

DAS President Retreat Report-August 17, 2021

Brown Act

- Current pandemic leniency granted by governor set to expire Sept 30th
- Be prepared to follow original Brown Act guidelines as of Oct 1st for all academic senate meetings (district and college)
 - In person one room
 - Teleconference
 - Agendas must identify each teleconference location and be posted at each location
 - Each location must be open and accessible to the public and allow for public participation
 - Agenda must provide an opportunity for public comment from each teleconference location
 - At least a quorum of the legislative body must participate from locations within the local agency's jurisdiction
 - All votes must be audible and taken by roll call
- Also Brown Act compliant
 - District Curriculum Coordinating Committee (DCCC)
 - District Equity and Student Success (DESSC)
 - All other standing committees of the DAS and college Academic Senates
 - All other committees formed by resolution or formal action of a legislative body- DAS, college ASs, DCCC, DESSC, and the LRCCD Board of Trustees

Policy & Regulations

ARC Comments:

- P&R- 2222 - think expecting students to attend all classes and permitting drops at 6% is unrealistic given our student's lives and we should have a more forgiving attendance policy (we don't have a specific number we are going for however)
 - Knapp Response:
 - "may be" is permissive language
 - seems possible to change 6% or have the DAS create a statement of best practice or resolution stating different %
 - [looks like Sierra says 10%, LACCD whenever absences in hours of hours the class meets per week are exceeded could be dropped]
- R-7134 - think the period of adoption (1.2.1) is unreasonably long and inflexible and discourages the use of open access materials and other digital materials
 - Knapp Response:
 - "normally" allows for aspirational target
 - is 6 months still needed with Follett change?

- legal requirement-legislation passed which mandates publication of texts in advance in online and print schedules [H.R. 4127 (2010)]
- P-7152-we question whether this policy allows faculty the option of restructuring grading in order to forgo the high stakes assessments we know harm students - additionally, we know that finals week itself is problematic for many students. Our interest is to allow more latitude for a variety of assessments and flexibility around scheduling those assessments so as to align better with student schedules
 - Knapp Response:
 - assess as the instructor thinks best, but need to honor the final exam schedule and time
- R-2312 - ARC faculty would like to change this regulation from requiring a faculty advisor to allowing any Los Rios employee to serve as a club advisor.
 - Knapp Response:
 - Only faculty are contracted with college service.
 - Other employees would have to take this on outside of work hours.
 - Would need union negotiations.
- R-7211 - (this one requires more research - faculty would like to explore whether there is an opportunity to extend benefits of scholarships, grants, holding offices, etc to students taking fewer than 12 units)
 - Knapp Response:
 - "usually" allows for variance in the unit requirements
 - Still looking into whether or not 12 units is a Title 5 or Ed Code requirement

Equity Training Work Group

College Academic Senates will need to review the product from this work group and provide feedback to DAS. The product of the work group will first be presented to the Senate-Union Joint Issues Committee (SUJIC) and then will be sent to college ASs for review. SUJIC date to be announced.

“During negotiations for the 2020-2023 LRCFT Collective Bargaining Agreement, the LRCFT and the District signed an MOU to explore the possibility of mandatory equity training for all faculty. The Equity Training Work Group will be charged with examining logistics, applicability across the district, creating a mechanism for identifying trainings that fulfill requirements, and number of hours that would be either carved out of college service or compensated.”

Equity Reflection PD ideas

College Academic Senates need to create a the process of getting responses from Equity Reflection question #3 to the appropriate college professional development leadership and/or committee.

Equivalencies

Newly drafted R-5123 has been rewritten for a restructuring to a district equivalency committee. This draft will be shared one more time with the workgroup and then will be released for district and college academic senate review and feedback.

Full Time Faculty Hiring

More to come in the next 24 hours, but there will be FT faculty hiring. The district did request funding offered in the state budget. DAS and College AS Presidents will be meeting soon on this issue to learn about all the parameters of the funding.