CERRITOS COLLEGE
COLLEGE COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2009

Present:  Dr. Jim Albanese  Dr. Bryan Reece
         Dr. Marilyn Brock  Fred Henry
         Dr. Stephen Johnson  Mark Fronke
         ML Bettino  Dr. Solomon Namala
         Renee De Long Chomiak  Anita Rios
         Lee Krichmar  Lynn Laughon
         Jenine Nolan  Schellary Thomas
         Dr. Dan Smith  David Ward
         Dr. Chris Myers  Jesus Olvera
         Francie Quaas-Berryman

Absent:  Wes Nance  Jeanine Prindle

Guests:  Arcely Donnell  Lola Rizkallah
         Michelle Kingston  Dr. Linda Rose
         Dr. Connie Mayfield  Norma Rodriguez
         Suzie Payne  Kim Westby

1. CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Albanese called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 5, 2009
The minutes of the March 5, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.

3. STATE BUDGET UPDATE
Dr. Albanese noted that at the April 2, 2009 Planning and Budget meeting a Power Point presentation will be presented on the “March Revise.” This presentation will be an update on the latest State budget information the College has to date. He added that the College will have to try and do their best “guestimate” of what is happening at the State as the actual revise will not be available until June, 2009. A proposed tentative budget needs to go to the Board in June, and we will not have the State budget information prior to the Board meeting.

Dr. Albanese stated that based on the latest information he has received from the State and the analysis of the legislative analyst’s team, Cerritos College’s shortfall for the 2009/10 budget year could reach the $5 million to $6 million dollar range.
4. **BUDGET BALANCING OPTIONS**

Dr. Reece commented that if the College has to make large budget cuts for the 2009/10 budget year that it would be optimal to have the difficult budget conversations now and gather the necessary input from the campus community. As an example, Dr. Reece stated that a conversation with full-time faculty would need to take place ASAP to see if the faculty would consider a 1% to 2% salary cut to keep adjunct faculty teaching. Or, would full-time faculty rather keep their salaries in place and cut as many sections as possible. Dr. Albanese noted that cutting sections can affect reduction in programs. He also noted that if the College goes beyond a $3.5 million reduction going into 2009/10, the College would have to look at the budget in an entirely different way.

Dr. Albanese commented that the College needs to define interests, so that you can then define options to balance the budget. He suggested that Executive Council come up with a list of interests and then “tree” them down to achieve those interests. The committee could then look at the interests and recognize what needs to be done.

Mr. Fronke suggested that a series of budget options be developed that could go out to the various constituency groups to get their reaction on the budget crisis. Ms. Krichmar noted that in the past a variable approach was used for budget cutting and it was helpful to the committee to see the cuts at different levels.

Dr. Namala expressed his opinion, that as a faculty member, spending in excess of $99,000 in negotiation legal counsel fees when the Faculty union has stated that they will do without a lawyer that this could be a savings to the College. It doesn't make sense to him, in these budget times, that the District has to spend that kind of money, especially when there is no mandate for it, and doesn’t see why the College has to spend the money when those costs can easily be saved. Dr. Albanese replied that all attorney advice cannot be eliminated, that there are still charges for calls, review of proposals, etc. Last year’s negotiation legal counsel fees were high because of hearings, court proceedings and an impasse situation.

In closing, Dr. Albanese indicated that at the next planning and budget meeting a list of interests would be brought forward for committee review.

**2009/10 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Albanese commented that the completed college-wide resource allocation list should be available for review at the next meeting.

5. **ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

No items were presented.

6. **NEXT MEETING – APRIL 2, 2009**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2009.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.