

**MINUTES
PVCC SENATE MEETING
September 16, 2005
2:30 p.m., Room 248**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Tracy Cersley, Ann Connolly, Leslie Durr, Mark Fitzgerald, Cliff Haury, Jon Hexter (alternate), Jessica Kingsley, Sharrah Lane, David Lerman, Martha McKenna, Marie Melton, Kaki Mitchell, Andrew Modic, David Moyer, John Nelson, Pat O'Rourke, Jan Reed, Jose Torres, Erica Tyssen

Not Present: Cos Defazio, John Hancock, Mary Lavery-Fisher (represented by alternate), Ann Smith (represented by alternate)

Minutes to last minute were unanimously approved.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Chairman Cersley reported that, as decided at the last Senate meeting, she had sent the new Student Code of Conduct to the Student Services Committee for their review. She had not yet received a response from the Committee, and since Dr. Stoll requested a response from the Senate by September 30, a discussion was held. Senators expressed their concern over certain items and many suggestions were made for corrections in grammar and typographical errors. The grammatical/typographical errors are attached in a Word document with track changes. Issues of concern included:

1. The code states that the college is officially open Monday through Friday and it was expressed that there are also classes on Saturday and Sunday.
2. There is no indication of how college hearing committee members will be selected.
3. It was asked if, during a College Hearing, the student charged with the violation would be allowed to counsel with the individual they bring for support before they answer any of the council's questions.
4. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding allowing unregistered persons to attend a course. One senator preferred to have this left up to the discretion of the instructor. Concerns regarding this change from the proposed code of conduct included liability issues, disruption of class (particularly in the case of children), inconsistency with other policies (that is, no one but registered students in class), legal precedence for students asking for refunds because of disruptive behavior in class. Ms. Cersley will check with Dr. Jackameit for a legal opinion.

The Senate did not approve the Code of Conduct because the group felt uncomfortable taking action that was under another Committee's review.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE POLICY

Dr. Friedman asked that the Senate review the new VCCS policy and current PVCC policy and procedure and submit recommendations for revision. Ms. Cersley sent the policy to the Personnel and Benefits Committee asking that they respond before the Senate's October meeting. It was reported that the Committee had already started working on revisions.

ATTENDANCE AT SENATE MEETINGS

Ms. Cersley asked the Senate to ask an alternate to attend a Senate meeting if they are unavailable.

REVISION OF BY-LAWS

Ms. Cersley then explained that we have Senate membership composition that cannot be filled (1) due to size of senate, and (2) the length (3 years) of the terms. She asked if we should create a new subcommittee to look into our Bylaws, particular relating to the size of the Senate.

It was reported by members of the last Senate that it had been recommended that the Senate be downsized, and that Dr. Friedman asked that we come to him with a proposal for a new Senate structure. David Lerman, Cliff Haury, Jon Hexter, and Tracy Cersley volunteered to work on the proposal.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Pat Buck sent a suggestion that we take the money that we would use for a holiday reception and instead give the funds to the hurricane relief fund. She had stated that the college would still pay a small amount, and that the rest of the refreshments could be pot luck. Discussion ensued regarding the possible problems with having a pot luck meal (not enough refrigeration, inconsistent contributions, etc.), and concern that these funds should be used for the college. Ms. Cersley will pass these comments on to Pat Buck.

FPA RECOMMENDATION TO RENAME DICKINSON MAIN STAGE

The FP A had sent a recommendation to the Senate that the Dickinson Main Stage be renamed after Deborah DiCroce. After discussion including the concern that this is an avenue for fundraising for the college, it was determined that this was not an appropriate issue for the Senate.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

October 21

November 18

December 16—changed to December 9.