FACULTY SENATE MINUTES JANUARY 3, 2005
2-3:05, PALANAKILA 117

Present:  Paul Briggs, Mari Nakamura, Ryan Perreira, Peggy Regentine, Dave Ringuette, Jean Shibuya, Evelyn Sugihara, Aileen Yim, Floyd McCoy, Ben Moffat, Laurie Tomchak (recorder)

1. No minutes from the preceding meeting (December 7, 2004) were submitted.

2. Old Business

   A. Additions to/Deletions from Ballot. Since Language Arts has voted to rescind the expansion of courses eligible for the Oral Communications requirement, it was moved and seconded that this proviso be deleted from the ballot. This motion passed. L. Tomchak will prepare the ballot, and it will be due Friday the 14th of January at 4 PM.

   B. +/- Grade  The plus minus grade is optional at Manoa--Do we want it to be optional at WCC? There was some concern about 3.7 being an A minus on the plus/minus system. It was pointed out that 3.7 would be about 92% on a 4 point scale (although there is an A+ at Manoa it does not count more than 4 points). Members were asked to discuss this in the departments.

   C. The ballot for the foundations board should be worded as follows: "Should WCC have an on-campus foundations board to certify that WCC's foundations courses meet Manoa's hallmarks?"

   D. Some members expressed dissatisfaction about the retention of the N grade in light of LCC eliminating theirs. Ben said that he had already forwarded the results to the Chancellor. It can be taken up again if necessary.

3. New Business

   A. It was moved and seconded to invite Karla Jones to visit Faculty Senate to talk about Middle School. In the discussion that followed the motion, some faculty thought that such a school would lessen WCC's academic standing. It has been hard enough to overcome the stigma of proximity to the State Hospital, without increasing people's perception of community colleges as "a continuation of high school." Also, some high school students (it is rumored) are taking English 100 rather than AP English, so they can get college level credit without having to take the AP exam. The motion to invite Karla passed.

   B. Mari's Dec. 7 proposal to have a workshop on Special Needs Accommodation was discussed. Members were asked to take the issue to the departments.
C. University Center: It was asked what the benefits to the campus would be of such a center. The main impetus behind it is that students want it. UHWO had some classes at WCC before, but they didn't attract enough enrollment and were discontinued. The classes would be offered in afternoons and evenings when our classrooms are traditionally unoccupied. The originating institutions (UHWO or Manoa) would pay for some of the infrastructure (electricity, etc.) but would retain the fees.

4. Reports
Meeting with Administration (Ben)
Angela is optimistic about the biennial budget. There was some follow up on student requests for child care. The type most preferred was drop-off, which is the least profitable and hardest to administer. The next meeting of College Council will be January 14th at 1:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05.