

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

September 25, 2008

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Present: Deb Kindy, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Carmen Works, Terry Lease, Eduardo Ochoa, Karen Thompson, Sunil Tiwari, Tim Wandling, Susan Moulton, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Scott Miller, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

Absent: Ruben Armiñana, Andy Merrifield

Guests: Steve Wilson, Tristan Kelley, Rose Bruce

Matthew Lopez-Phillips was welcomed and introduced to the Executive Committee.

Approval of Agenda – added to the agenda: 1) Resolution to oppose Proposition 8 and 2) Four Unit Courses. Time certain added. *No objections.*

Minutes of 9/11/08 – S. Moulton noted she was absent at the 9/11 meeting. (*minutes for that meeting have been amended – LH*) **Approved.**

Chair Report – S. Miller

S. Miller noted he had no correspondence. He also asked who had a report. The Statewide Senator, the VP of Administration and Finance, the Chair-Elect and the Chair of SAC asked for time for a report. He then spoke about the ATI policy about interim textbook adoption. **It was moved that the Executive Committee ask FSAC to work toward a permanent textbook adoption policy in light of ATI.** The Provost offered FSAC advice on how to proceed. *No objection.*

Resolution opposing Proposition 8 – S. Brannen for R. Luttmann

S. Brannen brought forward a resolution from Senator Luttmann and read the resolved clauses. A member asked for a rationale, why “Special Rights” were capitalized in the resolution and the full title of Proposition 8. There was discussion about the appropriateness of the Senate taking a position on propositions. The Provost noted that the CSU has taken positions on ballot issues in the past that affect the CSU. **There were no objections to the putting the resolution on the Senate agenda.**

Chair Report continued

The Chair said that the report on Athletics to the Senate is scheduled for October 30th and speakers will include Bill Fusco, Duane Dove and Larry Furukawa-Schlereth. He reported on his visits to APC, EPC and FSAC. He said he could not visit SAC as he teaches at that time. He said he told them he hoped that they would keep WASC issues at the forefront. He also voiced his trust in the structure of governance and trust in the committees and their

work. He then reported he would miss two Senate meetings in a row and the reasons. He then turned the meeting over to M. Lopez-Phillips for an announcement.

Interim Vice President of SAEM report - Matthew Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips noted that Bonnie Sugiyama left her job at the Center for Gender, Culture and Sexuality and that leaves open a position that he thought was very important to Student Affairs. He has asked his Executive Directors what could be done in the interim to serve students and also thought this brings about a larger conversation about where the center fits in the university. In discussions with the President, they have decided to take that issue to the new Diversity Council to think about where the Center fits in the university and work on broader consultation and conversations. In his mind, there were questions about where the Center belonged appropriately for funding.

Voluntary System of Accountability – R. Bruce

R. Bruce presented information about the VSA. She noted that it is a nation wide initiative for public accountability endorsed by various higher education organizations. The information about each School that participates will be posted on their websites. She passed around a printout of what SSU's website will include and look like. She reviewed the various elements on the page. (<http://www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/vsa.shtml>) There were questions about the value of the data and the categories included in the template.

Statewide Senator Report – C. Nelson

C. Nelson reported on the last Statewide Senate meeting. A resolution was passed that asks the Board of Trustees to ask for a '09 – '10 budget request that funds the enrollment growth since 2007 and compact agreements of the past two years. She reported that if the Governor's budget passes, there would not be money in the CSU for wage increases. If the compact is not fully funded, there could be a re-opener on budget negotiations with CFA. She reported that regarding the CLA, what she had been able to determine was that after the two year pilot, the CSU would then determine how often to administer it. She noted concerns about CLA expressed by faculty last year in a Statewide Senate resolution. She noted that Vice Chancellor Gary Reichard did speak about creating a faculty / administrative task force to work out the issues with the CLA and the entire value added assessment process. She said nominees for Faculty Trustee are due in December. Local faculty Senates are responsible for forwarding nominees. The local Senate is supposed to have a process to accomplish this. She also noted that AT&T is underwriting a bus tour that will go to high schools and encourage students to go to college.

Senate Discussions on WASC – S. Miller

S. Miller proposed to devote in each of the next five Senate meetings one half hour or twenty minutes for the Senate to discuss items 2 – 6 of the WASC letter. The items 2-6 were: the mission of the university; planning; outcomes driven assessment; GE renewal and diversity. He noted item one was about the no confidence vote. He thought item one was transcendent and would come up in the other conversations. He proposed having the discussions as a committee of the whole, relatively aimless, although motions could come from the discussions. He suggested that some people might report on actions already underway on campus pertaining to each discussion. His goal was to keep accreditation issues in front of governance and to share some of the exciting things going on. Members of the body commented on the proposal and offered suggestions for process. The Chair noted four ideas that came from the discussion – to prioritize the issues, do two issues per Senate meeting, do item number one at the end, and assign each of the items to somebody and perhaps seek a diversity of opinions.

Time certain reached.

Report on Faculty Governance – L. Holmström

The Senate Analyst, L. Holmström discussed her study of School Representatives to faculty governance that she worked on this last year to develop a meaningful orientation program for faculty coming into governance. She described her methodology and some of the major findings. She noted that she had given the full report to Structure and Functions and asked them to assist her in describing the role of a School rep for an orientation program. The Chair noted he wanted to have this report at the Senate. There was some discussion.

Remedies response reports and discussion, including report from Ad-Hoc Committee - S. Miller and S. Moulton

S. Moulton said the Ad-Hoc Committee has met and decided that they did not have anything to do at this point, but might be a receiver of information as the process continues and write a culminating report. A member noted that the original remedies document asked the Standing Committees to come back with a report in May, but that hadn't happened. There was continued discussion that ranged from whether the Standing Committees will be responding; clarifying the relationship among the WASC conversations and the Senate's formal response to the President's response to the no confidence vote; and the process by which the responses would be created. A member asked the Chair about the expertise of the faculty members, and others on the President's Diversity Council as a follow up to the President's response to the remedies document. The Chair said he did not have time at the meeting to respond to the question and moved to the next time certain.

Four Unit Courses – T. Wandling

T. Wandling said that he wanted the faculty to support doing what they want to do. He noted that the President is calling for a four-unit model across the university as Past Chair E. McDonald had done during her term. He noted that the President's request was getting more focus than E. McDonald's call. He argued that sometimes faculty response was stronger to administrative initiatives than faculty initiatives. He encouraged the Standing Committees to look at various implications of four-unit courses and thought that instead of doing it piecemeal, department by department, the faculty as a whole might want to own the issue and take leadership on it. The Chair of EPC said they do not plan to take up the issue. Their position was that if a department wanted to go to four-units, it would come through the faculty governance process. Discussion continued. T. Wandling clarified that he would like the Standing Committees to look at the issues regarding 4 unit courses that go beyond pedagogy and perhaps provide recommendations or look for solutions to problems.

Chair-Elect Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton said Structure and Functions is having an interim meeting next Tuesday to discuss the question of SSPs as faculty.

Vice President for Administration and Finance – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

L. Furukawa-Schlereth noted that in his Periodic Review from last year, the Senate had the lowest opinion of his work and he asked the Executive Committee how he could improve his work with the Senate. A member offered that instead of just informing faculty the administration could ask the faculty – "what do you think I should do?" L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he set up the CRC for that purpose. There was further discussion. Appreciations and suggestions were offered.

Senate Agenda

A member asked if the two new members of the Senate and Executive Committee would have regular reports. **Motion to take up WASC item two on "Mission" at the Senate meeting coordinated by S. Miller and A. Warmoth. Second.** There was discussion. *Approved.* There was clarification that Structure and Functions thought the two new members of the Senate would be resource people and not have regular reports. There was a general sense that they would give reports as needed. A member argued that it seemed inequitable for the VP of SAEM not to have a regular report. The chair said he would invite the two new members to introduce themselves at the Senate and talk about this further at the next meeting.

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Scott Miller

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes – 9/18 emailed

End of Year Reports: SAC, GE - attachment

➤ Update on WASC

Report from Senate CFA rep T. C. 3:50

BUSINESS

1. More on Robert's Rules T.C. 3:10 – 3:25

2. Resolution on Proposition 8 – First Reading – R. Luttmann – attachment T. C. 4:00

3. WASC discussion – Mission of the University – attachment T. C. 4:15

Approved.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström