

## Edison State College Faculty Senate

### Minutes

Friday, April 6, 2012  
Nursing Building AA-177  
1:00 p.m.

Type of Meeting: Lee Campus Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Prof. Don Ransford, Lee Campus Faculty Senate President

#### I. Call to order – Opening Remarks from the Senate President

Many members let Professor Ransford know that they would not be here today.

#### II. Approval of Minutes from September 2, 2011

Motion to approve minutes. Seconded. Motion passed

#### III. Election of Officers for 2012-2013

##### A. Slate of Officers

President: Prof. Don Ransford

Vice-President: Prof. Marty Ambrose

Secretary: Dr. Catherine Wilkins

Motion to approved the slate of officers. Seconded. Passed.

#### IV. New business

##### A. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Across the Disciplines

This is the new push. The governor has mandated that STEM programs get special funding. The Edison Charter High School is a STEM school.

It was recommended that we speak with Matt Holliday, our government liaison. We need to be proactive and aware of what may come down. Are there conferences or workshops in how to incorporate science and math into all curriculum.

Suggestion that the first year experience course be made a STEM-oriented.

Maybe a reduction of the total hours of gen ed. Gen ed changes are coming down from the State Legislature. We need to be aware.

##### B. Shared Governance and the Structure of the Faculty Senate

Brought up previously. This summer, Professor Ransford will look at possible models for the Senate. Shared governance – be proactive – have two or three different models. They are trying to define what shared governance is.

Dr. Harrel was asked, last meeting, what shared governance is. She did not answer. We do not know what shared governance really is.

Everything is in such flux; be prepared as much as possible.

Staff – is there any way that we can see if there is a possibility to share with staff.

Faculty member on Board of Trustees – to be more informed.

First concept of the model is that there would be “The Senate.” There should be a president of the Faculty Senate, and vice presidents from each campus. This would unify us as a faculty.

We need to keep our eyes open to see where the next president will want to do.

District meetings – Professor Ransford received criticism for calling so many district meetings this year. Perhaps attitudes come from baggage from previous years – from being left out or feeling marginalized. It may take changing people’s mindsets. We have one union. With the shared governance model, we need to be more united.

President Goodlett could not come to our last meeting, so he was invited to this meeting. Collier had already invited him, so he was there.

Chairs of Standing Committees should bring things to faculty senate to vote. That would give everyone a say. Shared governance. At the fall meeting, we discussed this. With district meetings, there is so much going on.

A new president could help with that. In district meetings, we could vote.

A recommendation might be to expand meeting times. Limited amounts of time, more accountability – an additional hour would help.

### C. Equality Edison

Information – has been started and will be looked at – looks at equality, but expands beyond to nondiscriminatory practices to under-represented groups. We need to do more work and more research.

Last April, there was a four-step process proposed.

Other new business

Dr. Swanson asked that we thank the outgoing secretary, Dr. Caroline Seefchak, for her work this year on the board of the faculty senate.

Also, thank you to Officers Professor Don Ransford and Professor Marty Ambrose for all their work.

Textbooks – there is a policy that textbooks are not a “free-for-all,” and that there are to be core textbooks for each subject area. The policy was given to department chairs.

V. Adjournment

Submitted by Caroline Seefchak, Ph.D.