

District Planning Committee

Minutes

February 4, 2009

LACCD Board Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the DPC meeting held on November 25, 2008 were reviewed. A few members asked for corrections. They were made and the minutes were approved.

Opening Remarks

G. Colombo briefly spoke about the L.A. Times article about the district. There was also a brief discussion about moving the April 18 meeting to April 1 due to the fact that the later date fell during Spring Break. The change was approved.

RP Group Board Meeting Highlights

G. Colombo reminded the committee that all colleges are now members of the Research and Planning Group, and noted that the district needs to have more of a presence at RP Group meetings and events. The RP-sponsored regional CAMP gatherings have traditionally involved College of the Canyons, Antelope Valley, Mt. SAC and Pasadena City College while the LACCD has until recent played only a minor role. All nine colleges in LACCD should send representatives to CAMP to make our presence known. Other highlights at the RP Group Board meeting included discussions about a statewide project aimed at redefining Basic Skills Initiative outcomes measures and a proposal for the RP Group to sponsor a series of “intervention” workshops or visits designed to help colleges with their accreditation efforts. It was also noted that the RP Group will be sponsoring a series of “phase 2” SLO workshops this spring and that it would be possible for the LACCD to host one of these events. Possible dates include April 27-30.

State Distance Ed Dropout/Withdrawal Study

E. Pai reported that the statewide DE Survey Study has received roughly 1,000 responses so far. There is still a two week window for responses to come in. D. Beaulieu noted that our current Distance Education programs reach out to only two to three percent of our total enrollment and that overall California is behind in distance education. Minnesota, by contrast, is a good model of distance education: they have programs K-20 online.

Accreditation Update

D. Kaye recently met with the state senate up in Sacramento on issues of accreditation. One of the issues addressed was the increase in community colleges on warning or probation in California. During the ensuing DPC discussion, it was noted that placing colleges on sanction is perhaps a good way to force change. The three issues that most often account for sanctioning colleges include deficiencies in program review and shared governance as well as linking planning and budget. In addition, colleges will be expected to have implemented and assessed all SLOs by 2012. Colleges also need to remember that they must comply with the “two-year

rule”in addressing all self study recommendations. However, it was noted that it seemed strange that LASC was placed on probation without being issued a formal warning first. D. Kaye recommended that colleges review past recommendations for the last 12-18 years as they prepare for their self studies. She also noted that what places community colleges in jeopardy is a lack of systematic planning and “closing the planning and budget loop.” D. Kaye thought it could be beneficial to hold a mini-accreditation workshop for the District over the summer.

Program Review Taskforce Update

R. Tillberg reported that there have been two meetings of the Program Review Taskforce. During these preliminary meetings taskforce members established the process to develop online program reviews. Next they will meet to assess program review needs by “Mind-mapping” typical program review requirement. It was thought that IT staff might be able to build an on-line program review template into the BI7 project. D. Kaye wanted to know if this would be a standardized approach to program review. It was clarified that all nine colleges would be free to adopt the new system and to modify it to meet local needs.

SIS Replacement Project and DPC Input

J. Clerx said that Prop J money will provide funding to modernize the district’s current 20+ year-old Student Information System (SIS). A consultant firm is being brought in to help assess all of the District’s SIS needs and will be meeting with the DPC and other SIS users over the coming month. In addition, the consultant will organize two best practices vendor demonstrations in coming weeks. DPC members are invited to participate in both of these gatherings.

BOT Process for College Strategic Plan Review

This issue was postponed until the next meeting.

Draft “College Institutional Effectiveness Report”

E. Pai introduced the draft College IE Report format and explained that a further discussion will be held next meeting.

2007-8 Basic Skills Initiative Data

G. Prather distributed a handout showing that there was a dramatic drop off in ESL and ENL basic skills success rates in the most recent ARCC report and noted that this is the result of coding errors and the inability to code classes accurately 3 levels below college level.

District Strategic Plan/College Self Inventory Review and Revision

The committee engaged in a general discussion of how to proceed with possible revision of the District Strategic Plan. It was noted that sustainability hadn’t been addressed in any detail in the original planning document. It was also noted that it may be necessary to switch from a six-years to a three-year planning cycle. It was agreed that the DPC should set aside a certain amount of time to review each section of the District Strategic Plan. .

Adjournment

The DPC adjourned at 3:30 p.m.