

PVCC Faculty Senate News

May 2014

PVCC Faculty Senate Update

Your faculty senate met on Thursday, May 1st. 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.

Faculty Senate Scholarship / Essay Writing Contest: Sheilla Ahmadi is the winner of the Faculty Association Scholarship of \$850. Pauly Ventrella (Lois Roma-Deeley) is the 1st place winner of the essay contest. Gary Bullock (Walt Thielen) is 2nd and Tara Barnes (Doss Powell) is 3rd.

FEC News

Meet & Confer: A redlined version of the proposed RPF is now available on the Faculty Associations web site. You can view the RFP documents at: <http://www.mccfa.wildapricot.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1669245>. I encourage all to carefully read the changes. Ratification is scheduled to take place beginning on May 28. Faculty Association members will be sent a ballot to their personal e-mail addresses on file with the Faculty Association.

Faculty Association Survey Results: We received 440 responses to the survey the Faculty Association sent. For current FA (Faculty Association) member, most felt legal representation, voting on the RFP and showing solidarity were all important reasons for joining the Faculty Association. Results of the satisfaction question were 27.8% very satisfied, 34% somewhat satisfied, 16.5% neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 13.6% somewhat dissatisfied, and 7.9% were very dissatisfied. Questions regarding preserving academic freedom and tenure, shared governance, negotiating in Meet & Confer, communication and information sharing, and political activity were all important activities of the Faculty Association. About 85% feel the cost of membership was average or better value.

Those faculty (58 respondents) who were not Faculty Association members indicated the value of membership cost (60.3%) and not representing their views (82.7%) where the main reasons for not joining. Of the reasons that would influence them joining, successful compensation negotiation (78.2%) and decreased cost of dues (63%) were the top reasons.

For those faculty (20 respondents) who dropped their membership, 80% felt the cost did not provide sufficient value and 55% felt the association did not represent their issues. Decreased dues (76%) and successful negotiations regarding compensation (57%) where the top issues.

The Faculty Association is currently compiling the responses to the open-ended questions.

Faculty Association Officers: Salina Bednarek was elected as the Faculty Association President-Elect. Keith Heffner will be our president for next year. Officers will be determined at the May 13th meeting.

Salary Inversion: As you may have read from the Governing Board Highlights, it looks like the salary inversion issue will be resolved this year. Finalization of the issue will happen at the May Board Meeting. The District Human Resources Department and Faculty Association are currently working on an implementation plan. As I understand the process, employees will be notified if they are inverted and there will be a process to challenge work and teaching experience.

Lifetime Affiliate Membership: Faculty who retire will have the option of having a lifetime Affiliate membership to the Faculty Association for a flat rate of \$75.00 rather than paying \$10.00 per year.

College and Faculty News

Congratulations: I would like to wish Lois Roma-Deeley (18 years' service) and Sandra Zapp (11 years' service) on their retirements. Their service and dedication to PVCC and our students is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to congratulate the Diversity Advisory Council's Award Winners: Civil Discourse--Take 2 Activism (Library Faculty/Chair John Chavez, Kande Mickelsen-Library Faculty and Cindy Nieves-Library Manager representing the PVCC Buxton Library, Michele Marion-Sociology Faculty, and David Bradley-Visual Arts Faculty.

I would also like to congratulate Dr. Marilyn Cristiano for receiving Communication Educator of the Year by the Southwest Communication Association and Kande Mickelsen for winning the Women of Distinction Award.

Mentors Wanted: PVCC is in the process of hiring 18 new faculty. I also show we have 26 probationary faculty. Each of these will be part of the new PAR process. As part of the PAR process, each probationary faculty will need mentors to meet with the probationary faculty, conduct a classroom observation (not evaluation), provide feedback, and assist with the Individual Development Plan (IDP). Mentors must be appointive faculty and have completed a 2-hour training session. If you are interested, please let David Rubi, myself, or your Senator know.

I hope everyone had a great semester. It was a pleasure to serve as your Faculty Senate President this year. I look forward to working with David Rubi and the Senate next year. Have a happy and safe summer!

Gary R. Smith
PVCC Faculty Senate President
Phone: 602-787-6701
e-Mail: gary.smith@paradisevalley.edu