

Senate Bytes

Deborah Charlie Nominated for Hayward Award

Lee Grishman, *1st Vice President*

The Academic Senate has nominated Deborah Charlie, professor of English, for the Hayward Award for “Excellence in Education.” A long-time faculty member, Ms. Deborah Charlie has been a faculty member at Antelope Valley College for nearly twenty years and during that time she has established a reputation as an excellent instructor and campus leader. She has been instrumental in creating positive change for our college on behalf of students and faculty.

Ms. Charlie first came to Antelope Valley College as an adjunct faculty member in the Language Arts Department. She quickly became active in the department’s work in establishing standardized rubric grading in portfolio for the remedial writing program and she later served as the Composition Coordinator for Language Arts.

Early in her tenure, Ms. Charlie became active in the Academic Senate serving on several committees to implement the mandates of AB1725. She helped draft the original Faculty Service Area policy and laid the groundwork for the first Program Review Chair of the FLEX Program, Academic Senate President and as the Co-Chair of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee for over six years now. She has contributed to the campus generally through her work writing and editing Standard Two for accreditation and her work as editor of the District’s Student Equity Plan. In addition, Ms. Charlie has served on countless hiring committees and campus-wide committees developing, revising or editing policies on behalf of faculty or students.

As if that wasn’t enough, she was also a member of the Intercultural and Women’s Studies Committee and an advocate for the development of our general education diversity requirement. She also assisted in obtaining a Fund for Instructional course work on diversity, obtaining keynote speakers discussing learning styles among nontraditional students and the establishment of the New Majority Program and Women’s Conference.

Ms. Charlie has been a mentor to new faculty, both within her division and across campus. Through her work on the AP&P Committee, she has demonstrated her dedication to academic standards assuring that courses meet pedagogical rigor and comply with



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Ms. Charlie has been a mentor to new faculty, both within her division and across campus. Through her work on the AP&P Committee, she has demonstrated her dedication to academic standards assuring that courses meet pedagogical rigor and comply with Title 5 mandates.

Likewise she has served on the Assessment Committee to set placement score cutoffs to assure that students are placed in the proper courses that will provide an opportunity for success. Deborah Charlie, through her professional work as a full time faculty member, has demonstrated excellence in every task performed, every class developed and taught, every student mentored, every committee chaired, and in every faculty relationship.

We are very pleased with her nomination, and feel she embodies the type of educational leadership that the Hayward Award signifies. However, the Award went to another individual, which underscores the fact that California Community College faculty are a very talented and dedicated group of professionals. The high standards set by Ms. Charlie are an example for all of us to emulate. We are proud of you Deborah.

Academic Senate meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in room SSV 151.



Patricia A. Marquez Sandoval Nominated for Board of Governors

Lee Grishman, *1st Vice President*

Patricia A. Marquez Sandoval has been selected as one of six faculty members in the state to proceed in the interviewing process for a position on the Board of Governors. She will be interviewed in Sacramento shortly.

Patricia A. Marquez Sandoval has had a distinguished career at Antelope Valley College, which began in 1976 with her appointment as an Instructor of Psychology. Since then she has gained in experience and skill holding innumerable faculty leadership positions at the College some of which include Academic Senate President (twice), College Accreditation Coordinator and Steering Committee Chair, and Tenure Evaluation Coordinator. As a faculty member Professor Sandoval was recognized by the state in their selection of her to receive the 2000 Hayward Award. The following year California State University, San Bernardino awarded her the Distinguished Alumna award.

Patricia's experience and contribution to higher education was further enhanced by her selection as Interim President of the college in the year 2000. Her excellent skills kept the college on track until a permanent replacement could be found one year later. Since then she has made contributions to college leadership as Interim Director of Counseling, Interim Vice President of Student Services, Interim Vice President of Human Resources, and Interim District Compliance Officer.

In the Senate's endorsement of Patricia it was stated that... *"her responsibilities at Antelope Valley College have both been numerous and diverse and include supervision over all of the areas of a comprehensive college administrator. Other, more pervasive experiences in higher education make Professor Sandoval an ideal candidate. The variety and levels of responsibility have given her a vision for and experience in faculty program administration and instruction which we consider more complete and in-depth than most of her peers. She adheres to the notion of problem solving through collaboration, empowerment through delegation, action with clear thinking and energy, and strength through direction and careful consideration..."*

We wish Professor Sandoval well in her interview with the Office of the Governor and will continue to support her by forwarding letters of support. We know she will provide strong leadership to the Board of Governors for and in behalf of all faculty.

Jackie Lott Nominated for the Regina Stanback-Stroud Diversity Award

Lee Grishman, *1st Vice President*

The Academic Senate put forth the name of Professor Jackie Lott as it's nominee for the Regina Stanback-Stroud Diversity Award. Professor Lott is eminently suited for the Stanback-Stroud Diversity Award as she fits all of this Award's criteria. The nominee promotes diversity on the campus, teaches with the intention of addressing a diverse student population, and facilitates the integration of formerly underrepresented or at risk groups.

She has served on the Flexible Calendar committee, The Diversity Committee (formerly Affirmative Action Committee), promoted Title IX and Gender Equity Issues, sponsored public programs such as KICK, confronting the Native American mascot issue, and presented a program on Habitat for Humanity, building homes for low income residents. She is active in this program herself, devoting holiday time to house building.

As a coach in several sports, Professor Lott has recruited widely and arranged for scholarships, living accommodations, after school work, tutoring, and letters of recommendation for four-year schools for a diverse and often at risk group of students. For her own activity and health classes, she is constantly updating her skills through the Flexible Calendar and Faculty Academy. Her *Learn to Swim and Water Safety Program* brought children and parents together with the help of a Senate Grant she authored.



Jackie has always striven to assist students who are at risk because of historical disadvantage, minority status, being the first generation to go to college, or physical disability. She fits her teaching styles to the multiplicity of backgrounds encountered in the fast growing and changing environment served by this college.

Although, not selected for this Award, Jackie expresses that she is dedicated to all students.

SLO Committee Report

Scott Lee, *SLO Committee Chair*

The SLO Committee has been focused on developing our own ability to write and develop learning outcomes. Next year we will begin implementing an extensive training program for faculty and administrators through flex events and other activities. Our primary goal is to show how the outcomes and assessment process provides an excellent opportunity for educators to collaborate and reexamine their practice.

This semester, the SLO Coordinator, Scott Lee, will be attending division meetings to give a brief talk and answer questions about the role of the SLO Committee and learning outcomes on the AVC campus. Below is an FAQ about Student Learning Outcomes:

What are student learning outcomes and assessment?

SLO's are a method of shifting education from a teacher-centered process to a learning-centered process. Through SLO's you measure the end result of an educational activity by what the student should learn as opposed to what the instructor will teach. This outcome should be clearly stated and measurable in order to determine if students have achieved it.

Aren't I doing this already?

Yes and no. If you assign a grade for a course you are obviously basing that grade on an expected set of outcomes, which you are probably measuring through exams, quizzes, projects, and homework assignments.

SLO's have some distinct differences:

- √ The learning and assessment process is based on the outcomes and not the other way around.
- √ The results of assessments are used to help faculty improve student learning and not just evaluate students.
- √ While testing is a form of assessment, assessment methods should be varied just as the learning methods should be.
- √ By being open with students about what they are expected to learn they can better determine the use and value of the course to their needs and better measure where they are in achieving those goals.

Is this a tool to control how I teach?

SLO's require instructors to commit to helping students achieve the stated outcomes for the course. However, SLO's actually provide a significant level of autonomy and creativity in how you develop your learning methods and assessments. SLO's simply establish the learning goals for each course.

Why is AVC having to implement SLO's?

Federal regulations are driving regional accreditation standards those standards drive educational institutions. Prior to the mid-1980's evidence of institutional quality was primarily measure through inputs such as number of library books, percent of instructors with doctorates and dollars spent. Since the change, accreditation seeks to measure institutions by outputs, which are basically what students have learned. SLO's are the process to measure, record and report these outputs.

State and federal boards, legislators and agencies are asking that institutions of higher education prove the value of the investments made in them and SLO's have become the main tool for this.

Are SLO's and assessment just a new educational fad?

Learning outcomes and assessment have been around for over twenty years. Community colleges on the east coast have been using them since the 1980's. California is one of the last states to begin implementation, so they are new to us, but they have been around for decades.

What value do SLO's have to me as an instructor?

Assessment in a teaching-centered model is primarily used to evaluate students and assign grades. In a learning-centered model, it serves as feedback to faculty about what is and is not working and helps them to improve their curricula and teaching/learning strategies. SLO's at their heart are part of a continual improvement process for faculty and programs.

"Who dares to teach must never cease to learn"

- John Cotton Dana

The current committee membership is:

Beverly Beyer	AP & P Representative
Maria Clinton	Academic Affairs Representative
Kim Fite	Classified Representative
Dr. Irit Gat	Academic Affairs Representative
Dr. Claude Gratton	Academic Affairs Representative
Dr. Lee Grishman	Student Services Representative
Dr. Rosa Hall	Student Services, Vice President
Dr. Robert Harris	Student Services Representative
Scott Lee	Committee Chair
Sharon Lowry	Academic Affairs, Vice President
Ted Younglove	Director of Institutional Research & Planning
<i>Vacant</i>	Classified Representative

Please feel free to contact Scott Lee (x6546, slee@avc.edu) with any questions you have about SLO's or the work of the committee. The SLO committee meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in room A-141.

DISTANCE EDUCATION REPORT

Ed Beyer, *Distance Education Committee Co-Chair*

Online distance education at AVC is continuing to show signs of growth with 45 sections currently being offered in the spring and even more are in the approval pipeline. Also, more Blackboard training will be offered during the break and the winter intersession.

On the integration front, ITS, the DEC, and Blackboard have worked together to integrate Blackboard with Banner. Starting with the winter intersession, Blackboard course shells will be created for *all* scheduled classes, both online and on campus, and student rosters will be created automatically. What this means is that if a teacher wants to use Blackboard in her or his *campus* class, the shell and roster will already exist and all that needs to happen is for the teacher to login to Blackboard and activate the class. The online courses are already doing this, but now it is easier for campus classes to take advantage of Blackboard as well. When a student drops from a course, through an automatic process, her or his name will be removed from the Blackboard roster.



In addition to the automatic creation of course shells, there will no longer be a need for a separate login name and password as Blackboard will now use the same username and password combination as required by myAVC.

On other exciting note...the DEC is in the process of obtaining a group subscription to the ONLINE CL@SSROOM newsletter that explores issues related to teaching distance education. Watch for more information soon to follow in your email mailbox.

As always, the DEC is interested in your thoughts, concerns, and comments related to distance education here at AVC. Our meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. in SSV 151. Please stop by to let us know what you think or to just say hi, we would love to hear from you. If you cannot make the meeting, feel free to send me an email at ebeyer@avc.ed.

Tenure Review

Debra Olson-Tolar, *Tenure Review Coordinator*

Tenure Review committees have been busy finalizing first and second-year reports and meeting with the appropriate vice-presidents. Recommendations regarding tenure will go to the board on March 12. Third-year committees have a bit more breathing room, as their reports are not due until May.

We will be hiring eighteen new faculty members for the 2007-2008 academic year, which means we will need eighteen new volunteers for Senate Representatives on new tenure review committees. Please consider serving and forward your name now to the Senate for confirmation.



2006-2007

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