## Minutes

College Senate

March 18, 2014 12:15 p.m.
Bedsole Conference Room

**Meeting Start Time:** 12:16 p.m.

**Members Present:** Tim Jenkins, Mindy Hovell, Sam Church, Ricardo Pita, Patrick Lameka, Colette Windish, Meg Smith, Stephanie Girard, Heidi Butler, Todd Warren, Steve Almquist, Andrew Tumminia, Lindsey Bosko-Dunbar

**Members Absent:** Billy Kavula, Eric Vicente-Flores

**Guests:** George Sims, John Barter, Joe Deighton, Tom Hoffman, Chyna Terrell, Rhonda Shirazi, Tom Ward, Devon Sheehy

**Primary Business:**

* Council Reports
	+ Wellness—has not met since last Senate meeting
	+ Budget—met and set another meeting to look at changes in the budget model
	+ Student Success—Met with Tracey Childs for a second time to discuss and offer support with retention efforts; discussed how we could also support those students who are here and plan to stay (not in danger of leaving); discussed councils and overwhelming consensus was that they should not be disbanded
	+ Institutional Identity—has not met since last Senate meeting
* The staff assembly met and expressed desire to keep councils
* George Sims presented Rewak Award call for nominations
* George Sims and John Barter request that the Senate assist in the College’s effort to consider the work of the College in all dimensions and put forth ideas/suggestions on how we might be more efficient and reduce costs
	+ The draft budget for 2015 projects a deficit of $2 million
	+ What things are we doing that are not valuable and need to be reduced or cut so that we can decrease deficit? We need to think about what we could do more effectively and/or think about why we are doing things that may not be effective
	+ We should also consider what we should do more of
	+ Deadline—the budget begins on 7/1. The next Board of Trustees meeting is mid-June. Ideally, feedback should come by end of April
	+ Ideally, the College would like to react early to crises or problems (i.e., student assistance, career services, socio-cultural issues). What if we had a “one-stop shop” to address a variety of issues? We want to be positioned to do more of website development, student recruitment, strengthening academic programs, and recruiting stronger students
	+ Suggestion: The reps should go back to the Councils to discuss and elicit feedback on how we can function more effectively and reduce costs as a College
	+ Questions for clarification: The Senate members do not know what is going on in the budget. We need more concrete criteria about the constraints, or perhaps some goals, to address this request
	+ The greatest assistance that the Senate and Councils could provide is to ask “Why are we doing that? I don’t see the value”
	+ An important question to consider is how do we get a prospective student from the time they have deposited from Admissions to an Advisor to the Faculty? Where do they fall through the cracks? The Cabinet is looking at the pathway from deposit to matriculation to discern how to improve the process
	+ The institution accreditation process is in 2015-2016. The QEP group is working to identity a topic shortlist on advising and prep for planning career/goals and a focus on enhancing academic rigor
* The Councils need to figure out their rotations so we can see how it will affect the Senate
* The Council and Senate interactions still need to be improved. Some of the councils are defined in haphazard ways. Is there a way to redefine or narrow the particular charges of councils?
	+ The Councils will meet and discuss their descriptions before the next Senate meeting, along with figuring out rotations and making suggestions for how the College can be more effective and reduce costs
* Since one of the biggest problems in the Senate is information flow, should the Senate request a seat on the Cabinet?
* An issue that affects everyone at the College is that there is no one place to go to find everything (common calendar)
	+ Tom Hoffman is meeting with Margaret Massey to discuss the possibility of setting up a common calendar

**Business for next meeting:**

* Hear reports from Councils about ways to increase effectiveness/reduce costs across the college and suggestions about descriptions of charges
* Decide on Senate rotations
* Vote on Rewak Award (After the last meeting outlined above, Becky Shirley (Academic Affairs) sent an email to all faculty and staff requesting submissions for nominees. These will be sent to Meg Smith (recorder), who will then send them to Council members before the next meeting

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 15, 12:15 p.m., Bedsole Conference Room

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:15 p.m.