



# COLLEGE OF MARIN

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## ACADEMIC SENATE

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May 2010

Four years ago, when Patrick Kelley and I took over as president and vice president of the Academic Senate, this college was in grave danger of losing its accreditation. Our problems with WASC were in large part a result of work we had not done that required the leadership of our senate.

Most of us on the senate were not sure what a Program Review was  
We had not updated our Education Master Plan since the 1990s  
Our Policies and Procedures dated back to the early 1980s  
We did not have institutionalized Student Learning Outcomes  
We had no Strategic Initiatives and no Integrated Planning  
We had governance committees but some never met

We had a lot of work to do to right our little ship and the senate, working closely with our faculty, set out to accomplish the near-impossible.

- The senate prepared an electronic template for program reviews and our faculty completed over 50 reviews in less than two months
- Under the leadership of faculty co-chairs, the Ed Planning Committee wrote a stellar Education Master Plan
- The senate's Academic Standards Committee worked with a college-wide task force and began rewriting our policies and procedures
- The senate's SLO facilitator populated a Wiki Space with the SLOs from all our programs
- We prepared our Strategic Initiatives and wrote our Integrated Planning Manual
- We populated our governance committees and saw to it that faculty took a leadership role in committee work

All of this helped save our accreditation but beyond accreditation requirements, I had a vision of what a faculty senate should be and I wanted that for our senate.

I wanted our senate to be known throughout the state for its strength and influence and for its leadership. I wanted a senate that protects the academic interests of students and faculty and champions the high standards we set for ourselves as educators and scholars. The senate set out to achieve this by using faculty led research to guide college-wide decision making.

Our research has been used to reorganize the college around student pathways and we have developed a process, through an MOU with the district, to prepare discipline level Blue Prints that inform a college-wide master schedule. Recently, the senate's research stopped short an effort to downsize the new Academic Center – a move that would have left us with far fewer classrooms than we need. Our model of senate-led, research based decision making has brought attention and respect to our faculty and to our academic programs. Our senate members sit on state-wide committees for SLOs, basic skills, standards and practices, and governance. We are invited to do presentations on our governance process and program review to state-wide, national and international education groups.

Our senate has become a standard for California community colleges. We are known throughout the state, emulated and respected and we did this by taking a leadership role here at COM. Our crowning achievement is that we brought the focus of the senate back, and very sharply, to the academic and professional standards set by the faculty. It is the senate's legal mandate to guard these standards and now the entire college community - from our classified colleagues to the Board, recognizes our right, our mission, and our part in this process. We have shown this community that we can make gains, often very hard fought gains, through a data driven, reasoned, collaborative approach that protects the faculty's academic and professional primacy. We have the senate I envisioned.

I promised my fellow senators I would only serve two terms as president, mostly because that is what George did. George Washington chose to only serve two terms because he feared the tyranny of long-term leaders and he missed his farm. I agree – not about the farm; I miss being a teacher. After four years, I am going back to my students, my classroom, to research and writing, and to developing Learning Communities.

I leave the senate in capable hands, with proven leadership that represents our young faculty and speaks to what this college can and will be in the years to come.

Thank you Walter, Robert, Michael, Derek  
Thank you Ron, Blaze, Sara  
Thank you Patrick

Thank you for your support, your dogged determination to do what's best for students, and your courage.

And thank you to all of you who put your faith in us these past four years and worked so hard to secure our accreditation and gain back the respect of this community. I am and always will be immensely proud of this faculty and of our Academic Senate.

Yolanda Bellisimo  
President, Academic Senate

**FACULTY AND STAFF WHO CONTRIBUTED  
TO PROGRAM REVIEW IN 2009-2010**

**Program Reviewers:**

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|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Sandy Boyd              | 39. Frank Cosby         |
| 2. Dave Egert              | 40. Don Foss            |
| 3. Rossana Pagani          | 41. Kathy Freschi       |
| 4. Chester Arthur          | 42. Michael Dougan      |
| 5. Rick Hall               | 43. Bonnie Borenstein   |
| 6. George Hritz            | 44. Ron Gaiz            |
| 7. Ron Palmer              | 45. Carl Cox            |
| 8. Barbara Bonander        | 46. Gaylene Urquhart    |
| 9. Michael Timmel          | 47. Joan Risch          |
| 10. Paul da Silva          | 48. Steve Peterson      |
| 11. Becky Brown            | 49. Irina Roderick      |
| 12. Jamie Deneris          | 50. Laurie Ordin        |
| 13. Aftab Enty             | 51. Cathy White-Lambert |
| 14. Mike Ransom            | 52. Andy Haber          |
| 15. Patrick Kelly          | 53. Steve Brown         |
| 16. Colleen Marlow         | 54. Jon Gudmundsson     |
| 17. Deborah Levin          | 55. Carol Lacy          |
| 18. Theo Fung              | 56. James Gonzalez      |
| 19. Letta Hlavachek        | 57. Derek Wilson        |
| 20. Tom Holyub             | 58. Tara Flandreau      |
| 21. Kristen Acredolo       | 59. Michael Irvine      |
| 22. Wendy Walsh            | 60. Joanna Pinckney     |
| 23. Blaze Woodlief         | 61. Joe Mueller         |
| 24. Kristi Kuhn            | 62. Sara McKinnon       |
| 25. Grace Hom              | 63. Sara Lefkowitz      |
| 26. Ingrid Kelly           | 64. Jeannie Langinger   |
| 27. W. Allen Taylor        | 65. Kathleen Smyth      |
| 28. David White            | 66. Steve Berringer     |
| 29. Robin Jackson          | 67. George Adams        |
| 30. James Dunn             | 68. Yolanda Bellisimo   |
| 31. Peggy Dodge            | 69. Walter Turner       |
| 32. Shaquam Edwards        | 70. Hank Fearnley       |
| 33. Don Florence           | 71. Roz Hartman         |
| 34. Erik Dunmire           | 72. Matt Markovich      |
| 35. Windee Cottle          | 73. Susan Andrien       |
| 36. John Marmysz           | 74. Nanda Schorske      |
| 37. John Sutherland        | 75. Jim Arnold          |
| 38. Fernando Agudelo-Silva |                         |
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## COMMITTEES THAT CONTRIBUTED TO PROGRAM REVIEW

### **PRAC:**

Nick Chang  
Ed Buckley  
Peggy Isozaki  
Nanda Schorske  
David Snyder  
Yolanda Bellisimo  
Ron Gaiz  
Sara Lefkowitz  
Sara McKinnon  
Windee Cottle  
Michele Martinisi  
Tom Burke  
Jon Gudmundsson  
Mike Irvine  
Nathaniel Parker

### **Instructional Equipment**

Nick Chang  
Jon Gudmundsson  
Andy Haber  
David Erlenheim  
Gregory Grist  
Mark Gorrell  
Rose Jacques  
Susan Andrien  
Arthur Lutz

### **Tech Committee**

Bob Balestreri  
Frank Crosby  
Harriet Eskildsen  
Kathleen Smyth  
Marshall Northcott  
Michael Irvine  
Alice L. Dieli

### **Ongoing Budget Subgroup**

David Snyder  
Nanda Schorske  
Jon Gudmundsson  
Peggy Isozaki  
Mike Irvine

### **Five Pathways**

Robert Kennedy  
Yolanda Bellisimo

### **SLO Coordinators**

Sara McKinnon  
Becky Brown

### **Student Access and Success**

Chris Schulz  
Patricia Torres  
Greta Siegel  
Becky Reetz  
Karen Koenig

### **Curriculum**

Chris Schulz  
A.Joe Ritchie  
Kristi Kuhn  
Rebecca Beal  
Sara McKinnon  
Karen Robinson  
Rossana Pagani  
Maula Allen  
Becky Brown  
Ron Palmer  
George Hritz  
Joanna Pinckney  
Cari Torres  
Kim O'Gara

### **Facilities**

V-Anne Chernok  
Bob Thompson  
Erik Dunmire  
Fernando Agudelo-Silva  
Heather Holliday  
John Rodriguez  
Mercedes Ramjerdi  
Nicholas Minton

### **Program Review Committee**

Sara McKinnon  
Chris Schulz  
Erik Dunmire  
V-Anne Chernok  
Blaze Woodlief  
Yolanda Bellisimo  
Becky Brown

### **Our Self-Study**

Blaze Woodlief and David Snyder should be thanked by all of us for the excellent job they have done organizing teams for each standard, overseeing and rewriting each standard, bugging those of us responsible for each standard to make sure we got our stuff done, and tracking down documents for endnotes. The team leader for a self-study team I served on in Southern California made the comment about a poorly done self-study that, "No one slept with this document." Someone has to live a self study end to end to make it strong and convincing and to make the institution look good. David and Blaze have done that and they deserve our gratitude.

### **Curriculum Committee**

Thanks to all the faculty members who worked so hard to update curriculum this year and a special thank you to the Curriculum Committee. At last count, 200 courses have been forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval this year and 180 additional courses are in the approval process. The Curriculum Committee will be meeting this week and will continue to meet for tech review all through the summer.

### **New Senate Officers**

At its last meeting of the year, the Academic Senate elected new officers for the 2010 to 2012 Senate session:

Sara McKinnon	President
Derek Wilson	Vice President
Becky Brown	Secretary
Yolanda Bellisimo	Treasurer

### **Members of the Senate for the coming year:**

#### Full Time

Yolanda Bellisimo  
Becky Brown  
Bonnie Borenstein  
Michael Dougan  
Rinetta Early  
Arthur Lutz  
Sara McKinnon  
Joe Mueller  
John Sutherland  
Derek Wilson  
Blaze Woodlief

#### Part Time Credit

Robert Ovetz  
Meg Pasquel  
Radica Portello

#### Part Time Non-Credit

Erika Harkins

### **End of Year Awards**

At the end of year luncheon, the following staff and faculty were honored by the Academic Senate.

#### Outstanding Awardees:

Staff Member: Joan Rinaldi  
Community Ed Faculty: Milt Hain  
Non Credit Faculty: Sharon Carlson  
Part Time Faculty: Kristen Hren  
Full Time Faculty: Ron Gaiz

Congratulations! to these hard working and deserving members of the college community.