You have no doubt noticed that there are further revisions to the repeatability and repetition Administrative Procedures included in the information section of your agenda this month. These will be much more easily understood once all the track changes go away. Changes have been fast and furious over the last year and we are finally catching up. You will note that there are three: AP 4225 – Repetition – Non-Repeatable Courses, AP 4227 – Repeatable Courses, and AP 4228 – Course Repetition – Significant Lapse of Time.

AP 4225 talks about repetition of Non-Repeatable courses which I realize sounds like a misnomer, but take my word – it is correct. There are specific instances where a student can repeat a course primarily in cases of substandard grades. Students may also petition to repeat if they require legally mandated training, there have been significant changes in industry or licensure standards, or for extenuating circumstances.

AP 4227 – Repeatable Courses outlines the limitations of repeatability that you have been hearing about over the last year and then outlines more specifically legally mandated courses, activity courses, courses for students with disabilities and cooperative occupational work experience courses.

AP 4228 – Course Repetition – Significant Lapse of Time outlines the circumstances under which a student may repeat a course they have already passed three or more years ago. There must be a recency requirement at another institution of higher education where the student seeks to transfer or a recency prerequisite for a course or program at College of Marin.

With the changes in repeatability regulations over the last couple of years, the performing arts departments have been scrambling to work out ways to assemble casts and ensembles for their many productions and concerts. In particular the Music Department is having trouble putting together a complete orchestra as many community musicians are out of available repeats. However, playing in an orchestra or other ensemble is necessary for music majors who want to transfer and having the opportunity to play with more experienced musicians is of tremendous value to these students. With that in mind, the Academic Senate has put together a revision of Board Policy 4070 to allow auditing. We have also created an Administrative Procedure that clearly outlines under what circumstances this will be allowed and how it will be handled. These should be on your March agenda.

I also wanted to mention that I went to the Accreditation Institute on February 7th and 8th and attended a number of interesting and informative general and breakout sessions. Our very own Trustee Treanor presented on Standard IV and Board. I would like to report that she did an excellent job and represented College of Marin well.

I would also like to thank all those at College of Marin who contributed to our Midterm Report – in particular, Barbara David, without whom we would be lost, and to all who have helped us to continue meeting the accreditation standards so that we have NO more recommendations!

--Sara McKinnon, Academic Senate President