

MERRITT COLLEGE
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
December 02, 2010

- PRESENT:**
- ✓ Black, Anita (President)
 - ✓ Park, Tae-Soon (Vice President)
 - ✓ Trotter, Audrey (Treasurer)
 - Seals, Jason (Corresponding Secretary)
 - ✓ Alexander, Alexis
- Absent:** Dimopoulos, Murphy, Seals
- Guests:** William Love, Alejandria Tomas
- Dimopoulos, Barbara
 - ✓ Elliott, Ann
 - ✓ Greenside, Mark
 - ✓ Holloway, Jason
 - ✓ Litchfield, Ken
- ✓ McLean, Carlos
 - ✓ Mofidi, Fereshteh
 - Murphy, Jon
 - ✓ Santana, Isela Gonzalez

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	FOLLOW UP ACTION
I. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m.	
II. READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p>The following items were deleted from the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Shared Governance By-Laws 3.2. Resolution on Budget Cuts 3.4. Kaiser Auditorium <p>The following was added to the agenda: Forming the Merritt College Academic Senate Scholarship Committee.</p> <p>The MCAS approved the revised agenda.</p> <p>The MCAS approved the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes as amended.</p>	
III. NEW BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chancellor Search Process 	<p>Greenside reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Chancellor Search Process in the Peralta Community College District (PCCD) is almost over. The PCCD's Board of Trustees (BOT) has already interviewed the three finalists and has apparently reached a decision; however, they would not announce their decision until the next BOT meeting. ➤ Because Mr. Abel Guillen, BOT President, is planning to abstain from the vote, one of the finalists would have to win four out of the six votes in order to be chosen as the next chancellor. Greenside mentioned that during a conversation he had with some members of the BOT, he was given the impression that the BOT will not reach a consensus on any one of the finalists. ➤ In his opinion, PCCD had an inferior pool of chancellor applicants because, among many other reasons, the Chancellor Search Process was done out of 	

<p>❖ Facilities Committee</p>	<p>cycle. Chancellor search processes are usually done on a spring semester, so most of the applicants on a process done during a summer or fall semester are those who were not chosen by other colleges or who have issues with their current jobs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Faculty input on the whole process was weakened because of the difference in the position taken by the two major faculty groups, which are the District Academic Senate (DAS) and the Peralta Federation of Teachers (PFT). The DAS chose to expedite the process, so that the PCCD can have a new chancellor by January 2011. The PFT proposed to take things slow to ensure that the PCCD will have an efficient and effective Chancellor. The PFT also proposed that, because of the accreditation and fiscal issues that the PCCD is currently facing, it is critical that the PCCD retains Dr. Wise Allen as its interim Chancellor until it finds a replacement. ➤ The PFT is proposing a Vote of No Confidence on the Chancellor Search Process because the process apparently violated several protocols regarding hiring a chancellor. They are encouraging all faculty members to support this initiative. ➤ If and when a chancellor is not chosen, the whole search process will start all over again. The position will be re-advertised. <p>With all the information provided by Greenside, the following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Love stated that Dr. Karolyn Van Putten, DAS President, does not have the power and/or the right to represent all the faculty members. ➤ Trotter expressed her concern of the need for consistency and stability in the PCCD. She noted that with all these change in management, the PCCD needs a chancellor that will bring consistency and stability in the District. <p>With the exception of the information stated in the Merritt Monthly, there has not been any communication released by Merritt College administrators about the construction projects in the campus. The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Trotter reminded the MCAS that the Building-L will be under construction for approximately a year. The Library will be moved to a swing space in Building-A Room-129. The swing space does not have enough space to accommodate all of the resources in the library. It will only be able to accommodate a few students. The Merritt administrators have already been requested to identify other resources and study areas for the students to use while the Building-L is under construction. ➤ It was noted that Ms. Alice Marez, as Merritt College's Business and Services Office Manager, is the person responsible for releasing communications about the construction projects in the campus. ➤ Greenside, on behalf of Ms. Christine Olsen, noted that the temperature in 	<p>ACTION: Black will request that Dr. Linda Berry, Dr. Stacy Thompson, Ms. Alice Marez and Mr. Timothy Hackett release communication of the construction in the Building-L and that the Library will be moving to Building-A Room-129.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lack of Campus Mental health/Medical Support ❖ Brenda Hampton's Retirement ❖ Scholarship Committee 	<p>Building-A is not suitable for a classroom setting. It is freezing. Ms. Olsen stated that if no action is done to improve the temperature, she will make sure that the BOT will be well informed of the situation.</p> <p>Several members of the MCAS expressed their frustration about the lack of mental health or medical support in Merritt College. The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Students are currently paying a mandatory \$17 for health services that they are not receiving. ➤ Currently, Merritt College does not have a campus nurse. However, a social worker named Stephanie Devito is working in the college for a number of hours a week. Very few people in the MCAS know of her. Merritt administrators are also planning to hire Mr. Jon Murphy, LVN Professor, to be the campus nurse starting Spring 2011. ➤ The PCCD recently decided to centralize the health services, which will be located in Laney College. However, no plans (of how the system will work or how the resources will be allocated) have been released by the Vice Chancellor of Student Services, Dr. Jacob Ng. ➤ The PCCD is now in the process of hiring the Director of the Health Services. <p>Black announced that Ms. Brenda Hampton, Division 1 Secretary, will be retiring by the end of 2010. A reception will be held to recognize her on Thursday, December 09, 2010 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Merritt College's Student Lounge.</p> <p>The following persons volunteered to be a member of the Peralta Foundation Scholarship Review Committee for the Eve St. Martin Wallenstein Scholarship and the Norbert S. Bischof Award: Park, Litchfield, McLean, Black and DeCoursey.</p>	<p>MOTION: The MCAS directs DAS President Van Putten to inform the BOT, during the next Board meeting, of the lack of mental health or medical support in Merritt College. Students are paying \$17 for health services that they are not receiving.</p> <p>ACTION: The MCAS will contribute \$100 to the expenses of the reception.</p>
<p>IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS</p>		
<p>V. REPORT OF OFFICERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Treasurer 	<p>The MCAS is authorizing Black, as the President, and Trotter, as the Treasurer, to withdraw from the MCAS bank account a \$100.00 to contribute to Ms. Hampton's retirement reception and \$400.00 to compensate Ms. Alejandria Tomas, MCAS Minute Taker.</p>	
<p>VI. REPORTS OF STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES</p>		
<p>VII. OTHER BUSINESS</p>		

VIII. ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.	
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(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.