CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Michael Flaherty called the meeting to order at 2:34 P.M.

Members Present: Paul Bhasin, Liz Brindise, Christina Brophy, Sue Campos, Mary Casey-Incardone, Elli Charneia, Kathi Deresinski, Marianna Desmond, Maria Tereza Dyer, Michael Flaherty, Cynthia LaGon, Jacqueline Mullany, Maureen Musker, Lisa Samra, Shelley Tiwari, Barbara Zak

Adjunct Representative:

College Council Functional Committee Additions:

Ex-Officio Members: Cheryl Antonich, Debra Baker, Paul Jensen, Angela Latham

Guests: Joe Beuchel, Lore Carvajal, Will Edwards, Terence Felton, Adrian Fisher, Rebecca Fournier, Mike Garrity, Bob Greenwald, Mary McLean, Jackie Mullany, Mary-Rita Moore, Bruce Olson, Jonathan Paver, Darren Robards, Ric Segovia, Stu Sikora, Lucy Smith, Mary Ann Tobin, Amanda Turner, Renee Wright, Sujith Zachariah, Marie Ange Zicher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: ♦ Lisa Samra made a motion to accept the minutes of March 8, 2011, seconded by Kathi Deresinski. ♦ Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

College Curriculum: Sue Campos reported on items that were voted on at the last meeting. All of the Associate in Arts Education curriculums were modified with some language changes to meet the current standards. The Associate of Arts in Teaching Special Education curriculum replaced a current math requirement with an IAI approved course and the VIC105 course was changed to EDU105 which is a course that introduces technologies used in the classroom to current and new teachers. The Sociology curriculum included a new course offering, Environmental Sociology which addresses the topic of sustainability in the field.

Motion: ♦ Christina Brophy made a motion to accept the recommendation seconded by Elli Charneia. ♦ Motion approved.

B. Academic & Scholastic Standards: Marie-Ange Zicher reported on behalf of Julie Gilbert who was absent. She is at the AACC Convention in New Orleans. Dr. Flaherty said that the College Hour which will address Comparable Credit Guidelines is rescheduled to April 19. A workshop on plagiarism is scheduled for April 18 from 2-3 pm and will be presented by Dubravka Juraga.

C. Student Development: Mary Casey-Incardone reported that the committee met March 28 and discussed Student Handbook and will continue the discussion at the next meeting April 25.

D. Academic Support: Dr. Flaherty reported on behalf of Larry Manno and said that the committee is continuing to work on the issue of providing students Triton’s email addressed.
E. Marketing: Paul Bhasin reported that at the last committee meeting Sujith Zachariah made a presentation during which he stated that Triton needs to increase its competitiveness with other schools and need to be more vigorous, and have more manpower. Two-thirds of the students who apply don’t come to Triton. The Marketing Committee is asking faculty for testimonials about student success stories. The testimonials will be included in marketing pieces promoting Open House scheduled for May 7. Informational flyers will be sent to all.

F. Quality of Life: Kathi Deresinski reported that there will be changes to their meeting dates. The next meeting is scheduled for April.

G. Professional Development: Liz Brindise shared that the majority of the meeting was about planning for the Fall Faculty Workshop. The committee discussed having the fall and spring workshop with an inward and outward focus. The inward focus would include the Student Handbook and Disciplinary Procedures and the Financial Aid process. The outward focus would include issues of shared concerns. Debra Baker indicated that a number of faculty expressed that they wish they had more information regarding policy or protocol in situations of disruptive student behavior.

Outstanding Adjunct Faculty nominations are completed and selection of Awardees will occur shortly.

H. Assessment: Maureen Musker reported that the committee met in April. The main focus of the meeting was the direction moving forward. Last time she brought proposal for a Task Force which was sent to the President’s Office for review. The revised version of the proposal will be brought to the next mtg. Maureen said that she was attending the HLC conference this morning where she learned of different ideas to do assessment. Giving respect to faculty was one of the issues. She will add it to the May meeting. Brown Bag session is scheduled for April 20 from 2 to 3 pm in the CTE. Those who need a refresher were encouraged to attend the session.

Learning Communities:

Renee Wright had no report and referred everyone to the CTE flyer. Everyone was encouraged to attend the Brown Bag session on April 21.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greening Committee – Biology faculty member Joe Beuchel reminded everyone that April is sustainability month and announced the following activities on campus:

Presentation on Community Gardens – April 13 at 7 pm
Greenhouse & Botanical Gardens Tours – April 16 at 11 am
Incorporating Green Ideas to Curriculum – April 21 at 1 pm. This presentation will be held in
Academic Senate Report
the CTE and College Hour on April 26 in B-223.

The committee is looking for ideas on greening the offices and campus. The movie The Economics of Happiness will be shown April 28 at 7 pm in R-221.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Distance Education – AVP Cheryl Antonich distributed a handout describing the Workgroup tasks and recommendations related to online education. AVP Antonich shared that the Distance Education Workgroup started meeting in January and that the main focus was on defining online education terms as well as online protocol at Triton College. She added that there was a lot of confusion about online courses and that the group wishes to address the lack of clarity on enhanced, hybrid and online courses. The Workgroup recently submitted recommendations highlighted in the handout to VP Latham.

Face-to-face courses were also discussed and Dr. Flaherty pointed out that using blackboard in a face-to-face course will not change the definition, however it will when Blackboard is used in distance education.

Christina Brophy asked if there will be shells for any class and the reply was in the affirmative. It was stated that training for those who will teach online is required.

Student Success –
John Moye, in collaboration with the Research Office presented data related to Student Success initiatives, provided analysis of items and discussed the results. Will Edwards walked through the Mandatory Placement Testing and DevEd Assessment and discussed the data elements. He added that the office is in the process of finalizing the findings and could come to department meetings to explain in further detail. He mentioned that a Student Support Services questionnaire was sent out in which the students were asked how well the strategies help them to learn. One of the major initiatives was the implementation of mandatory placement testing. He gave a snapshot of how it works and indicated that the required testing increased the enrollment in the DevEd courses. Mary Mclean explained the AtD (Achieving the Dream) performance data and noted that the initiatives Triton is implementing brought better results in the third year. Bruce Olson added that they also looked at students who have grants and the financial characterization and that Triton is still not only one of the best buys but also the most efficient one in terms of managing our resources. John Moye mentioned that the results will be in research reports which can be accessed on the Triton AtD website (http://www.triton.edu/cgi-bin/c.cgi/about_Achieving_the_Dream.html)

There will be several College Hours on various subjects and Data Brown Bag sessions will be available to those who have more questions.

Renee Wright distributed a handout summarizing the outcomes of the College Hours: Student Success Initiatives. She stated that a lot of work goes into achieving the dream and that the college is in the transition from the AtD structure and support to building and maintaining
student success initiatives utilizing our own resources. She reminded everyone that student success is not just a project and pointed out that a culture of evidence on student success needs to be established and maintained. She mentioned that feedback from College Hours on future student success initiatives and placement testing was discussed and noted that many conversations had common themes; Reading & Math. The Senators discussed the feedback from the College Hours and the AtD structure included in the handout. Renee Wright mentioned that the AtD Coaches suggested getting a greater involvement from more people to participate in student success and to improve communication to everyone and asked the members for input.

Some of the proposed ideas for the AtD structure included integration of the Marketing Committee, Ad hoc Success committee of Senate and more involvement of adjunct faculty.

Vice President Latham noted that some of the suggestions are happening now and added that this is an institutional initiative how we integrate the AtD to other structures. The role of the Marketing committee in this context was discussed. Paul Bhasin noted that the committee doesn’t have any actionable power, but Renee Wright suggested that could change under the new structure as committee members are given items that would require implementation. Lisa Samra added that the ad hoc committee would be more appropriate. Adrian Fisher commented that if the institution is planning to involve adjuncts, it would be helpful if the committees extended invitation to adjunct.

Renee Wright said we need to do something different to change things in general and asked the members to come with suggestions.

VP Latham commented that a lot of effort was put into the AtD work and that right now the committee is in the process of creating a communication plan. She encouraged everyone to bring ideas regarding creating a student success oversight committee and put it for discussion at the next meeting. Feedback to the Core Team can be posted on http://www.triton.edu/cgi-bin/r.cgi/about_Achieving_Updates.html?SESSION=xjbTchqmVW

Renee Wright commended Mary Jeans for providing minutes on College Hours.

Student Success Fest is scheduled for May 4 from 11 am to 2 pm and from 5 to 7 pm. Volunteers are needed. Those who wish to volunteer can contact Jamie Brisco-Ricks at extension 3815 to have a table reserved so that you can provide suggestions to students for their success.

FRAP was postponed to the May meeting

**Academic Senate Chair Nomination** – Dr. Michael Flaherty was nominated as the Senate Chair for next year. Senate Chair Elections will be held at the May 10 meeting.
OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: ♦ Christina Brophy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ellie Charneia. ♦ Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Dr. Flaherty adjourned the meeting at 4:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Lidia Aratyn, Secretary

Minutes Approved: Michael Flaherty, Senate Chairperson