

President's Report for Academic Senate April 26, 2023

by Nick Strobel

College Council

- Concern expressed by classified and admin about segregating of the DEI work after the approval of the DEI Committee. A resource team from the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI – community colleges helping other community colleges by providing “high-quality technical assistance, professional development and resource tools”) will be helping BC figure out how to advance its DEI work this fall. The resource team is part of IEPI's Partnership Resource Team service. President Dadabhoy requested the IEPI PRT visit in February. We received word last week that we were approved for the visit. The PRT group will provide an outside perspective of what's happening in the state with Title 5 changes, ACCJC accreditation standards, how similar other colleges are navigating the various DEI issues, etc.

They will not tell us what to do but, rather, they'll help us figure out what can work in our context. It's all too easy, too human, to rationalize oneself into a particular viewpoint that doesn't make sense to the larger world, so it can be helpful to get a reality check. I recall a couple of sessions at the 2016 ACCJC conference dealt with how CCSF faculty had step-by-step rationalized their way to breaking the finances of the college and almost losing their accreditation. Every step made sense at the time but they had lost sight of the larger picture. In a different context, a bishop described the human tendency to “nibble your way to becoming lost”.

- It's going to be another record-breaking graduation/commencement group! Also, our summer session enrollments are about 20% above previous records (pre-pandemic). Fall enrollment is also pretty strong. BC is one of the very few community colleges (heck, any higher education institution) that is growing. We now make up about 76-78% of the FTES in KCCD.

District Consultation Council

- KCCD CFO Mike Giacomini showed us the preliminary district office and district-wide budget for 2023-24. Select the link to bring up the spreadsheet output that shows a comparison for the line items with last year's budget. The projected expense is \$18.5M which is \$362K less than last year's budget of \$18.9M. The district office/district-wide chargebacks to the colleges are still based solely on FTES while the Budget Allocation Model for college INCOME is based on the SCFF. It's a financial differential that amounts to a few million dollars. Hopefully, the Districtwide Budget Committee will eventually settle on a model of DO/district-wide expenses that mirrors the other parts of the Budget Allocation Model.

- BC's Baccalaureate Police Science application did not make it past the first stage of reviews at the state level. We received only 82.5 points on a 125-point rubric scale and we needed at least 100 points to move past the first stage of reviews. It is now possible for *each college* to submit an Baccalaureate degree application, rather than one per college BUT the competition is much more competitive than before. Porterville is working on their own Police Science Bachelor's program but they need to rework it based on how BC's Bachelor's scored. Cerro Coso's Cybersecurity Baccalaureate application is much stronger and very detailed. They created a proposal based on filling out the CCCCO's lengthy/super-detailed application. They'll create a easier-to-comprehend presentation for the Board. Cerro Coso's application is the new model for KCCD colleges to use when developing their application and presentation for the Board approval.
- Also had an update on the accreditation ISER process—how the DO will support and share parts of the ISER that deal with districtwide functions (e.g., finances, human resources, information technology, Board of Trustees, etc.). You've seen the ISER timeline in the all-faculty call for ISER faculty leaders: the ISER needs to be finished by December 2024, even though the visit by the accreditation team is in Fall 2025.

May 3 Senate meeting

I'll have reports/comments to share about the referendum results and what the DEI Committee approval means for EODAC, so that will make some fun reading over the weekend for you. For those who don't like to read, I'll have video versions (sorry: no music soundtrack and not on TikTok).

We'll have the second reading of a number of items => voting at the May 3rd meeting. Items will include the By-Laws updates, course success rates for our Institutional Set Standards, three task forces, and the Educational Master Plan. Other items that have been on our agenda for a long time (some since fall!), include: the Senate Orientation Canvas shell (will include easier-to-digest version of the materials in the Committee Resources section of the Senate website), AP 8900 procedure for full-time temporary faculty hiring, and the Chancellor's response to the Senate BP 6200/6250 Budget Reserve development resolution.

Resolution on AB 1273

We had a resolution regarding AB 1273 (2021, Rodriguez) on our April 19 agenda. It turns out that a resolution is no longer needed because the administration agrees with the Rad Tech faculty that adopting the procedures/protocols of AB 1273 would be detrimental to the success of our students in Kern County and to county-wide health care in general. We will continue with our current process that allows us to retain the gold-standard JRCERT accreditation.