

# Senate Bytes

Antelope Valley College Academic Senate Newsletter

October 2005

## Senate Executive and Faculty Leaders Retreat



On October 7, 2005, the Senate Executive and Senate CoChairs and Coordinators discussed major issues that affect the faculty. On top of the list was the importance of faculty involvement in the development of Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). We recognize, due to our last accreditation recommendation, that this needs to be a major issue for this year's Senate business. At the Retreat we also discussed the importance of reliable technology for our classrooms and how we can recommend that all classrooms be equipped as smart classrooms.

Distance Education is now being seriously discussed with the taskforce and involves many faculty members across campus. Ed Beyer, Senate First Vice President, along with Sharon Lowry, Academic Affairs Vice President are actively pursuing how we can standardize and increase the number of online class offerings.

Lastly, the Academic Senate Operating Procedures Handbook was reviewed to identify areas that need to be updated. The last major revision occurred in 1999-2000. Revisions and modifications to the constitution will be taken to Senate and faculty for approval during Spring semester. Cochairs and Coordinators of standing committees of the Senate were requested to review job descriptions and make any recommendations to the Senate for revision.

It was agreed that the retreat was very informative and helpful and we will continue to meet at least once a semester.



Deadline dates for grant proposal submission:

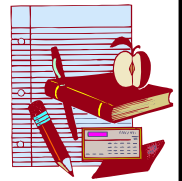
1<sup>st</sup> date—November 14, 2005

2<sup>nd</sup> date—January 9, 2006

3<sup>rd</sup> date—March 13, 2006

The Senate will consider semester, year long, and summer proposals.

## College Organization Status



Everyone is asking, "What is happening with our reorganization, is it still a go?" The Mutual Agreement Council (MAC) has been working on agreed language for the board procedure revisions. We agree that we now have a procedure that we feel is strong and would like to try it out as we rethink Student Services and Academic Affairs. The proposed procedure has been taken to Coordinating Council (CCC) and Senate for review. Please contact your Senate Representative for a copy of AP 3100 on Organization Structure, for a closer look into what is being recommended through MAC.

## Senate Grant



The call is out for grant proposals! The Senate Grant Program established by the Antelope Valley College Academic Senate in 1999 encourages and supports faculty in developing projects that are innovative and facilitate student success and student learning outcomes. The projects support learning and retention of students and typically do not adapt to the requirements of the staff development committee or other funding sources. This year, we have received funding from the District (\$5,000) and Equal Employment Opportunity Committee (EEO) (\$2,000).

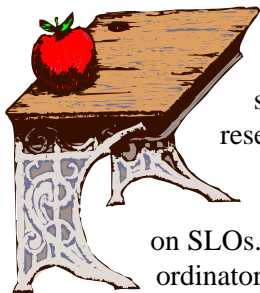
## Institutional Learning Outcomes

Strategic Planning and Budget Council (SPBC) has just approved the college Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs). They have also developed a glossary of terms, so that we have a common language. Based now on the ILOs, SPBC is now revising how budget priorities will be considered and the assessment outcomes for making budget decisions. Senate Representatives will soon have more detail into the process, once SPBC has completed its process



## Student Learning Outcomes

Senate has been having dialogue on what Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) are and how they may be viewed differently across disciplines and divisions. Senate Representatives have been given articles to review and should be sharing them with their representative groups. The Academic Senate and Strategic Budget and Planning Council held a joint workshop on SLOs. Bonnie Suderman, Assessment Coordinator from Bakersfield College, presented the workshop on October 14, 2005. The three hour presentation was videotaped and is now available for checkout through the IMC. Your Senate Representative has a copy of the PowerPoint handout for your use. We encourage you to take the time to review the presentation, since it was very informative in helping us move forward in the establishment of SLOs. Bonnie will be returning to campus and will be offering a faculty training workshop at the November 17 Senate meeting. This meeting will be a joint workshop between the Senate Representatives and Academic Policies & Procedures representatives. At our last Senate meeting, the Senate agreed to establish a Senate Advisory Taskforce to assist in the development of SLOs and their assessment methods.



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**Academic Senate meets the  
1st and 3rd Thursday of each month  
at 3 p.m. in room SSV 151.**

## Faculty Academy

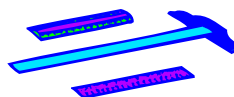
Terry Rezek, the former Faculty Academy Coordinator, gave a Senate report in early September and met with Sharon Lowry Vice President of Academic Affairs, Patricia A. Sandoval, Senate President, and Ed Beyer, Senate First Vice President to discuss the status of the program. Terry indicated that there did not seem to be much interest and recommended that the program be reviewed in terms of faculty needs. The Executive after much discussion with the Senate as a whole, decided to take his recommendation. The Executive is now developing a survey to assess what will be our professional programs.



now developing a faculty's input into helpful in all of development programs.

## Palmdale Campus Programs

The Senate has been working with the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sharon Lowry and Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Rosa Hall in identifying educational programs and services for the new Palmdale campus. Your Senate Representative has a copy of the recommendations for a three-part phase in. A meeting is being coordinated with key individuals from the Palmdale community to identify what specific and unique programs should be established that would better support that part of our service area. As more information comes to the Senate, Senate Representatives will be sharing with you that information. We encourage you to voice your opinion and also any recommendations that you feel the Senate should consider.



## Program Review

During our Accreditation Self Study and Accreditation Site Visit, the Program Review cycle had been temporarily suspended. Neal Weisenberger, Program Review Coordinator, presented to the Senate a new timeframe to get departments and division back into their six-year cycle. Several departments/divisions are in the process of a self-study and what is most important to recognize is that they are now developing, assessing, and incorporating Student Learning Outcomes into their self study.



## Accreditation Progress Report

The Steering Committee has now agreed to a process to proceed in examining our six recommendations. The Co-chairs for each standard have now identified key individuals who will begin to identify additional documentation that reflects any progress made in these areas. This term they will conduct their review and begin to do some initial writing. It is anticipated that by mid-spring a draft will be developed and soon after, an opportunity for the campus to review and offer feedback. Minutes of the Steering Committee, as well as the recommendations, can be found on the intranet.



The Senate Bytes is a monthly newsletter of the Antelope Valley College Academic Senate.  
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