

TO: LPC Senators and Faculty
FROM: Academic Senate President Melissa Korber
DATE: March 15, 2016
RE: Talking Points for March Division Meetings

Hi Everyone,

Here are some discussion items and some information items for the Senate portion of the division meeting.

1. Academic Freedom Statement for Catalog

In order to comply with the accreditation recommendations, Las Positas College must include an Academic Fairness Statement in the college catalog. After a discussion about academic freedom, including the policy in the Faculty Association contract, the Senate created the following statement (in italics):

Academic Freedom protects teaching and learning by encouraging the free flow of ideas.

Academic Freedom exists to promote freedom to

- inquire*
- teach and express ideas or facts without constraint*
- engage in intellectual debate*
- develop, nurture, and exchange ideas and opinions*
- encourage creativity in academic endeavors*

Academic Freedom ensures freedom from

- the imposition of political, religious, or philosophical beliefs of others*
- reprisal*
- censorship*

Academic Freedom carries the responsibilities implicit in all freedoms: truth, honesty, integrity, and respect. Academic Freedom violations shall have the benefit of due process.

A complete statement of faculty Academic Freedom rights is in Article 23 of "Agreement Between Chabot-Las Positas Community College District and Chabot-Las Positas Faculty Association." CLPCCD Board Policy 4030, "Academic Freedom," details the District's commitment to Academic Freedom.

Please discuss this in division. The Faculty Association's attorney is also reviewing this statement and may provide additional revisions. Since the catalog deadline is approaching, the Academic Senate will vote on this at the next meeting. Thanks to Senators Marilyn Marquis and Julia McGuirk for taking the lead on this.

2. General Education Statement for the Catalog

After reviewing the existing catalog General Education Statement, the Academic Senate declined to make major changes, instead revising one paragraph of the statement. The full GE Statement is attached.

Existing Statement:

General education is accepted as a significant part of the program of studies in American colleges and universities. The term general education refers to a program of studies that introduces the student to areas of study that mature the mind, enrich the family, and widen social and ethnic relationships. They develop skills and aptitudes that can aid the student in furthering personal and social usefulness and in living in the environment as thinking and contributing citizens.

Revised Statement:

General education is a significant part of the program of studies in American colleges and universities. The term *general education* refers to a program of studies that introduces the student to a broad spectrum of academic disciplines that mature the mind and enrich personal, social, and cultural relationships. Students develop skills and aptitudes that prepare them to contribute to and participate in society and the democratic process.

Again, please discuss this in division. Again, thanks to Senators Marilyn Marquis and Julia McGuirk for taking the lead on this. We would like to approve the statement at the next meeting.

3. Open Educational Resources

Members of the student senate presented a resolution that they had recently approved in support of seeking state funding for Open Educational Resources (which are free). Attached is a copy of the resolution. In addition, below is a link provided by Scott Miner to the 50 lower division courses currently listed as eligible under the California Open Online Library for Education (COOL4Ed).

<http://cool4ed.org/courseshowcase.html>

We would need commitment from faculty in order to pursue state funding. The next steps would be to pass or join in the student resolution and to help develop a plan for the college.

- a. If you are interested in using Open Educational Resources for a class you teach, please tell your lead Senator.
- b. If you are interested in serving on a task force to develop a plan for the college, please let your lead Senator and me know.

4. Open Education Initiative Task Force

A district-wide task force is considering the statewide Open Education Initiative. This includes possibly adopting Canvas and general participation in the initiative. The Faculty Association is also looking at the impact on faculty work in relationship to these issues.

On March 9, the LPC Academic Senate considered a Chabot Academic Senate resolution opposing the district adoption of Canvas before the task force made a recommendation. The LPC Academic Senate declined to take any action until the task force makes a recommendation. The Senate may be interested in a presentation of Canvas if the task force recommends it. The task force will report further on this in April.

5. Library Hours in Summer

The shorter summer sessions this year create some new challenges for campus resources such as the library. The library seeks feedback from faculty about desired hours of coverage this summer. The plan was originally for three hours of coverage per day, Monday through Thursday. Is this enough? Should additional coverage of six or nine hours per day be considered?

6. Equal Employment Opportunity Plan

Attached please find a draft of the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan sent to the Academic Senate last week. A task force is working on the plan. Please let me know of any feedback.

7. Senate Election Task Force

The Academic Senate is preparing for its annual election of officers. If you are interested in running for office, please contact a member of the Senate Election Task Force, Marilyn Marquis, Jill Carbone, or Angela Amaya.

8. Staff Appreciation Celebration

The Academic Senate is beginning to plan the annual Staff Appreciation Celebration. Please let your Senate representative know if you would like to help plan the celebration. We need representation from all divisions.

9. Faculty Needed for Scholarship Task Force

We still need some volunteers to serve on the Scholarship Task Force, which reads scholarship applications. Please let me know if you would like to serve.

10. Senate Approvals

The Senate has approved the following items since the last Division Meeting:

March 9, 2016 Action Items: None

March 9, 2016 Consent Items

Counselor Hiring Committee – Joel Gagnon added
Curriculum Specialist Hiring Committee – Jim Ott added
Equivalency Committee – Heike Gecox
Curriculum Approval - None

February 24, 2016 Action Items: None

February 24, 2016 Consent Items

Anthropology Hiring Committee: Tom Orf removed
English Hiring Committee: Maureen O’Herin added
Curriculum Specialist Hiring Committee: Craig Kutil and LaVaughn Hart
4th Academic Dean Hiring Committee: Howard Blumenfeld, Ana Del Aguilla, L.W. Hasten, Tina Inzerilla, Bill Komanetsky

Student Scholarships Approval: Three student scholarships - \$300 each
Curriculum Approval—Curriculum from the February 22, 2016, Curriculum Committee Meeting