REDWOODS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Minutes of the College Council
7351 Tompkins Hill Road, Eureka, CA, Board Room
April 21st, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT
Becky Blatnick (phone), Allen Keppner, David Gonsalves (phone), Michelle Lopez, Jeff Marsee, Ruth Moon, Tony Sartori, Keith Snow-Flamer, Lynn Thiesen, Cheryl Tucker, Mike Wells, Marcia Williams (phone), Kelly Wilson, Marjorie Carson, Carol Mathews

MEMBERS ABSENT
Ruth Bettenhausen, Lance Courtney, Jose Ramirez, David Seda, Dave Bazard

ALSO PRESENT
None

CALL TO ORDER
Jeff Marsee called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

MINUTES
The minutes of April 7th 2009, were approved with the following revisions:
1. Under ‘Members Present’, strike out ‘Cheryl Tucker’
2. Under ‘College Council Task Force’, line four, strike out ‘common’

EDUCATION MASTER PLAN
Keith informed the council that the Education Master Plan Committee (EMPC) was considering and incorporating feedback into the final document being prepared for submission to the Board of Trustees. The final draft document was sent to an outside proof reader/editor on 04-20-09 with the expectation we would have it back on 04-24-09. After the document is received from the editor, it will be forwarded to cabinet for review before being submitted to the BOT in May. Following board approval, the Education Master Plan will be a dynamic document open to revisions as conditions in the district change.

Allen Keppner requested that the document be sent to all members of the committee following receipt from the editor Friday, 04-24-09. Jeff and Keith agreed.

Jeff also noted that the Education Master Plan Committee (EMPC) should decide themselves if they wish to continue meeting following completion of the plan. The Facilities Master Plan Committee (FMPC) will continue to meet to determine costing and timing of implementing the facilities plan.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN
Tony reported that the FMPC has been meeting weekly to finalize the ‘preferred options’ outlined in the plan. The FMPC has been reluctant to approve some details of the plan before a cost/benefit analysis and further research can be completed to ensure efficient use of resources. The FMPC will meet 04-22-09 to revise and approve the plan before submission to cabinet on 04-24-09.

BP/AP 4240
“ACADEMIC RENEWAL”
Tony stated that ‘academic renewal’ helps students purge poor semesters from GPA following a two year break. If approved, students could remove poor grades from their GPA, although the classes remain on their transcripts.
Allen added that two types of renewal are in use:
1. Repeating courses in which you get a D or an F
2. Academic renewal without course repeatability

The proposed revision addresses removal without repeating, and:
1. Allows renewal of two terms (a term is equal to or less than a semester)
2. Semester in question must be two years old
3. Can remove semesters more quickly than in the past; 12 units with a 3.0, 18 units with a 2.5, or 24 units with a 2.0
4. Terms in which courses were used as pre-requisites, or towards degrees, certificates or transfer requirements may not be removed
5. Students considering renewal must see a counselor before applying for removal
6. Students can not select particular classes within a term to remove, can only remove the entire term

Policy revision amended as follows:
Under Advisory, ‘Students considering academic renewal must consult with an advisor/counselor regarding course repetition options and ramifications.’

Revised BP/AP 4240 voted on and approved unanimously

AR 305.03 “PRIORITIES FOR TENURE-TRACK FACULTY POSITIONS”
Tony reported on the procedure for prioritizing tenure-track faculty positions. According to the policy, in the spring semester at an April faculty meeting, administration identifies goals and needs for faculty appointments for the following year. In that following year, prioritizations are made; those positions are filled the year after that.

Jeff, citing the ineffectiveness of policy 305, proposed that we impose a moratorium on revising policies (with exceptions), re-convene at the end of summer or early fall, and try to identify processes that work for the institution and we all agree to.

The administration team will review all policies during the summer, including AR 305, and be prepared to conduct full discourse and discussion with senate beginning the first day of class fall semester.

AP 4231 “COURSE GRADE CHALLENGE”
Allen recounted an instance where two students challenged their final grades, and, in compliance with AP 4231, that challenge was eventually heard by the BOT. The BOT requested that College Council revisit AP 4231.

Jeff suggested a step six. Step six will be a review of the challenge by the president/superintendent. This revision will transfer responsibility from the BOT to the president, transferring final appeal. Cabinet will provide language revising the AP and present it to the BOT for approval in May, as well as College Council at their next meeting.

UPDATES
Tony noted the information items attached to the agenda and reminded the council of the importance of keeping track of items “in the buffer”.

Tony continued by announcing that annual and comprehensive program review
forms continue to be updated by the Program Review Task Force. With only one Academic Senate meeting remaining, he is concerned those revisions will not be completed in time for approval at the final senate meeting May 1st. Allen and Tony agreed that having a second senate meeting May 15th would allow the revised program review forms to be approved by Senate before the break.

**TASK FORCE**  Lynn will provide a ‘Task-Force’ update May 12, 2009

**COLLEGE COUNCIL SCOPE**  Jeff requested that College Council Committee Members review the document distributed defining the Council’s scope in preparation for discussion next meeting.

**NEXT MEETING**  The next College Council meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2009.

**ADJOURN**  The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.