President’s Leadership Team Report
February 27, 2019

President’s Leadership Team

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PLT reviewed the following information topics:

• Helping the public recognize the high value of community colleges remains an ongoing challenge. Locally, the president reported that based on ongoing meetings in the community RCC’s reputation is stellar. Still, negative and false stereotypes remain, and these must be corrected with true data and uplifting stories about the quality of our institution and the students who succeed here.

• Speaking of RCC’s standing in the community, the president reported on the monthly Riverside Chamber “Good Morning Riverside” event, at which many community leaders thanked RCC for its role in the community. Also at that event, Professor Thornberg of UCR presented his long range economic outlook.

• Discussion of relevant legislation continued, with an examination of the push to account for the true cost of attending colleges, recognizing that the state’s current funding structure means that CCs can result in higher net costs than attending a UC or CSU. PLT members read an article about this issue and discussed a bill sponsored by Senator Leyva’s office.

• Regional efforts and the college’s leadership role in Strong Workforce Program (SWP) warranted significant attention. PLT members reviewed the regional quarterly report, the fourth round funding allocations, the actual budgets for each college, and the final regional plan.

• The final information item for the day was a status report on the upcoming Inland Empire Guided Pathways Planning Summit. Attending will be over 200 participants from 14 colleges, local and state elected officials, the state chancellor, funders, and others. More about the IEGP planning summit and the events calendar is available on the IEGP website.

PLT considered the following policy issues:

• PLT members discussed the strategic planning report card draft. The report card release is expected the week of March 11 and it will make its way through participatory governance structures. Upcoming reviews of this draft are set for the 18th of March at Academic Senate, followed shortly thereafter by Leadership Councils and then EPOC on the 4th of April. This document will serve as a driver for meaningful, data informed, and inclusive program review processes.
Closely related to strategic planning, the accreditation update covered the college’s transition from writing to review phase. VPs will work with faculty and staff leaders to remind teams of the 28 February deadline for uploading relevant documents for Standard I. The whole college is invited to the upcoming EPOC meetings that will consider each of the ACCJC standards in order.

Compliance framework standing item: Each week, PLT will examine a rule, policy, regulation, or other document that administration is required to follow. This week’s item was BP 6900 on travel and itemized reimbursements. VPs will remind managers of this policy and ensure that everyone has the tools to support compliance.

**PLT took action on the following items**

- Based on a request from the faculty co-chair for strategic planning and the president of the academic senate, PLT recommended that the president call a Governance Committee (situated on this chart).

- As an opportunity to amplify the voice of the college’s faculty and staff in the broader Riverside community, PLT approved the president’s appointment to the board of Riverside Downtown Partnership (RDP).

- Based on discussions with CSEA leadership, the president led a discussion with the VPs about the critical role that diverse voices, including those of members of the classified staff, play in participatory governance and decision making. This fruitful discussion resulted in a renewed commitment to intentional inclusion. Each VP will work with managers throughout the college to seek ways to encourage and support authentic engagement of classified staff.

**Upcoming agenda items**

- reports and action requests from the Diversity Summit, to which RCC sent a strong team representing college faculty, staff, and administration

- discussion of mental health issues facing our students, based on the Academic Senate’s Mental Health Symposium

- compliance framework standing item: BP/AP 5140- DSPS and BP/AP 3440- Service Animals

- examination of a report on the nation’s college affordability crisis

- review of various college events including the 2019 Spring Ally training and various athletic events