

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE INDEPENDENTS

Fall Conference, November 4, 5, and 6, 2010

Pasadena City College and
Sheraton Hotel, Pasadena, California

Actions Taken

- 1) *Motion to support continuation of the Consultation Part-Time Faculty Task Force with a clearly defined mission and set of goals. The mission and goals shall be reported to CCCI at its conference in the spring.* – Passed unanimously.
- 2) *Motion to approve the 2010-11 CCCI Budget as amended.* – Passed unanimously.
- 3) *Motion to form a CCCI Political Action Committee (PAC) for the purpose of funding a CCCI contract lobbyist. If additional money is raised, it shall be available for other CCCI approved political activities.* – Passed unanimously.

Meeting Notes

Members Present: Allan Hancock, Contra Costa, Foothill-De Anza, Pasadena, Rancho Santiago, Redwoods, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Santa Rosa, West Valley-Mission, Yosemite

Guests: Jonathan Lightman, Sandra Lindoerfer, Don Sparks, Carolyn Widener

First Session, Thursday, November 4

Executive Secretary Jeffrey Michels called the conference to order at 1:00 pm.

Veterans Center Visit:

Pasadena representative Roger Marheine led a tour of the Pasadena City College Veterans Center.

Guest Presentation:

Sandra Lindoerfer, Center for Collaborative Solutions, California Education Coalition for Health Care Reform gave a presentation on health benefits issues and joint labor/management benefit committees.

Discussion on Contract Lobbyist:

The group continued its exploration of hiring a CCCI contract lobbyist. President Richard Hansen distributed a list of topics that may be included in a request for proposal (RFP). These were grouped into services expected of the lobbyist, responsibilities on the part of CCCI, and provisions that CCCI might want to see in a contract with the lobbyist.

Much support was voiced for moving forward with the contract lobbyist proposal with the possibility of approaching the firm that presented last spring: Shaw, Yoder, Antwih. The discussion included the possibility of funding the lobbyist through a CCCI Political Action Committee (PAC) and interest in having the CCCI lobbyist work closely with FACCC. There was support for the idea that

funding for the PAC need not come from every member organization. The group will return to this topic on Saturday.

The conference recessed at 4:30 pm.

Second Session, Friday, November 5

President Hansen called the conference to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was approved with the Part-Time Faculty Report moved ahead of the Treasurer's Report on Saturday, the third session of the conference. Discussion topics were suggested: the League's Commission on the Future and grant-funded part-time faculty positions.

Guest Presentation:

Don Sparks, the Guild President at LA Pierce College, spoke on joint labor/management benefit committees from a faculty negotiator's perspective.

Guest Presentation:

FACCC Executive Director Jonathan Lightman presented an overview of the November 2010 elections, the state budget, and bills from the last legislative session, including SB 1143. Lightman noted the connection between calls for performance-based funding to community college critics like the Campaign for College Opportunity and stressed the need to shift the narrative back to our system's successes and the need for public investment in community colleges.

District Negotiation Reports:

Yosemite, Santa Rosa, Allan Hancock, Foothill-De Anza, Rancho Santiago, Pasadena, and Santa Barbara presented reports on the state of negotiations in their districts.

The conference recessed at 5:00 pm.

Third Session, Saturday, November 5

President Hansen called the conference to order at 9:00 am.

District Negotiation Reports (continued):

West Valley-Mission and Santa Monica gave their district negotiation reports.

Guest Presentation:

Carolyn Widener, the Community College Faculty Representative on the CalSTRS Board, spoke on the state of the CalSTRS plan and what the Board might do to address concerns, public interest in so-called pension reform, the upcoming election for her replacement on the Board, and what CCCI should do.

District Negotiation Reports (continued):

Redwoods reported on district negotiations.

"Bleeding Heart" Award:

Nominees for the Bleeding Heart Award included Allan Hancock, Ranch Santiago, Redwoods, and Santa Rosa with Santa Rosa taking the award home until the CCCI Spring Conference.

Part-Time Faculty Report:

Part-Time Faculty Officer Cornelia Alsheimer and Santa Rosa representative Ted Crowell reported on the Consultation Part-Time Faculty Task Force that had met twice, April 30 and July 30 of this year. Alsheimer (and Hansen, briefly) attended the first, and Crowell attended the second meeting. Chancellor Jack Scott had formed the task force at the request of a coalition of part-time faculty advocates.

At the August 19 Consultation Council meeting, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Barry Russell, who had staffed the two meetings, presented a digest outlining the task force discussions and recommendations. The Chancellor's Office appeared to consider the work of the task force complete, but several faculty in attendance spoke in favor of having the task force continue meeting. Alsheimer asked CCCI to support the continuation of the task force, and the following motion resulted from the discussion.

Motion to support continuation of the Consultation Part-Time Faculty Task Force with a clearly defined mission and set of goals. The mission and goals shall be reported to CCCI at its conference in the spring. – Passed unanimously.

Alsheimer went on to describe work on the part of FACCC's Part-Time Faculty Committee to revive AB 1807 on part-time faculty rehire rights. She also reported that part-time faculty are working on applying to the State Academic Senate to form a part-time faculty caucus. Discussion continued on other part-time issues, including the status of the CalSTRS Part-Time Faculty Task Force. This group is considering three options for part-time faculty retirement: the "Colorado Plan," a modification of the current Defined Benefit Plan instituting load-based reporting of service credit, and a revision of the Defined Benefit Supplement (DBS), at the 8.0 percent faculty and 8.25 percent district contribution rates, to have it provide an annuity to part-time faculty with a guaranteed return.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer John Smith distributed a revised CCCI budget for 2010-11. Discussion included the cost of CCCI conferences and the amount the district is requesting for the president's release time. The budget was amended to show \$10,000 for the president's release time rather than \$5,000.

Motion to approve the 2010-11 CCCI Budget as amended. – Passed unanimously.

CCCI Business:

Contract Lobbyist: It was suggested that CCCI form a PAC from which the contract lobbyist could be funded and any surplus could be used for other political purposes. Contributions would be voluntary with no expectation that all member units would support the PAC.

Motion to form a CCCI Political Action Committee (PAC) for the purpose of funding a CCCI contract lobbyist. If additional money is raised, it shall be available for other CCCI approved political activities. – Passed unanimously.

In further discussion, CCCI officers were directed to prepare a request for proposal (RFP) and present it to Shaw, Yoder, Antwih to see if there could be an agreement in place by CCCI's spring conference. If an agreement could not be reached with this firm, the spring conference will offer an

opportunity to interview additional lobbyists. Hansen and Michels will work on this, and members interested in funding the PAC should expect to make their contributions early on in the process so negotiations with Shaw, Yoder, Antwih can begin.

2011 Spring Conference: The group discussed potential venues in Sacramento (Citizen, Sheraton Grand, and Embassy Suites). Several stressed the importance of having an internet connection in the meeting space as well as the individual rooms. Two meeting date options were approved: April 7, 8, and 9 or April 28, 29, and 30. Suggestions included training in Interest Based Bargaining and a workshop on how to set up a Political Action Committee (PAC).

Commission on the Future and faculty-based response: Michels reviewed the recommendations coming from the League's Commission on the Future of California Community Colleges and suggested that faculty should also be proactive in offering our own suggestions for reform and improvement as an alternative to the corporate model being championed by critics like the Institute for Higher Education Leadership and Policy and the Campaign for College Opportunity. He suggested a grant-funded research and publication effort perhaps coordinated through FACCC. Pasadena representative Jane Hallinger suggested a colleague who might be engaged as a grant writer.

Student Success Task Force (SB 1143): Hansen reported on the formation of the Board of Governors' task force on student success that is mandated in SB 1143. At the September 16 Consultation Council meeting, many faculty groups spoke of the importance of having a diverse faculty representation on this task force to include perspectives on student success from a wide variety of disciplines. Hansen reported that, unfortunately, indications are that the number will be limited to four. Discussion may continue at the November Consultation Council meeting.

Faculty Obligation Number (FON): At its November meeting, the Board of Governors will determine if there is sufficient funding in the system to support hiring new full-time faculty to meet enrollment needs in Fall 2011. The process is referred to as "triggering," and in times like the present with a weak state economy and budget cuts, the Board is not likely to trigger additional full-time hiring. Nevertheless, at the Consultation Council meeting in October, faculty groups supported triggering the hiring obligation. Smith will be representing CCCI at the Board of Governors meeting on November 8 and 9, and he will work with the other groups to address the Board in support of additional full-time faculty positions.

The Conference adjourned at 3:55 pm.