Meeting Minutes for March 31, 2011

Curriculum Committee

Subcommittee of the Academic Senate

Present: Rinetta Early, Cari Torres, Becky Brown, Mary Pieper-Warren, A. Joe Ritchie, Joanna Pinckney, Rebecca Beal, Bonnie Bornstein, Chris Schultz, Caterina Labriola, Nanda Schorske, Jim Arnold

Absent: Paul Smith, Maula Allen, Sara McKinnon

Resource: Kim O’Gara

Topics Discussed

1. The group discussed the rollout of the new distance education program, ‘Moodle’. The Distance Education taskforce will soon have a draft of the course outline form for the Committee to review and approve. It then can be made available in the on-line data base. The question of how quickly and comprehensively all on-line courses should be updated with the new form will need to be addressed.

2. The group was reminded that ‘Discipline Review’ was discontinued when Program Review was developed. Much valuable insight was gained through Discipline Review. The Committee will discuss the possibility of reinstating it in the future. More discussion is necessary.

3. The Committee had an extended discussion regarding the future role of curriculum review as a result of the budget and the Chancellor’s Office redefining the priorities for the Community Colleges. The issue centers on the reduction of activity courses and reducing repeatability of courses. Although COM has a different funding model than other colleges, there will be an increasing movement to focus on transfer, career programs, basic skills and ESL. This has implications for lifelong learning students and the courses they take. There is also the issue of reducing the number of courses that serve as electives but are not part of a major or required course in a career program. This general topic will be an important one to revisit in the next months.

Courses Approved

1. ART 186
2. JOUN 110
3. JOUN 122