Rancho Santiago Community College District

SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 10TH, 2012

MINUTES

A Special District Curriculum and Instruction Council Meeting of the Rancho Santiago Community College District was scheduled to be held after Accreditation Institute.

Present: M. Barembaum, R. Hicks, B. Jaros, A. Mora, L. Rose, C. Rutan

Guests: None

Absent: L. Aguilera, P. Canzona, M. Porter, M. Roe

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

I.   COMPUTER SKILLS AND APPLICATIONS REQUIREMENT

The District Curriculum and Instruction Council discussed the history and nature of the Computer Proficiency Requirement on the local General Education pattern (Plan A). Over three (3) years have passed since Santiago Canyon College (SCC) initiated the removal of the Computer Skills and Applications Requirement from Plan A.

In 2008, SCC's Curriculum and Instruction Council (CIC) voted to remove the requirement. Santa Ana College (SAC) did not initiate a vote in 2008 to remove the requirement. The District Curriculum and Instruction Council convened in 2008 to discuss this matter. In 2009, SAC voted to keep the Computer Skills and Applications Requirement. The District Curriculum and Instruction Council assembled a task force to investigate the requirement and provide recommendations as it was stuck in a stalemate. SAC convened the task force and Bonnie Slager and Leigh Ann Unger were added to the task force.

As of January 2011, the task force had not accomplished the goal of investigating the requirement and had not provided recommendations. A new task force was assembled with the goals 1) identifying the skills criteria required for proficiency in computer applications in courses and programs; and 2) preparing a skills test that would demonstrate proficiency of the requirement. The skills test had to be validated statistically. Following the presentation of the new task force's research, both colleges were scheduled to vote on the removal of the requirement in fall 2011.

Both college councils voted on the requirement in December 2011. SCC voted *not to approve* the removal of the Computer Skills and Applications requirement, and SAC voted *to approve* the removal of the Computer Skills and Applications requirement. Because of the cost associated with validating the skills test proposed by the new task force, both council chairs decided the requirement would be adjudicated by the District Curriculum and Instruction Council.

The District Curriculum and Instruction council discussed concerns regarding the Computer Skills and Applications requirement. If this requirement remained as part of the local General Education pattern, it was decided that all courses and programs would have to be re-evaluated and no grandfathering of curriculum would be allowed using the skills criteria, as established by the task force. Also, statistical validation of the exam must demonstrate proper assessment of the

skills defined. Concerns regarding the ability to accurately assess the skills, to pass the exam at both campuses and to allot more time and resources were discussed. However, time limitations, which would impact the creation, approval and validation of a replacement exam by fall 2012, were cited.

A motion was made to remove the Computer Skills and Applications requirement from the local General Education pattern from both college catalogs effective fall 2012. The motion was seconded and passed.

II.   COMMON CURRICULUM AND BP6117

The District Curriculum and Instruction Council agreed to reschedule a discussion in March 2012. The date will be announced by curriculum chairs when the next special meeting is scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.