

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting

July 16, 2009

2:00 – 4:00, Sue Jameson Room

*This was a special meeting called by the Chair of the Faculty*

**Present:** Susan Moulton, Margaret Purser, Paula Hammett, Art Warmoth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Melinda Barnard for Eduardo Ochoa

**Guests:** Steve Wilson, Jenny Tice, Vanessa Franklin

Chair Moulton began the meeting describing the attachments to the agenda: a template from the Chancellor's office for campuses to report how they will deal with the furloughs or layoffs; a spreadsheet showing the dollar amount cuts to each campus; and another request from the Chancellor's office for the campus to identify the 50 highest paid faculty on campus. She said she received these from a colleague in the system.

The agenda items were: 1. The furlough option and; 2. Other suggestions for responding to the cuts. The discussion was informal, as there was no quorum of voting members.

The Chair said she called the meeting so that faculty leaders and the administration could keep pace with the unprecedented situation currently unfolding. She began by asking the Vice President of SAEM about the status of enrollment and the targets for this year. The VP of SAEM reported that the first year class was under enrolled. Transfers were strong and would probably come in a bit over target and graduate students were under as well. He thought all together the campus would be under enrolled. He said it was too early to know for sure as there were many details that were not yet understood, such as admits missing a class or not paying their fees, etc. There was an estimate of 7100 FTES for the year. It was clarified that if the campus goes over target, there would be a financial penalty, but not if the campus was under enrolled.

The Chair asked the CFO about empty residential housing. The CFO said they would be closing two resident halls. There was a suggestion to use the dorms for conferences. He stated they were aggressively marketing the housing to upper division students and Santa Rosa Junior College students. He noted that the empty housing space were not popular as they have no kitchen.

Then the CFO went over the budget numbers on the spreadsheet. He said he was most interested in the figure under the heading - Unresolved Fiscal Impact (after proposed nonresident tuition fee increase) – which for SSU was \$11,404,731.00. He noted that the columns showing savings from furloughs were estimates. Using the estimates of furloughs for all employees, the final Unresolved Fiscal Impact for SSU would be \$5,053,731.00. Campuses have two years to reduce enrollment – to 7055 FTES, so he noted that the 5 million dollar figure would go up as the campus loses tuition fees by having less students. He estimated another \$1,030,000. 00 with the tuition loses. This only pertained to the General Fund. He reported that he had talked to the Provost about reducing the number of students quickly, that is, to take the cut this year instead of waiting. The Vice Provost said they are looking at the 16-unit limit for the year as they might not have the units to offer students. She noted that there would be classes cancelled this Fall and it will be done qualitatively – they are looking at

departments with low enrollment classes to see if they can combine sections, etc. She said she did not anticipate any layoffs for the Fall. There may be no reappointment of some lecturers.

The CFO then spoke about their requirements to send a plan to the Chancellor about how the campus will deal with the cuts and provide two scenarios - if the furloughs pass and if they don't pass. The Chair asked what the process would be. The CFO and the Vice Provost said they just received the request yesterday. He had met with all the Vice Presidents and asked them for a concept piece by early next week. The Chair asked what formulas would be used. The CFO said for the enrollment piece, the marginal cost formula would be used; for enrollment related, it will be share of campus budget. Once he gets the information from the Vice Presidents, he will discuss it with the President and it will go to PBAC. He noted it would probably be revised even after it is sent in, because we will not have time for normal consultation. The Chancellor's office wants to get a sense of the employee actions on the campuses. He thought they might have the results of all the union bargaining by then which will help them plan. He said some one-time resources may be able to be used in 09/10, but the plan may look different in 10/11 as there is more time to plan. The permanent reductions are to be in place by 10/11.

The Chair argued for identifying possible reductions in the campus budget that might not impact instruction. She asked for a place to have such discussions. The CFO described what he thought the Vice President's would be looking at. He noted that layoffs of CSUEU employees could not be discussed until Jan 2010. The Chair discussed reimbursed positions in the budget and asked why Academic Affairs and Student Affairs had lost positions and A & F had gained positions. The CFO assured the Chair that all the Vice Presidents are looking at how to cut 6 million dollars and keep as many jobs as possible. He asked that any other suggestions be sent to him. The Vice Provost argued that the worst-case scenario needed to be put out there to start the discussions.

The Chair asked if any general directives were coming from the Chancellor's office, such as a stop to building projects. The CFO said there were no new projects that he was aware of stateside. The new student union building is now on hold due to the decrease in enrollment. The impact of decreased enrollment on other areas was discussed and the CFO described how the marginal cost formula worked in more detail. There was some discussion about whether buildings could be shut down.

There was discussion about other Executive Committee meetings during the summer. The CFO noted a Town Hall meeting on the furlough plans for CSUEU.

There was a question about whether the furlough or layoff condition would affect stimulus money from the Federal government. The CFO said those affects would be seen at a higher level than the CSU.

The student representative said through her Associated Students channels, there is no sense of how the faculty will vote on furloughs.

Then the Vice Provost asked the committee for input on the current planning for the furlough option. She offered the caveats that the outcome of the faculty vote was unknown at this point and that the subsequent MOU that would come out of a vote to furlough wouldn't preclude what they are planning. The campus would like to try to

close two days a month. She asked for an endorsement in principle since the committee did not have a quorum. She then described that she and V. Franklin had looked at shifting Friday teaching modules in the Fall. They found they could do this and she wondered if faculty could endorse it. She said that they want to close the campus so there is a utility savings and the staff will not be doing each others work. She also noted that to do the shifting of Friday class, we would need to use non-instructional space.

A member asked for specific information about “how” it would work. She also noted that closing on Fridays did not work for CalTrans and the DMV.

The Vice Provost described how the shifting of modules would work. She noted that she needed to know how people thought about it as the timelines were very tight. There was considerable discussion about the implications of closing campus during the school year and moving class modules. Points brought up during the discussion:

- Reduced workload for faculty;

- A four-day work week;

- The fine points of furloughs and how they relate to unemployment eligibility that restricts how the campus can schedule furloughs;

- The Chancellor’s office said furloughs could not be scheduled on instructional days;

- Given campus closings, what essential services would need to be on-going;

- That the nature of the plan going forward should be very draconian, so the impact is visible;

- The need for changes in law and statute in the State government;

- Students would feel the affect strongly if the Library was closed on Friday;

- 123 classes in the Fall are on Fridays among 1600 sections;

- Potential students and junior college students are a huge group of people to organize on behalf of the CSU;

- Are there other creative options to minimize the impact on instruction?

- Reserve funds in some areas are being held and may be borrowed from once the campus understands the actual cost of the furloughs;

- Some concepts being discussed system-wide: regionalized data centers, information security officers, payroll offices, centralized dispatch, etc.;

- A proposal for a course on discussing these issues and giving students credit;

- Other ideas coming up among the staff included volunteer exchanging and job share;

- A once a month community forum including people from outside campus.

The CFO asked if the faculty do not approve furloughs or the union negotiations break down, how that would affect staff? There was discussion and the sense that there would be an attempt to take Fridays off and if needed, have flexible days. There was discussion that they might turn in a plan that doesn’t close on Fridays and lets staff employees choose their own furlough days. It was suggested to ask the faculty to move the Friday classes anyway, whether the faculty vote for furlough or not. It was suggested that the courses on Friday might cluster in certain areas and it could be worked out at the department level once classes begin. The student rep asked for more notice than after courses have started. The student rep asked how much money would be saved from closing campus two days a month. The CFO said, in utilities, it would be

about \$150,000 and he stated he would recommend to the President that in the summer, the campus go to four 10-hour days a week with or without furloughs.

The Vice Provost said that she thought the following direction for a plan would be the easiest to understand: We would try to group the furlough days as much as possible in the Fall, understanding that for some months they would be flexible. In the Spring, we would definitely do Fridays, as we will be presenting a creative four day a week teaching modules schedule. The CFO provided a general outline of what people might hear as they put out a plan for the staff. The campus will close the first two Fridays in August. In September and October, employees who have elected furlough will be able to take them anytime as approved by their appropriate administrator. In November, one day will be mandatory and the campus will close the day after Thanksgiving. In December, the day before Christmas and December 31st the campus will close. In the Spring, the campus will close every other Friday and Spring break. This plan is all for staff and does not affect teaching days, if the Spring schedule is changed. The Vice Provost said she would be putting out a very similar plan for the faculty, if they vote for furloughs.

A member asked for more conversation about how the four-day modules would work in the Spring. The Vice Provost noted there would probably be a group convened to work on the module changes. The CFO said that employees on grants would be furloughed as well and he did not know how that would work with the granting agency. There was further discussion on the complexity of this topic. It was noted that IRA funding would be reduced due to reduced enrollment. All of the organizations that depend on student funds, would have to be re-considered.

The Chair noted that some campuses are talking about putting foreign students in Extended Education and asked the CFO if that was of any value. The CFO said yes, it would help the resident halls and help Extended Ed be more robust. He also noted that the summer session is moving back to Extended Education.

The Vice Provost announced that there has been a good response, primarily from Science and Technology faculty, for stimulus grants totaling in the millions of dollars. She also announced that the campus is looking at changing from WEBCT to Moodle and she described the decision making process. A member suggested the campus look at teaching both in classroom and online. The VP of SAEM said the orientation sessions went very smoothly and there was a section called Seawolf Territory, so every new student when through a diversity training.

End of meeting.

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmstrom Vega*