

VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
District Council of Administrative Services (DCAS)

Thursday, February 19, 2009

NOTES

Attendees: John al-Amin, Dominga Chavez, P. Scott Corbett, Debra Cronin, Ray Di Guilio, Sue Johnson, David Keebler, Deborah LaTeer, Mary Anne McNeil, Darlene Melby, Karen Osher, Peter Sezzi, Margaret Tennant

Absent: Connie Jenkins

The meeting began at approximately 8:40 a.m in the Multi-purpose Room at VCCCD.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The notes from the December 18, 2009 meeting were approved by consensus.

STATUS OF BUDGET

Sue announced that the state approved a budget, although it was not yet signed by the Governor. It is an 18-month budget which includes the remainder of FY 2008-09 (mid-year impacts) and FY 2009-10. Sue briefly outlined some of the elements of the budget.

There will be a special election on May 19 with several propositions/initiatives requiring voter approval, including securitization of the lottery, spending cap legislation, and re-direction of two previously-approved propositions. The budget assumes that all the initiatives will be passed. Failure of any of the initiatives will put the approved budget out of balance and most likely cause a mid-year cut, perhaps as early as July 2009.

There is no COLA included in the budget. There is 3% growth, which is a huge sign that the legislature realizes how key community colleges are to the rebound of the economy. We will qualify for slightly less, and that will not partially fund the FTES we are already generating, no new.

The district received a "heads-up" regarding a revised P-1 Apportionment. There is a \$76 million deficit in property tax revenue and student fees. That equates to approximately \$2.5-\$2.75 million for VCCCD. Formal notification should be received by the end of the week. Any shortfall in revenue due to the P-1 adjustment will be covered by the Revenue Shortfall Contingency, already set-aside for that purpose.

BUDGET ALLOCATION MODEL MODIFICATIONS – DISCUSSION

Sue reviewed the discussion and decision of December's DCAS meeting about using an average of current year actual and future year goal productivity numbers to be used in the Allocation Model.

John al-Amin addressed his concerns about using "goal" instead of only "actual". He felt that the facilities at Oxnard College cannot accommodate large lecture classes and, therefore, prevents higher productivity numbers. He stated that eliminating goal may result in more mathematical equity.

Others explained that the productivity numbers take into consideration the restrictions of class/lecture rooms and other facility constraints at each campus. The productivity factors are driven in part by facility limitations, program mix, and student preparedness. The class schedule funding section of the model also takes into consideration full-time/part-time faculty ratios, internal organization and faculty longevity in addition to the productivity and FTES factors.

Ray DiGuilio expressed support of the proposed changes to the current Model (average of actual and goal). He felt the strengths of the Model far outweigh the weaknesses. He reminded the group that DCAS is required to review the Model annually and, if necessary, make modifications.

Peter Sezzi also expressed support of the model with the proposed changes. He reiterated the importance of integrity in the goal-setting process. He also suggested that the goal may not always be an increase. Based on the economy, fee increases or other elements beyond the college's control, the goal may be a decrease from the prior year. The majority of the committee affirmed their agreement on this issue.

The integrity of the model and its elements were discussed in detail. It was agreed that the integrity must be preserved and if the model resulted in financial difficulty for a college for this next year, other options needed to be considered rather than changing the elements of the model itself beyond what we agreed to be appropriate. Sue reminded the group that Transition Funding is not off the table. It will be revisited once more when the impacts of the new budget are known. Allocation simulations will be brought to DCAS in March, and we will begin that discussion.

A roll-call vote was taken of all present DCAS members. All members in attendance supported the allocation model changes as proposed. They are as follows:

- *Productivity* – use a 1 year actual/1 year goal (rather than the current three-year moving average of actual).
- *Growth* – FTES (by college) will be funded for actual growth only up to a maximum of district funded growth

After receiving unanimous support from DCAS, it was moved that the changes will be forwarded to the Board for approval at the March meeting.

The budget allocation simulations for the March meeting will assume the changes.

BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

A draft of the Budget Assumptions for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year was distributed and discussed. A few minor changes were suggested and will be made. The FY 2009-10 Budget Assumptions will be presented at the March Budget, Audit, Foundation Relations Committee meeting and to the full Board in April.

COST SAVING MEASURES

Sue asked the group how we should solicit ideas on cost saving measures. Each college campus community has already been asked to provide ideas for cost saving measures. It was agreed that, rather than doing a district-wide solicitation, we should use the college process and any ideas that could be implemented across the district should be forwarded to the district and will be discussed at DOC.

MyVCCCD DCAS GROUP

A DCAS Group has been established in *MyVCCCD*. DCAS Members have been provided instructions on how to request membership in the group. Sometime in the future, meeting notices and agendas will be posted on the portal.

NEXT MEETING

March 19, 2009, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:25 a.m.