Woodland Community College Academic Senate Special Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2014

Matt Clark (President)	Kevin Ferns (FaLaHum,	Talwinder Chetra (Math and
	Secretary)	Science)
Christopher Howerton	Donna Bahneman	Pamela Geer (Adjunct, CCOF)
(At-Large)	(Adjunct, WCC)	
Greg Gassman (Social	Cheryl Latimer (Student	Donna McGill-Cameron (Business
Sciences)	Services)	and Vocational Ed., Vice President)

Guests: None

Call to Order at 12:03 p.m.

I. Approval of Agenda (Gassman/Howerton)

II. New Business

The currently scheduled start time to the YCCD 6-week summer session for 2014 is June 9, 2014. It was recently discovered that some local high schools (Marysville School District, Woodland Joint Unified School District) won't conclude the spring semester until June 13, 2014, which would force students from these schools who wish to enroll at YCCD to miss a full week of classes in some cases. The YC Senate proposed to push the YCCD summer school start date for 6-week classes back one week to accommodate these students, from June 9 to a new start date of June 16, 2014. The District Colleges Academic Senates Leadership Group (DCAS) has taken up the issue as well and would like to hear input from the WCC Academic Senate. Chetra indicates that this issue should have been taken to the Calendar Committee, but it appears that committee was bypassed. Howerton expresses concern that incoming high school students may be unprepared for the condensed summer school schedule and not experience the success that they would in a traditional 16-week semester, especially in light of the fact that many support services are not available over the summer months. These students are sometimes overwhelmed in speech classes. In addition, he expresses concern that WCC is simply looking at the date change from an administrative standpoint to potentially pad FTES numbers without considering students first. Clark notes that some high school students fare better in some of the math classes and would like to see some student success statistics demonstrating whether a condensed schedule may be helpful or harmful for this population. McGill-Cameron states that she typically doesn't see a high percentage of students straight from high school in her regular summer classes with the exception being enrollments in the grant-funded Summer Law Enforcement Academy for High School Students which is comprised of about 95% high school students. Ferns notes that the start time for summer classes should not be a barrier to students who wish to take the classes and that a later start time, if anything, would present more opportunities for student success. Howerton adds that the union should also be looking at this change, as it affects faculty as well. Clark responds that the union as well as human resources would probably need to weigh in on the issue. Gassman notes that while he is in favor of making changes to improve student success, a change like this at the last minute is bad timing- it should have been noticed when the calendar committee developed the calendar and had it approved the first time.

Motion to approve the proposed summer semester 2014 start time for 6-week classes from June 9 to June 16, 2014, pushing the 6-week class schedule back one week (M/S/C Ferns/McGill-Cameron (Ayes: Ferns, McGill-Cameron, Chetra, Latimer, Geer; Noes: Howerton, Gassman)