• **IDWG 2 Interim Dean Update:** Interviews for interim dean for IDWG 2 were conducted Sept. 14. As of this writing, I have been informed that a selection has been made, but that is all I know at this time. Dr. Moore is expected to announce her selection soon.

• **The District strategic plan focus was held at LACC on 10/5.** We had a good turnout for the faculty focus group. There was no shortage of candid comments, and I'm sure there would have been more comments had more time been available.

• **The draft report of the statewide student success task force was released on 9/30.** I sent this by email to all faculty that same day. I recommend that all faculty, and especially all senators and committee members, read this document and become familiar with what changes are being proposed by this task force. The draft report is posted on Sharepoint at:
  
  http://sharepoint.lacitycollege.edu/senate/Papers%20Articles%20Reports/Forms/AllItems.aspx

• **District and college budget** – a possible midyear state funding cut of $11.3 million to the LACCD is anticipated. Combined with the existing $4.5 million district-wide funding gap, the total district funding gap is predicted to be $15.8 million. The District Budget Committee recommended that the reductions come from district reserves and district-wide budgets, not from the college budgets. The administration held a Budget Forum on Tuesday, 10/11 in the Camino Theater. While it is expected that the college will end the 2011/2012 fiscal year with a modest balance (approx. $170,000) on an operating budget of approximately $58 million, Mr. Carlson projects that our operating budget for 2012/2013 will be approximately $54 million dollars. If this pans out, this would require the college to reduce its expenditures next year by $4 million compared to this year. To put this in perspective, our salary and benefits expenditures at City are about $53 million.

• **District-wide priority registration update** – as stated previously, starting last spring (spring 2011) the district decided that priority registration would be district-wide, rather than local. In other words, a student from another district college who never attended City could have an earlier registration date than a continuing City student because the registration date is now based on district-wide units completed, rather than based on units completed at the “home” college. This was done by the district administration without consultation with the DAS. This may be a violation of the board rule 8603 as that rule appears to require registration prioritization to be set at the college level. The district legal office is reviewing this.

• **New district interim policy on maximum units per semester** – no student can register for more than 19 units per semester. The idea is to prevent students from “poaching” classes, i.e. registering for way more classes than needed (and taking up space in those classes) and then dropping the “excess classes” once they decide on which classes they want to keep.

• **Michelle Pilati, president of state academic senate, visited the 10/6 senate meeting.** Her presentation included information on the senate’s legal role in participatory governance...
and also included an update and discussion of the draft report released by the state student success task force.

- **9/23 LACCD/DAS Summit at Valley College** – The annual LACCD/DAS Summit was held at Valley College on 9/23. The theme was “Taking Student Success to the Next Level.” City was represented by Reri Pumphrey, Kalynda Webber, Jeffrey Nishimura, Don Hentschel, Maryanne Des Vignes, Sharon Hendricks, Randy Anderson, Lupe Jara, Ed Pai, Jamillah Moore and yours truly. The day began with a keynote presentation from North Essex Community College (an Achieving the Dream college in Massachusetts) on their challenges and successes in improving student success after joining AtD. The day’s events included breakout sessions. I attended a breakout session on policy and procedure analysis by the North Essex folks. I also attended the breakout session presented by the team from Southwest College on their experiences and lessons learned after one year of AtD. Additional information about the summit, including presentations, are available at the LACCD Student Success Initiative website: [http://laccdssi.org/](http://laccdssi.org/)

- **10/7 3CSN Workshop at El Camino College** – I attended the 3CSN (California Community Colleges Success Network) Workshop at El Camino College on October 6. Our own Daryl Kinney was one of the workshop organizers. Other City attendees included Lawrence Bradford, Randy Anderson and Hector Plotquin. The theme was “Empowering Students with a Strong Start: Redesigning our Practices and Procedures.” I participated in a group activity in which we designed a student orientation process by first identifying our desired outcomes of the orientation and building a process from those outcomes. There was also a presentation and activity on course syllabus design and the importance of a well-designed syllabus. For more information about 3CSN visit their website at [http://3csn.org/](http://3csn.org/).

- **Facilities Planning Committee organization** – Kevin Morrissey, Paul Carlson and myself met on 10/18 to start work on defining the purpose of our Facilities Planning Committee. To now this has been a committee with no defined purpose or membership, and in theory I’m the chair. There is general agreement that this committee needs to deal with facilities planning and policy issues that aren’t addressed in the Bond Steering Committee, such as facilities usage policies (for example, the college key policy), prioritization of maintenance projects such as roof repairs, emergency preparedness and general oversight of campus landscaping. My goals are to get this committee operational by the spring semester (and for me NOT to be the chair!).

- **ASCCC Area C Meeting 10/22 and Fall Plenary 11/3-11/5** – I am attending the Area C meeting for the state academic senate this Saturday at Rio Hondo College. We will be discussing and considering the resolutions sent to the senate presidents sent by the state academic senate executive committee. I sent those resolutions out to the faculty by email last week. Please read them through and forward me any questions, concerns or opinions. These resolutions and supporting documents are also posted on Sharepoint at: [http://sharepoint.lacitycollege.edu/senate/State%20Academic%20Senate%20Materials/Forms/AllItems.aspx](http://sharepoint.lacitycollege.edu/senate/State%20Academic%20Senate%20Materials/Forms/AllItems.aspx)