

PVCC Faculty Senate News

February 2014

PVCC Faculty Senate Update

Your faculty senate met on Thursday, February 6th. You can review the minutes and other documents at: <http://www2.pvc.maricopa.edu/senate/aye2014/index.htm>. The minutes and other documents are at the end of the page.

Maricopa Priorities: As you are all aware, the self-assessment for Maricopa Priorities is in progress. One of the areas that seems to keep evolving is the statistical data. The District just released enrollment statistics for the academic year ending 2013. That data can be found in the Canvas course:

Understanding and Completing the Maricopa Priorities Self-Assessment, DST.SSE.02016.

Additional resources developed by our Institutional Effectiveness Department can be found at PVCC's SharePoint site: <http://pvc.sp.maricopa.edu/default.aspx>. The data can be found under "Office of the President.....Institutional Effectiveness". You will find the Maricopa Priorities data under the "Document and List Access" section.

Higher Learning Commission (HLC): A draft of the HLC Self Study is expected to be completed in March. The draft will be distributed to the criterion teams for review and then to the College for review. From meetings I have attended, the HLC Evaluation Team will be looking to see if we really practice what is contained in our self-study document. Our site visit is scheduled for November of this year.

Affordable Care Act – Retirements: Faculty who retire (or otherwise separate from service) after July 1, 2014 and want to teach as an adjunct must wait a minimum of 26 weeks before they can teach or serve in any capacity for the District. This has to do with a provision in the Act called the "look back period". It appears the whole year is evaluated and the average weekly hours would not meet the provision of part time. This is unfortunate for our education systems as we may lose some very good faculty who may take their talents elsewhere.

College Plan Update: The College Plan was updated to clarify who could serve and vote for Division/Department Chairs. The change in language was approved by Dr. Dale in December 2013 and ratified by the PVCC Senate at the February 2014 meeting. You may view the College Plan at: <http://www2.pvc.maricopa.edu/senate/documents/CollegePlanRev2014.pdf>.

PAR/PARC: In my meeting with faculty on January 30th regarding the PAR/PARC policy, several good questions arose. Below is a list of concerns:

- Number of observations/evaluations
- When does the faculty pick his/her team?

- Why are we using Google Docs with the Chancellor said we shouldn't. How can my data be secured?
- How much time will this process take? How intense is the process? Will this take away from teaching?
- Do new faculty with extensive experience have to complete the entire process?
- How much work will be on the committee and mentors?
- How will this process ensure fairness to the new faculty?

Faculty Senate Scholarship / Essay Writing Contest: The Faculty Senate approved to continue both of our student programs. Materials are in the process of getting updated and will be sent to the college first part of next week. Please encourage your students to apply. Web pages will be created for each of the programs containing information on the program and how to apply.

The award for the Faculty Senate Scholarship is \$850. The awards for the Essay Writing Contest are: \$300 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place, and \$100 for 3rd place.

FEC News

Meet & Confer: A preliminary agreement on the Retain and Retrain (RIF) policy was distributed to the faculty for feedback via an online survey. The other items (see Frank Wilsons latest Meet and Confer Minute – Jan 2014) are still in the discussion phase. It is expected more information will be available after the February 10th meeting. It was determined by the Meet & Confer team that the salary inversion issue affects approximately 400 faculty.

Legislature: Mike Bielecki, Faculty Association Lobbyist stated there were two bills of interest to MCCC faculty. One is a bill concerning pensions and the other is a gun bill. There is still a few weeks left for submission of new bills.

Membership Survey: The Faculty Association will be conducting a membership satisfaction survey in the next few weeks. The survey will target current members, faculty what have never been a member, and faculty that have discontinued membership. Question center around how the Faculty Association is doing, and what it can do better to serve its members.

RFP Information Sessions: I have scheduled a meeting on April 11th at 10:00-noon in KSC1000B to discuss the proposed changes to the RFP that are currently under negotiation. It is expected these negotiations will be completed by that time and we will have a draft of the changes that will be presented to the faculty. I will send out reminders as we get close to that date.

College and Faculty News

Honors Needs a Few Good Faculty: Interested in teaching an honors class? Contact Doug Berry or John Douglass.

Meet Your Faculty

Kande Mickelsen - Library Faculty



For the past several years, Kande Mickelsen has honed her secondary teacher experience in the Buxton Library as a faculty librarian. Her passion for student learning and engagement culminated in the award-winning Medrano Project which explored student publishing pedagogy and broke boundaries of OER/textbook replacement by supporting students in their endeavor to create a relevant and comprehensive on-line textbook for their course. Her OER as Pedagogy philosophy (with co-authors Sheila Afnan-Manns and Reyes Medrano) was featured in the November 2013 online issue of

Educause; in addition, she presented this philosophy and its social justice ramifications at the 9th International Conference on Higher Education in Cuba in 2014.

Jeanne Franco – Accounting Faculty



I came to PVCC in 1989 from Texas. How I got into teaching is an interesting story. I had enjoyed working as a CPA for almost 20 years when one day a friend of mine, who was the director of a continuing education program, asked for my help. He had an accounting class that was full of students and no one to teach the class. With no teaching experience and no clue as to what I was doing, I agreed to give it a try. Over the next 10 weeks I realized that I not only had a knack for teaching, I also loved it. To see the light bulbs click on in my student's eyes when they learned something they had not known

before was a hoot. After that first experience, I knew what I wanted to be when I grew up. So I went back to college to get my master's degree and began my teaching career at the local college in Texas.

Since joining the PVCC family I have served as faculty senate president, had an Accounting Tutorial Program published by McGraw-Hill, pioneered the college's Online Program (along with Donna Rebedow and Cindy Shoenhair), and generally had a great time leading more students than I can count down road of accounting.

I have enjoyed every minute of my time at PVCC, and I can tell my students from experience that if you “choose a job that you love, you will never work a day in your life.” – Confucius

Doug Berry – Psychology Faculty



I am originally from Dayton, Ohio, but moved to Phoenix almost 11 years ago. This is my eighth year teaching in the Maricopa District, my 6th year full time in the Psychology Department at PVCC. In addition to teaching Sport Psychology and Intro to Psychology, I am one of the directors of the Honors Program. My wife and I have a soon to be 3 year old son who keeps us on our toes. In my free time I enjoy coaching, hiking, mud runs, and being out in the Arizona sunshine.

I hope everyone is having a good semester. If there is anything I can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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