

Academic Senate Minutes
March 3, 2016
3:00 – 4:07, Student Center, Ballroom A

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda – Approved. Minutes of 2/4 and 2/18 – Approved. Request to hold election without requisite number of candidates – Approved. Discontinuance of Kinesiology Physical Education and Adapted Physical Education concentrations approved to move forward to President. Resolution in Support of Sonoma State University Participation in the Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program of the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 – Approved. President Report. Provost Report. Vice Chair Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Vice President of Student Affairs Report. Associated Students Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. CFA Report.

Present: Richard Senghas, Tom Targett, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Matthew James, Joshua Glasgow, Florence Bouvet, Jennifer Mahdavi, Laura Krier, Sunil Tiwari, Mary Ellen Wilkosz, Matty Mookerjee, Lauren Morimoto, Suzanne Rivoire, Rheyna Laney, Melissa Garvin, Michael Pinkston, Donna Garbesi, Hope Ortiz, Ruben Armíñana, Andrew Rogerson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Elaine Newman, Brandon Mercer, Katie Musick, Laura Watt, Ed Beebout, Ron Lopez

Absent: Carmen Works, Catherine Nelson, Deborah Roberts, Sakina Bryant, Jennifer Roberson, Karen Thompson, Michelle Jolly, Michelle Goman, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Ana Tongilava

Guests: Steven Winter

Chair Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that the President of Black Scholars United came and spoke to the President's Diversity Council. They had a good conversation and will be following up on a variety of things. One thing noted was that the Bias Response Team was not well known - <http://www.sonoma.edu/biasresponse>. He encouraged members to use this if needed, so that students can be helped and so that issues can be tracked. He noted that SBS would have co-chairs this semester. He noted that the Emeritus Dinner had been held the past week. It was well attended and meant a lot to those being honored. He noted that the Faculty Conversations would be held on March 30th and April 26th, and pizza would be served. He mentioned the concern about asbestos on campus. He said he had reached out to Cal OSHA for assistance and talked to the consultation area of OSHA. If a formal enforcement action was started, the consultation phase would end.

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Minutes of 2/4 and 2/18 – Approved.

Request to hold election without requisite number of candidates – C. Works

C. Works noted that for the general elections many seats were uncontested, but that all positions did have at least one candidate. She noted that the Lecturer Senator seat election would be held separately due to lecturers needing to know their schedules before offering to serve. **She moved that the Senate approve to run the elections.** **Second. Approved.**

Discontinuance of Kinesiology Physical Education and Adapted Physical Education concentrations – First Reading – L. Watt, S. Winter

L. Watt introduced the item and stressed that EPC “lamentably” approved it. She noted that dwindling student enrollments were the main issue for the concentrations under review for discontinuance. She discussed the process of discontinuance so far. She stressed that the discontinuance was coming from the faculty of the department. S. Winter said that the PE program used to serve 80% of their students, but now 85% of students were using the major for entry into health care fields. They thought the other CSU's provided vibrant Physical Education programs for teachers. L. Watt reminded the members that the Senate was making a recommendation to the President. The Staff rep asked if there were any staffing implications to the discontinuance. S. Winter said no, this would not affect staff positions. The Chair asked that the Senate decide this item today. A member voice concern about letting these kinds of decisions go quietly and was worried about students who needed adapted physical education. **Vote on moving the discontinuance forward to the President – Approved.**

Resolution in Support of Sonoma State University Participation in the Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program of the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 – First Reading – R. Senghas

A substitute was handed out for this item. R. Senghas discussed the changes. **Motion to waive the first reading. Second. Approved. Vote on resolution – Approved.**

Resolution in Support of Sonoma State University Participation in the Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program of the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015

RESOLVED: that The Academic Senate of Sonoma State University supports and encourages CSU faculty to consider using high-quality, low cost or no cost, accessible textbook alternatives (also known as “Open Educational Resources”); to reduce the cost of textbooks and supplies for students; and

RESOLVED: that the Structure and Functions subcommittee establish an ad-hoc working group to develop in collaboration with students and campus administration a specific plan as requested in Assembly Bill 798 to compete for grant funding allocated to the CSU by the bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the ad-hoc working group present to the Academic Senate Executive Committee the plan for approval, and that the approved plan then be sent as an Information Item to the Senate as a whole.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported that the Governor appointed six new members to the Board of Trustees. The Chair noted they were all democrats. A member said that last year there was a resolution

(<http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/resolutions/campusbasedequity.html>) requesting that the faculty at SSU be brought up to the average salary of faculty in the CSU and he asked for a response to that resolution. The President said he did not plan to do that in the last four months of his presidency, and especially not during labor negotiations.

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson reported that the annualized target for the campus was 101.9%. They had tried to get to 103% for the increased accompanying resources, but 101 was “respectable”. He said the average unit load for students taking over 12 units was 14.67. The six-year graduation rate for the campus was 59%, the highest ever. The President said the four-year graduation rate was the highest in the CSU at 28%. A member asked if there was a standard for a six-year graduation rate. The Provost said the national graduation rate was 56%, so SSU was doing better.

Vice Chair Report – C. Works

C. Works reported on the AVP of Academic Programs search faculty membership. S&F was also working on a revision to the Faculty Consultation on Budgetary Matters policy. They were talking about language for the by-laws concerning finding At-Large faculty to serve on committees when Schools have trouble filling seats. Additionally, they were looking at by-law language for virtual attendance at meetings and electronic agendas.

Vice President of Administration and Finance Report – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on an issue regarding how EOP students become aware of their complete financial aid package, and how this could affect their ability to get housing. They decided to find a way to make it work and will keep talking about it to find a solution. He thanked L. Morimoto for bringing this to his attention. He reported that Veterans Affairs would be put under Financial Aid and they would hire an SSP to be a full time Veterans advisor. He noted that the Executive Committee asked if the person hired could be a veteran. They could not require that, but did include the term “preferred” veteran. L. Furukawa-Schlereth spoke about the LoboMobile – the campus has had it for 5 years. When they did a new RPF for a beverage provider, Pepsi was chosen and they gave them the cart to promote Pepsi. It was very helpful to staff, particularly in the Student Center. The Pepsi contract

was available on the Transparency website:

<http://www.sonoma.edu/afd/reporting-transparency.html>. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he appreciated the Chair reaching out to CAL OSHA and encouraged members to read the CAL OSHA website. The next testing for asbestos would be held on March 8th in 6 areas of Stevenson Hall. He said it took about a week or two to get the results. Those would be posted on the SSU website and sent to CAL OSHA. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said Housing was offering triple housing again and it was very popular. This may help to provide lower cost accommodations for students. A member asked why the triples were popular. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he heard that students found they made great friendships in those arrangements as well as appreciating the better price.

Vice President of Student Affairs Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips appreciated all the feedback on a Dreamer's Center. He hoped to have a final proposal to President this semester. He noted that the Student Advocate search had failed. They would leave the position open until they could recruit again. Dr. L. Williams was still operating in this position. He described the qualifications they wanted. A member asked about the space for the Dream Center. M. Lopez-Phillips said they had identified an office to use for a Dream Center for now. Hopefully, the program will expand and become a more robust center.

Associated Students Report – B. Mercer

B. Mercer reported on a reorganization in Associated Students. He reported that the AS passed a resolution regarding Student Organization Room Displacement Reparations which had to do with student organization and clubs being bumped out of rooms in the Student Center for various other organizations. He read the resolved clause that talked about the Academic Senate. "Resolved that AS implore Sonoma State University and the Academic Senate to seek other venues on campus for bi-weekly Academic Senate meetings outside of the Student Center to alleviate the growing student frustration regarding space reservations availability in the Student Center." He noted that CES told them having the Senate meeting took up the whole day for a two hour meeting. Since AS increased their fee last year, they were now looking at what new programs to fund. Some ideas were to create a artificial turf area for sports, and expanding the Tutorial Center. A member asked if the students had taken the room concern to someone who could make a decision and if so, what were they told? B. Mercer said they would be following up with R. Ernst, N. Markley and L. Furukawa-Schlereth. A member asked, as since the Senate membership was reducing, could the meeting be held elsewhere. R. Senghas said the Senate would be smaller next year and could potentially meet in a smaller space. He noted that a proposal was forthcoming for formal Senate chambers. He said the Senate would like to be accommodating. A member asked if the AS wanted the Senate completely out of the Student Center. B. Mercer said there were mixed views on that. It was primarily the Ballroom they were concerned about.

EPC Report – L. Watt

L. Watt reported that EPC had a light agenda. They approved a new GE course for B1 – Astronomy 150. They had a discussion in EPC about the CSU requirement that students achieve a C in the “golden four” of GE and how that would play out in year long courses.

FSAC Report – E. Beebout

E. Beebout reported that P. Hammett was working on making sure all the changes were correct in the revised RTP policy. He said Academic Affairs would be sending out an email to all RTP committees notifying them of the changes and the new calendar. They may also do workshops in the fall. FSAC decided to recommend electronic WPAFs to the entire university. They were discussing guidelines for faculty office hours. A member asked if the digital RTP process could include supplementary materials. M. Barnard said they had seen good software products that would do that easily, so they would continue to pursue that. A member supported the idea of a workshop and suggested to include the staff in the workshop as well.

SAC Report – R. Lopez

R. Lopez said SAC did not make quorum. However, they did hear an excellent proposal, prepared by students, for some kind of food bank on campus.

CFA Report – E. Newman

E. Newman said CFA continues to plan for the strike. She had some questions about whether the strike would be on or not. She said the strike was on, unless they heard from the Chancellor’s office that more money was on the table. She noted a new flyer had gone out giving more reasons to strike. She said faculty do have the right to strike and that faculty should give students notice if anything in their classes would change. A member asked how faculty salaries had changed over the years. E. Newman said average faculty pay had not increased since 2007-2008. Faculty have lost \$9000 every year in purchasing power.

Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes