

**Laney College Council**  
**March 30, 2011**  
**Room T-450 / 2-4 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Becky Hsieh, Louis Quindlen, Dawna Williams, Donald Moore, Amy Bohorquez, Indra Thadani, Marco Menendez, George Kozitza, David Reed, Elnora Webb, Eileen White, Karolyn van Putten, Sonja Franeta, Ann McMurdo, Anton Bosneaga, LaKisha Smith

**Absent:**

Tina Vasconcellos, Dorothy Marie Wilson, William Highsmith, Lisa Cook, Shirley Coaston, Lilia Celhay

**Minutes:      Maisha Jameson**

**I. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

- On the day of the Sustainability Conference (4/28), the Faculty has been asked to have their curriculum honor the spirit of sustainability.
- Some faculty are opening-up their courses to have special guest speakers on the topic
- There is also a celebration scheduled at 12noon near the Bistro and garden. This event will be promoting healthy early and honoring organic foods, gardening, etc.
- Culinary will soon be placing orders from the garden to be used in food production
- Good News...Although we don't have the funding to produce Good News paper – We now have a partnership with the Community Oakland Digital Arts and Literacy Council, supported by AT&T. Laney College is involved in a designing bill boards project, "Inspire Oakland".

**II. Minutes Approval – Council**

- The Council approved the Council Meeting minutes for February 16, 2011.
- Karolyn van Putten, Sonja Franeta and Ann McMurdo abstained from the approval.

**III. Budget Development – George Kozitza**

- The Budget Advisory Committee expressed concern about not being presented with complete information. The Committee wanted to see analysis of the budgets cuts as far as the impact of the reductions. Working diligently on these impact statements.

- The question, “What about the District?” (as far as what reductions are being made at that level) keeps coming back-up. Chancellor Allen provided an open letter to community to address this. Concern was expressed that when the District says that it’s cutting, it usually means that they are cutting at the Colleges. We need to be aware of the District’s cuts that are specifically affecting the colleges.
- Next week at a Specially called College Council, we will have a discussion about what you will have already seen with the 5%, 10%, 15% cuts.

#### **IV. Renaming of Laney Theatre**

- There was a resolution made 7 years ago to rename the Laney Theater, the Odell Johnson Theatre. The Faculty Senate recently reaffirmed to rename the Laney Theatre after the longest standing Laney College President. Odell Johnson continues to give back to Laney and advocate on our behalf. Would like for this renaming to be a launch to our 40<sup>th</sup> Year celebrations.
- VPI EILEEN WHITE MOVED TO APPROVE THE RENAMING OF THE LANEY THEATRE TO THE ODELL JOHNSON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER.
- It was suggested that in this time of financial crisis, we need to think about money and being able to sell the renaming of this building. What if it was a Clorox building? We should consider the potential income that could be forthcoming from that. Strong disagreement was expressed in response to this suggestion. Offered that the renaming of the Theatre after Odell Johnson is personal and means a lot to many at this campus and that there is a sense of pride to being able to name it after Odell, as opposed to a rich corporation. They added that because of the history of the resolution, and the fact that Odell promoted the arts, it should be in his name to honor him and his legacy. It was noted that we could sell the names of all of our buildings. Doesn’t have to be this one. It was also suggested that a happy compromise in order to still try to get money for the renaming of the theatre would be to sell the audience seats. Sponsor chairs with plaques. Fundraise for seats. Can name the hall or Theatre Lobby as well.
- The Facility Planning Committee should consider a policy on naming opportunities of buildings. Facilities can come up for rationale for renaming. Athletics also looking into raising funds by putting up signs or plaques in the gym or fields or renaming the buildings. Need to be realigned with our values.
- Idea offered – for the Laney Machine Technology students to create a giant plaque with graphics that can be placed in the theater to show Odell’s name, term of service, etc..
- MARCO MENENDEZ AND 2 OTHERS SECONDED THE MOTION. NO OBJECTIONS TO THE MOVE.
- President Webb asked the Vice Presidents to do something celebratory on the first day of Laney week to officially rename this theatre. Asked the group to please weigh-in. will need to include the community.

**v. Why Calling the Special College Council Meeting Next Week? – President Webb**

- The President called an additional Special College Council meeting for next week, April 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the following items: ACCJC visit, Re-organization, and Budget Development with reductions and impact analysis.
- President Webb provided a short overview of the reason for the Re-organization. The bottom-line is to re-org in order to best serve our students and ensure student success. The rushed timeline is due to our fiscal constraints.
- We are re-organizing in order to addressing the needs of our diverse student-body and getting to a 90% student success rate with regard to students achieving their transfer, graduation or certificate related goals.
- President Webb added that she wants all to provide feedback regarding the re-org before next Wednesday.
- On Monday, 4/11 and Tuesday, 4/12 the PCCD will have visitors from ACCJC. There are 8-10 ACCJC Team members visiting the District. Not 100% certain that they will not come to Laney. If they come to Laney, they are not here to hear un-related complaints. They want to hear what we have we done to help the District address the 3 main Accreditation-related issues/recommendations for the District: Board/Governance and Micromanagement...the Board focusing on what they are charged to; MIS/IT System...integrity of the system and accurate data and reporting; Finances and the 53 Auditing Findings...there are between 11-19 of these findings still outstanding. There is one outstanding issue that is critical – restructuring of the OPEB Bonds. The Chancellor has decided to have an advisory committee work to review this issue and make recommendations on how to rectify it.
- The options of ACCJC are to decide for us to either stay at probation, or warning or go to show cause. Being placed on Show Cause would require rushed rash decisions.
- When representing the college to ACCJC please keep in mind that the district doesn't get accredited, the colleges do.
- Concern was expressed about the Chancellor not bearing any responsibility for this financial crisis. Expressed this again to the college in Town-Hall meeting. How do we get our Chancellor to admit problem and move forward? In last ACCJC visiting team, it was acknowledged that the District was in denial and defensive with regard to issues. The reason we are getting as much progress as we are getting now, because the Commission required that they do so.
- President Webb noted that she raised issues with regard to Financial Aid to Chancellor and the fact that it's got worse since it's been centralized. Within a day, the Vice Chancellor was called in, and then the next day, the Vice Presidents of Student Services were called in to be told that the structure would be changed. It is important to get to the Chancellor with major concerns.
- Need to provide honest constructive feedback without being combative and going overboard.
- Question was asked, do we not mention things like the fact that the Passport system was down during our peak registration period and during first week of classes?

- There is an Enterprise management director over people soft now. Can't underestimate how important it is for this system to work. We need to get the word out about these changes.
- President Webb indicated that we will create a one pager on the recommendations and what's been done thus far to address them, and get this information out. President asked Vice President Moore to do this.

## **VI. Constituent and Committee Reports**

- Faculty Senate
  - The Senate has gone through the priorities and discussed them except for the Budget. Have elections coming up. Nominations are open next week. The State plenary is to be held next week. 5-6 Faculty will be going. People discussing the cuts a lot.
- Professional Development
  - We have money that we thought we didn't have in this fund because one faculty member did not taken her sabbatical. A report was requested from Nikki in the Business Office and Alexis Alexander at the District to confirm that the money is there. President Webb asked the Faculty Senate President to work with this Committee on this issue. President clarified that there is an existing committee who has come up with the parameters for distributing these funds.
- Classified Senate
  - Continuing to grow. Transition plan in place for new Officers. The Classified Senate President listed the new officers. Website is coming along and upgraded. Event coming up on 4/7 from 9-1pm in the Classified Lounge for outreach. Wanting to get more of the shared governance committees staffed.
  - We will honor our classified staff and Faculty together on Wed., 4/27 from 12-1pm. This will be cost effective and an opportunity for us to come together as a collective group. The Administrators will serve everyone.
- Curriculum Committee
  - Moving forward on the SB1440 courses ...Physics just came out. Still working on the Communication course. Physiology may meet the Fall deadline. There are new rules about pre-requisites. Discussion was had about making sure that the certificate programs that we advertise to our students are programs that they can be granted eligibility for financial aid to take. We are advertising that we provide Financial Aid, and then when students get here they are not eligible for it. This needs to take place college-wide. Any new programs will now be appropriately approved for Financial Aid – going through the Curriculum Comm. Carpenteria Fina are also going up to be

considered by state to be eligible. It was noted that sometimes finances are taken care of via grant funds so that Financial Aid is not needed.

- ASLC
  - Sunday, April 17 is the Hands across CA event – linking colleges via hand. We are responsible from BCC to Chabot. Receiving help from COA and Merritt. Lots of media coverage on this event. Will open up student center for this event. Enlisting the aid of some of the High-school students. Hard to get students in on a Sunday, and especially on a Sunday during Spring Break. Everyone will be assigned to a station to link up to other stations along the way. A mile's worth of people at each station. Working hard to involve the students. VP of ASLC, Brian Cervantes is the point person for this event. Facilities form needs to be filled out to provide the Business Office with the information. Wear Laney shirts. Ordering T-shirts or polo shirts to be for sale.
  
- Health & Safety
  - There is an Earthquake drill being done during our Spring Break – April 20. George Kozitza to work with the City of Oakland to be part of that experience. We can create another mock one once the students come back.
  - Smoking on campus remains a problem. The Peralta Wellness Center does provide prescriptions for the nicotine patch but it has to be paid for out of pocket. There is pending legislation that allows students to be cited for breaking these rules. There is an informal citation that the Peralta Sheriffs are able to give out to students on campus. May want to make a few examples. VPI White suggested that we do more outreach and events around non-smoking and that we need better signage for non-smoking, as well as a place to put out cigarettes located on outskirts and entrances of campus. It was noted that it doesn't help our campus at all to have vendors on Laney property to be selling cigarettes. President Webb asked Business Manager consultant, George Kozitza to follow-up on any permits or agreements that were signed for them to be college vendors. Haven't decided as President whether or not it is a good idea to have these vendors on our campus. It was suggested by a student that the vendors provide no benefit for the college and they would rather see us let Laney students be employed to provide this service. There is a demand for the service, but would like for Laney to take it on and that the money then go back to the college. It was also suggested that the vendors should have some level of upkeep for the areas they work on. Nothing comes back to the college but trash and cigarette butts. If we choose to keep them here, there needs to be laundry list of things we have them agree to. It was also noted that we need to come up with an alternative for evening classes/students. Another suggestion was that if we keep the vendors, we encourage them to move across the street so that the city can deal with the issues then. Maybe our culinary can provide adequate services for evening/weekend students. It was noted that in order to have a business

license, you have to have a legitimate address. These vendors are currently using Laney's address.

- The Mental Health staff person will start next week. This information to be put out to the college community. Next week will be doing some orientation.
- Technology Planning Committee (TPC)
  - A Project Manager recently informed the TPC that they are finding doors and windows left unlocked and open. Need a proactive approach to dealing with this. Something serious needs to be done to ensure the safety of this expensive equipment. Email reminders to lock doors are not doing it. The TPC is devising some protocol for training of individuals to use these technologies. President Webb indicated that we need to get the word out that when you are responsible for the use of a facility, and you unlock that door, you are responsible for locking it upon your departure. Please bring this up within your constituents. President Webb asked Marco Menendez to write an email to go out to the campus community. The Council recommended for the College to request additional security patrolling until the security cameras are installed.
  - The Smart classroom installations often involve power shut-downs but these are usually done at night.
- Facilities Planning Committee (FPC)
  - At the last meeting the Committee discussed space allocation. How does everybody who needs space get on the list and how does the FPC rate those requests. Just getting these discussions going. Collaboration of use of space by multiple units was one factor. Viability of a program was also considered. Will send out info. to the campus community for feedback. Still have not seen Dr. Ikharo on the Facility Resources, but he did send Jack Lin to discuss the Solar paneling project. He wanted them to approve the plans. The FPC did so with the caveat that any savings that are made from this change will come to Laney. This was the deal Merritt got. The FPC is recommending that this proposal is ok to go (along with the caveat) to the President for consideration.
  - \$13 million in Measure A Funds were set aside for the solar paneling project --\$8 mill to Merritt \$4.5mill to Laney, and the balance (\$.5mill) to COA, nothing to BCC. It was stated by a member of the FPC that the \$.5 mill to COA was not recommended or approved by the District-wide Facilities Committee. President Webb made it clear that this \$.5mill was taken from Laney, and that we didn't approve this.
  - A member of the Faculty Senate noted that the FPC recommendation above has not come through the College Council and so should not be recommending anything to the President yet.
  - It was noted that the District-wide Facilities Committee is not following the procedures of shared governance. Laney's representatives who serve on this

Committee need to hold this Committee accountable for making it work as it was set-up to do.

- This is an Administrative problem that the Chancellor should take action on, with some added action from the PBIC, to ensure that the District Governance Committees follow their stated processes. Question posed... If there is a recommendation by the group, and it is being dismissed or no action being taken on issues discussed, what do the Committee members do? Answer: Take it back to the Committee. Then the next step is to go to the Chancellor as a higher authority over what practices or individuals are in the way with doing things the way we are supposed to. Let Chancellor know that he is not able to see our new recommendations. Inform the Committee that you are going to the Chancellor and put it in writing and cc. all who should be notified of such.
- The District-wide Facilities Committee is basically hearing the District reports. Once can suggest agenda items, and the Committee Chair is accepting or denying them.
- Tower swing space furniture has been ordered and will be here around Spring Break. After hearing feedback, most preferred to move after the semester instead of during Spring Break. This will be a phased move and so floors 2-4 have already mostly moved. Packing and labeling materials and instructions will come shortly.
- The ADA construction is limited in its scope, and hence doesn't cover everything. The theatre is for the most part done. Includes new water fountains and water bottle filling stations. There is ramp construction on the sidewalks to be done by the end of Spring Break. During the break, the contractors will do major demolition that will take off-line a major walkway between the Tower and Library to make it ADA compliant. The Library and woman's locker room is nearing completion.

**Meeting Adjourned 4:15pm**