California State University, East Bay  
Concord Campus Advisory Committee  
Minutes of May 16, 2007  
Submitted for Approval

**Members Present:** C. Coulman, C. Fong, S. Green, S. Philibosian, K. Reed, D Vrmeer, D. Wiley, P. Wilson (Dean), E. Woodard.  

**Members Absent:** J Bruno, N Howard

Note: Since Nicole Howard, the Chair, was absent, Dean Peter Wilson chaired the meeting.

1. **Update on Community College/Lower Division Meeting (Wilson):** When the University undertook to add lower division courses at Concord, approval of both the California Postsecondary Education Commission as well as the Contra Costa Community College District, was necessary. An article in the Contra Costa Times had misleadingly suggested that the University had pursued approval from CPEC without formal approval from the Community College Chancellor, as well as the Board of Trustees. To allay concerns, Dean Peter Wilson as well as President Qayoumi, met with Joseph Ovick, Contra Costa Superintendent of Schools and Helen Benjamin, Contra Costa Community College Chancellor, to obtain their support for a lower division curriculum at Concord that would be in addition to the already approved Nursing program. At this meeting Chancellor Benjamin discussed a tentative Community College proposal to offer a two year cohort based program, based at the Concord Campus, and designed to be transferable to Cal State Eastbay. Cohorts would consist of 30 to 50 students at the outset who would attend on a quarterly, rather than semester basis. The Dean Wilson stressed that these students would need to be CSU ready and not need remediation, for the program to be effective. The author of the proposal, Kevin Horan, formerly worked at the Concord Campus and is familiar with our curricular requirement.

We will need to view the finalized proposal before we can formally respond. We will also need to know the when the C.C.C. will be able to start the program. Concern was also expressed about how lower division general education requirements will be handled. An additional part of the plan will require CSUEB to offer upper division courses at the Brentwood campus of Los Medanos College. Donna Wiley distributed copies of a letter from CPEC outlining the process for developing lower division programs. There will be a follow-up meeting with the community colleges and the county schools to determine if their leadership has approved this plan. The President has suggested that we schedule a CCAC meeting within a month to review our lower division proposal. However Dean Wilson suggested we have Institutional Research provide additional supportive material which would necessitate delaying an additional meeting to the end of October, 2007.

2. **Concord Campus Facilities, Master Plan (Wilson):** Over the past year, the consulting firm Smith Group developing a facilities master plan for the Concord Campus physical site. Ultimately such a plan will provide supportive data for an as yet to be
developed overarching University Vision. Most CSU campus planning has assumed a maximum headcount of over 20,000 students. In presenting a power point summary of the Smith Group plan, Dean Wilson emphasized that much of the campus cannot be developed because of 1) gradients of above 30% would make construction prohibitive, 2) protected watershed needs to be surrounded by a buffer zone, 3) valuable oak trees cannot be removed and 4) visual constraints; that is, the scenic views of surrounding expensive housing developments must be taken into consideration. Thus, in addition to the current campus footprint, only two specific areas, a valley and another, triangular area, are build-able. We see only a maximum 8,800 fte or 10,000 headcount is possible on the present site.

Given the site constraints above, however, we must add the additional limiting factor of traffic congestion. This would pose a serious additional challenge. With peak traffic flows in the early to mid-morning and late afternoon to early evening, headcount would have to be reduced to between 4,000 and 6,000 fte. Before reaching that higher figure, however, serious mitigation steps would need to be taken. Thus the present site will never accommodate more than one of the smallest CSUs. We have previously discussed the development of additional campus facilities on the Concord Naval Weapons Station property, but availability of this land is several years away.

Since we see that the present site can only house a limited number of students, suggestions from the committee ranged from the development of a liberal arts “community, “ an Environmental Technologies Program, a joint city-university library, programs focused on industries specifically located in Contra Costa County, etc. We need also consider our very successful competitors in the county (St Marys, Chapman, etc). We need also consider atypical course scheduling—for example classes on Friday nights and Saturdays.

Wiley spoke of the ongoing difficulty of developing the campus without assured annual schedules for programs. The President’s intent was to have all departments produce annual reports so that a commitment to core and option courses would be available to students. Certain risks need to be taken by departments in order to start new programs at Concord. Not all programs will initially take off. A commitment of 2-4 years needs to be made. Woodard spoke of the ongoing need to develop PACE type cohort based programs at Concord.

3. Commencement Update, Added agenda item, (Wiley): We have 250 students and over 3,000 guests signed up for our Commencement Ceremony on June 16. A guest reception is planned for the soccer fields area, thus eliminating last years problem transporting VIP guests from the Library to the location of the Commencement.

4. Fall Pre-Nursing Classes (Wiley): Wiley distributed a five year Nursing Program schedule to committee members. It was decided not to offer the four year option at Concord, as it was found to be too onerous for most students. Fong and Wiley suggested moving the Information Literacy course forward, from Winter 2009 to Winter 2008. Since we anticipate some 50 entering freshmen in Fall 2007, Philibosian explained that
there were insufficient faculty to teach the two sections required for this course. It would be better to keep to the original schedule of Winter 2009. The library would probably have two additional tenure track faculty hired to teach these two sections along with the additional sections required at the Hayward campus. He would discuss these resource issues with Myoung-ja Kwon, the University Librarian and she would respond to Dean Wilson.

5. Committee Purpose (Wilson): The then Contra Costa Faculty Advisory Committee was first established in 1992 to advise the Campus Director. It was later made a standing committee of the Academic Senate. Though much of the committee’s early work in the 1990’s was excellent, it was not often considered a priority by the University Administration. Due to a number of factors, the Committee met infrequently in AY 2006-2007. Now we are at a crucial juncture in the Concord Campus’ development, with freshmen lower division students to be added in the Fall. Likewise the possible development of the Concord Naval Weapons station land will soon preoccupy the University and Concord Campus Administration. The Dean suggested that the Committee start its business early next Academic year, with the possibility of a retreat scheduled during the Summer quarter break in September. Committee business should commence in late September at the beginning of Fall Quarter. A regular calendar of meetings should be established. All members present were asked if they would agree to serve again next year. Possible committee projects for next year include: 1) the development of a “Campus Life” at Concord 2) arrangements for food service during construction of the new cafeteria/bookstore in the Fall 3) the fast track credential program 4) a planned liberal studies lower division program.

Adjournment: 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Philibosian, Secretary