

THE NEWSLETTER

OF THE DE ANZA ACADEMIC SENATE

September 2008

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President's Message

Anne Argyriou

Anne Argyriou has taught Reading at De Anza since 2000. She has served on the Academic Senate Executive Committee for three years and been active in her Department and Division. After finding and releasing her inner wonk, she is happily anticipating writing numerous reports this upcoming year. Meanwhile, one book she has read and would recommend is "Imperium" by Robert Harris.

First, greetings to our new and returning faculty. Hopefully, your summer has been restful despite the heat. The Academic Senate hopes that you will have an interesting and productive year. We also hope that you will find lots of opportunities to get involved in the numerous, varied projects and groups on campus this year: please see our Vice President's column for ideas.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Academic Senate is to prepare for Accreditation which determines our focal points for this year. The first is to enhance the operation of the Instructional Planning and Budget team (IPBT), which is one of the main avenues for faculty input in the planning and budget process for the area of Instruction. We will work to encourage

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Vice President's Message

Cynthia Lee-Klawender

Get Involved!

Since I was hired 8 years ago as a full-time Computer Information Systems (CIS) instructor (after years of part-time teaching), my experiences at De Anza have included not only teaching computer programming, but becoming CIS Department Chair, serving as Academic Senate representative, and now serving as Academic Senate Vice President. I found that getting involved in more than "just teaching" has been very enlightening. This has enabled me to learn and understand how De Anza College works at the departmental,

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Sustainable Clearcutting at De Anza?

For those of you who taught during Summer session, you could not have missed the 4th of July surprise that greeted the campus on Monday, July 7. In direct contradiction of the “green campus” tagline on the De Anza signboard, the foliage of two quadrangles were noticeably, and permanently, altered that weekend: shrubbery surrounding the seating areas and buildings were removed in S-Quad, and all, yup, *all* of the trees were removed from L-Quad. Apparently, there is no black market in tree and plant bits, but rather, the de-forestation was the cumulative project of the new Sustainable Clearcutting course offered at De Anza College.

Seriously, the clear cutting was a compressed version of the landscaping projects that the Facilities Committee had discussed over this past year. Left out of the discussion was the direct consultation of faculty who teach in those affected areas (such as two of your officers...). The Executive Committee will be discussing this issue (along with those mysterious student carpool slots in the staff section of B lot) this year. In the meanwhile, your officers vented our collective spleen on behalf of faculty this summer, and we look forward to working with Administration to ameliorate the impact of future landscaping projects.

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division, faculty, and administrative levels, as well as meet so many other faculty and administrators who are outside of the world of CIS and my division (BUS/CS).

Recently, someone asked me why I ran for Academic Senate Vice President. My answer: there is a need in the Academic Senate!

This ties into the title of this message "Get Involved"-- there are so many needs at De Anza College that could only be fulfilled by faculty (YOU!)

So, what needs am I referring to? There are so many, I won't list them all here (see [http://faculty.deanza.edu/academicsenate/stories/storyReader\\$429](http://faculty.deanza.edu/academicsenate/stories/storyReader$429)), but only mention a few:

General Education (GE) Review Steering Committee started the process of reviewing De Anza GE (for De Anza's AA & AS degrees) last year, in which the mission statement and institutional core competencies were reviewed and revisions were suggested. New members of the committee are needed this year to continue the process. Meetings will be held every other week (dates and times TBD).

Environmental Sustainability Management Plan (SMP) needs faculty to help implement this plan.

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greater emphasis on the planning aspect of the team, particularly incorporating Program Review, which we as a College will be conducting this academic year. We look forward to working with our Interim Vice President of Instruction, Christina Espinosa-Pieb, who will serve as IPBT co-chair, along with the Academic Senate Vice-President, Cynthia Lee-Klawender.

Our next area of interest is Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's). Last year, our Academic Senate, working with Administration, decided to ask the College to identify its Institutional Core Competencies (ICC's) before drawing up SLO's. In Winter and Spring quarters of 2008, the College reviewed drafts of the Institutional Core Competencies. This Fall, 2008, we will formally solicit feedback from the campus community regarding those Institutional Core Competencies in order to draft and present a final version to the College to ratify. The reason for dedicating the time to Institutional Core Competencies is to articulate our goals in educating our students: What set of skills and what values do we want students to develop while studying here at De Anza?

All areas of the College work towards serving our students; the Institutional Core Competencies will help us determine what means are the best in serving our students, whether in a classroom, through a Student Services program, or in a Campus facility, and enable us to clearly communicate our goals to the students and communities we serve.

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The SMP will guide the College towards becoming one of the first sustainable community college campuses in California. See <http://www.deanza.edu/ceag/plan.html> for more information (including contact information).

Academic Integrity and Disruptive Behavior Committee will work with Michelle LeBleu-Burns and John Cognetta from the Office of Student Development to develop guidelines regarding academic integrity (student cheating) and disruptive behavior. Contact John Cognetta (cognettajohn@deanza.edu) for more information.

Why should you care? These committees serve the students, faculty & staff of De Anza College. Without you, these needs could not be met! Serving on these committees could be applied to PAA credit, as well. Getting involved also means learning more about other departments and areas at De Anza, meeting people, and making De Anza a better place to learn or work.

--Cynthia Lee-Klawender
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Academic Senate
Executive Committee meets

Mondays 2:30 – 4:30
Admin 109

All are welcome to attend.

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These Core Competencies will form the basis both for our General Education pattern and for the Student Learning Outcomes at the program and course levels, which the College will start developing this year.

Last year, 2007-2008, the Academic Senate focused on educating the College about Student Learning Outcomes, to prepare for developing and implementing them. This year, we will concentrate on establishing Student Learning Outcomes and selecting the Assessment methods by which we will measure those Outcomes, which will derive from our Institutional Core Competencies. Since implementing Student Learning Outcomes necessitates institutional change, we are opting to solicit as much input and feedback as possible, to maximize faculty and campus engagement, and to ensure substantive, durable change.

Our last focal point will be to start forging links between Student Learning Outcomes and the College's planning and budget operations, particularly Instructional Planning and Budget. In essence, incorporating Student Learning Outcomes into Program Review will allow for more effective decisions in various levels of Planning and Budget. This last aspect is one of the crucial areas of our Accreditation Process, as it requires integrating two complex processes that will shape the work of the college.

Your officers are looking forward to working with fellow faculty and administration in these and other endeavors. If you would like further

information or have questions, please contact me:

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or visit the

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Is there a particular topic you would like to see in The Newsletter?

Would you like to write an informative article or opinion piece for The Newsletter?

Would you like the Academic Senate and or The Newsletter staff to pursue a particular investigation and then publish findings?

See Paul Setziol...or write to

setziolpaul@deanza.edu

or call him at 8358.