Chairperson Earl Selby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Jean Goodnow introduced the topic, “Progress and Inclusion at the Senate”, describing how the new AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program) accreditation process is helping the College move toward its new vision and adapt to a changing world. The College shared governance process develops consensus, a vested interest in the college’s success, and empowerment built on trust, respect and authenticity.

Jane Knochel, Emily Heil and David Redman described the current proposal of the Ad Hoc Committee for Support Staff Inclusion in the Senate. This proposal has not yet completed its review with all the relevant groups nor has it been taken to the Senate Assembly or to the Senate for approval, and therefore the draft presented this evening may change before it comes to the Board for formal action.

Faculty membership in the Ad Hoc Committee includes Drew Colenbrander and David Redman, and Dawn Schmidt was not replaced following her untimely death. Administrative/Professional staff on the committee are Pam Clark, Dianne Harris, and Jane Knochel; and Support Staff members or Marge Frost, Emily Heil, and Ed Andres (who became an Administrative/Professional staff member during the committee’s work).

The proposal is to include Support Staff in the Senate, which already includes all full time faculty and all full time Administrative/Professional staff, as well as three elected student senators, and to move Support Staff step by step into leadership positions in the Senate Executive Committee and the Senate officer positions. The Committee has provided a detailed proposal of the necessary changes to the Senate Constitution and Bylaws to accomplish this change, a copy of which was provided to Board members. The Committee is also identifying Senate policies which may need revision when support staff are included in the Senate Assembly.
Kim Houston-Philpot inquired whether there was a downside to the proposal that as part of these changes the College President would become a non voting member of the Senate Executive Board (SEB). Dr. Goodnow said that the SEB operates by consensus and the presenters concurred that she is a strong voice on the SEB. Dr. Emrich and Mr. Selby questioned whether the process might be confusing and asked how the SEB would determine which proposals should be voted on by which groups. Dave Redman said that the history of the SEB is one of consensus building and appropriate action and that he has confidence that it would act appropriately on these questions as well. Mr. MacKenzie asked how the proposal had been improved since the last time it was voted upon in the Senate. The committee members responded that the vote last time had been very close, and that the voting process and phase in processes had been further clarified in this proposal.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

___________________________
Leslie Myles-Sanders, Board Secretary