Strohl, Ms. Jennifer Briffa, Mr. Todd Johnson, Dr. Mario Rivas, Ms.Cynthia Zamora, Mr. Leroy Dawn, Mr. David Gonzales, Mr. Frank Saechao, Ms. Wanika Millhouse, Ms. Sarina Pratt, Mr. Robert Fields, Ms. Lalaine Sarasua, Ms. Marta Zielke, Ms. Alejandria Tomas

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	FOLLOW UP ACTION
I. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m.	
II. READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES	The Merritt College Academic Senate (MCAS) tabled the approval of the September 15, 2011 meeting minutes and October 6, 2011.	
III. STUDENT SUCCESS	At the request of Dr. Linda Berry, Vice President of Instruction, the MCAS held a special meeting to discuss student success. Several faculty members were invited to share their current practices to improve student success. The following were discussed: ❖ Dr. Gillies Malnarich, Co-Director of the Washington Center for Improving Undergraduate Education in the Evergreen State College, was invited to conduct a workshop in Merritt College on February 23 and 24, 2012. ❖ VP Berry reported that after attending the Student Success Conference, she looked at Merritt College which is on the Institutional Research website. She stated that in a three course sequence of Basic Skills Math, Merritt only has a 9% Flow Success Rate and English has a 25% Flow Success Rates, numbers which are very poor. She proposed looking into teaching strategies of Merritt faculty to find ways to improve Flow Success Rate. ❖ Ms. Jennifer Briffa, Child Development, reported that she teaches bilingual Child Development Classes. She also encourages students to take ESL classes while taking her Child Development classes. Now, she is offering a Child Development class with a co-requisite of ESL. The Child Development Department now has three learning communities which aims to help students achieve an AA Degree. The Child Development Department also offers student support services such as counseling and tutoring. ❖ Ms. Marta Zielke, Counselor, explained the Child Development cohort sequence. ❖ Dr. Mario Rivas, Psychology, invited some of his students so they can share their	

	experiences in class and to share what helps them improve in class. ❖ It was noted that students respond well to caring. ❖ Mr. Jason Holloway noted that he is hesitant to implement acceleration as students already struggle on the normal pace, and will struggle more on fast-paced classes. ❖ Dr. William Love suggested looking into other colleges' best practices.	
VIII. ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.	

(From Title 5 Section 53200)
Academic Senate means an organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to *academic and professional matters.*
Academic and Professional matters means the following policy development matters:
1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites.
2. Degree and certificate requirements.
3. Grading policies.
4. Educational program development.
5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success.
6. College governance structures, as related to faculty roles.
7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes.
8. Policies for faculty professional development activities.
9. Processes for program review.
10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development.
11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.