

SCFA

Sierra College Faculty Association

Meeting
September 17, 2009
4:30 – 6:30, LRC 313

Board Members Present: Jane Haproff, Paul Cooper, Steve Linthicum, Nancy Martinis, Stan Spencer, Darla Jones, Lynn Medeiros, Andre Sims, Wayne Barbee. Via teleconferencing: Jim Weir.

Guests Present: Sandy Muraki, Mike Robinson, Gary Guckle, Denise Stone.

I. Check-in: None

II. Public comments/concerns: None

III. Reports

President Haproff: There is a president's message on the SCFA website. She will send an e-mail to faculty every time she posts a message to the website. In the message, she summarized briefly what was discussed in the September 10 SCFA meeting concerning cuts to faculty. Part-time faculty have already experienced cuts because 11% fewer courses are offered this semester, and student services have been affected. None of these actions have been negotiated, but now there are instructions for the negotiating team.

Chief Negotiator Spencer: There was a special meeting to discuss how many faculty have been hired relative to the agreement to hire five new faculty members. SCFA heard at Strategic Council that the Board of Trustees approved hiring 22 faculty, but the District says it will only hire 17, which, they say, is above what they were going to hire. The compromise that resulted was the District has agreed to hire one more faculty member. They pulled three out because they were categorically funded. That means 17 was the original number, 3 were pulled, but the District agreed to hire 5 more, so that equals 19 new faculty hires. Eighteen have been hired, including a mid-year hire. The numbers in the agreement will be met.

IV. Old Business

A. Feedback on discontinuing *The Sentinel*:

Haproff has received e-mails saying people were disappointed to lose *The Sentinel*. Many part-timers felt it was a good way to keep in touch with Sierra College. However, after hearing at the faculty breakfast that the E-board is building up the SCFA website, they felt satisfied.

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One attendee stated that he was surprised so many part-time faculty attended the part-time caucus meeting during Flex week. Many came to say they wanted *The Sentinel* back, and he stated he would, too, because the SCFA website hasn't been kept up-to-date consistently in the past.

B. Problems with distribution of one-time funds:

Even after everything was checked many times, Payroll still used the wrong list of faculty. Fortunately, a consultant caught the mistake, but then more time had to be spent going through the list. It was also a Payroll responsibility to notify part-timers (and those receiving overload checks) that they would not get checks in September.

V. New Business

A. Assigning seniority to part-time faculty

Linthicum stated there is a problem with favoritism in certain disciplines, and we need to work on a solution. He submitted to the committee a form he had created to establish a part-timer's qualifications to teach a particular course. After some discussion, Barbee made a motion that Linthicum modify his form. Jones seconded the motion. It passed with all in favor and Linthicum abstaining.

B. Appointments to committees

The Sabbatical Committee submitted to the E-board a list of people who are interested in serving on the committee. The E-board used the following criteria to select faculty: (i) faculty member had tenure, (ii) faculty member had experience on the committee in some previous time, (iii) faculty member did not serve on the committee last year (in order to give other faculty a chance to serve), (iv) Liberal Arts and Math/Science are represented somewhat proportionately, and (iv) within Liberal Arts, there is a spread across disciplines. The following faculty were selected:

Mary Conway, Physical Education and Athletics
Denise Bushnell, Business and Technology
Sandra Montgomery, Library
Margaret Williams, Liberal Arts
Winsome Jackson, Liberal Arts
Carolyn Angleton, Liberal Arts
Alex Amigo, Sciences and Mathematics
Mary Pattengale, Sciences and Mathematics

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C. Request from SCFA member regarding dues

An SCFA member requested that his or her dues be sent to a charity instead of SCFA. Sims motioned that this member's request be approved; Spencer seconded the motion. Those who voted in favor were Cooper, Sims, Martinis, and Spencer. Those who voted against the motion were Barbee, Linthicum, Jones, and Medeiros. The motion failed.

IV. Open session ended at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laurel Gardner
SCFA Secretary

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