

## **Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

September 11, 2008

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

**Present:** Scott Miller, Sunil Tiwari, Deb Kindy, Ruben Armiñana, Tim Wandling, Terry Lease, Karen Thompson, Carmen Works, Eduardo Ochoa, Art Warmoth

**Guests:** Tristan Kelley, Derek Pierre, Steve Wilson, Bill Fusco, Susan Moulton, Catherine Nelson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

**Approval of Agenda** – item added Curricular Planning for 4 unit courses. *Approved.*

Minutes were delayed.

The Chair introduced Derek Pierre, the President of Associated Students and the Executive Vice President of the Associated Students, Tristan Kelley who were visiting the Executive Committee for this meeting.

### **Chair Report – S. Miller**

The Chair thanked the President for concurring with the Constitutional amendments that were recently passed by the faculty. He then turned the meeting over to the student visitors.

T. Kelley reported that the Student Senate had passed their first resolution regarding textbooks. He reported the two main concerns of the resolution. Regarding bundled textbooks, the student resolution is asking the faculty to be cognizant of the issues with bundled books and software. Textbooks bundled with software are not always used together in the class and students would prefer to have one or the other depending on what the class will actually use. They also discussed professors using new texts books when the content of the books has not changed that much. They expressed concern about the cost of textbooks.

There was discussion about the issues raised in the resolution. Faculty expressed their support generally for the resolution and described their lack of power in publisher decisions.

### **Reports**

#### **President Report – R. Armiñana**

The President reported there was still no budget.

#### **Provost Report – E. Ochoa**

No report.

### **Chair-Elect Report – S. Miller for S. Moulton**

S. Miller reported the constitutional vote turnout at 51%. He asked the body to reflect on that. He read the statistics on the vote and noted that both amendments passed by over 2/3rds. **He reported that Structure and Functions recommends John Urbanski to the Enterprises Board and asked for the Executive Committee to approve. No objections.** There was some discussion about the turnout of the vote. **A member moved to refer to Structure and Functions the issue of whether the constitutional amendment process needed to be changed. Second. No objection.**

### **Athletics program report to the Senate – B. Fusco**

The Chair noted he would like to have a report and discussion at the Senate about Athletics and invited B. Fusco to talk with the Executive Committee first. B. Fusco commented on various aspects of the Athletics program. They have over 300 student athletes and he noted their outstanding job in sports and in the classroom. He noted that the men's soccer team is ranked number two in the nation, the baseball team made it to the college bowl series last spring and two years in the row they have had the national player of the year in men's golf. The Chair asked the Executive Committee what they thought the Senate would like to hear in a report. The Committee asked for graduation rates of athletes, why Athletics moved to Administration and Finance and related budget questions, an explanation of Duane Dove's role and reporting relationship, and what are faculty rights and responsibilities concerning student athletes as well as best practices for faculty with student athletes in their classes. The Chair asked for B. Fusco to also report on the programs and achievements of the student athletes. The President mentioned the business issues associated with the move of Athletics to Administration and Finance.

### **APC report – A. Warmoth**

A. Warmoth reported on APC's work with JCAP concerning the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan and the university's mission. They are also looking at allocation of resources and student/faculty ratios. He noted that faculty workload is difficult to understand. They are working on a dashboard of statistical data to help determine faculty workload and are considering distributing a survey to faculty. They would bring the survey to the Senate for endorsement.

### **EPC report – C. Works**

C. Works reported that the usual business is moving through EPC. They are also looking at the CLA and understanding the issues involved in that assessment. They are talking about the "University" courses and their curricular implications, GE and WASC concerns and the Curriculum Guide project. A member asked about the CLA issues. The President noted that the CLA was a system mandate. A member noted that embedding the CLA in classes is not a mandate.

## **FSAC report – S. Tiwari**

S. Tiwari reported that FSAC is considering the implementation of the new RTP policy. He noted that Paula Hammett, Chair of the URTP and Melinda Barnard, Interim Vice Provost were meeting with faculty to answer questions and concerns. The RTP calendar is out. FSAC expects to receive RTP criteria from departments by Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are also looking at the Excellence in Teaching award regarding the “pool” of nominees.

## **SAC Report – K. Thompson**

K. Thompson reported that SAEM has hired a new drug and alcohol coordinator. It is a Chancellor mandated position. She noted this does not address the Senate’s concerns about the lack of Counselors on campus. She reported this is the second year SSU is requiring alcohol.edu. All of our freshman have to take this two semester online course. The largest EOP group ever was admitted this year. In the Advising and Career Center they are down to half an advisor. SAC is concerned about this. She noted that the Career Center now has a virtual career advisor online to supplement their activities there. She noted that the new Fairness Board was up and running. She said SAC is interested in the Diversity Council as they previously had a liaison to the Campus Climate Committee. The Academic Advising subcommittee is working on a Faculty Handbook on Advising. They are working with Chuck Rhodes and the residential community to do a survey on how students feel about off-hours services on campus. The President noted that some of the low staffing in areas are due to employees on leave, particularly, maternity leave. A member asked if SAC had talked about lowering the drinking age. K. Thompson said they will discuss that once they see if anything changes on campus in that regard.

## **Remedies Response Reports and Discussion**

The Chair asked the Standing Committees to report if they have discussed the President’s response to the Senate’s “remedies” document and what they might want to take up. The APC Chair said they are willing to take up the sections of the report identified as follows “University Planning Steering Committee will adopt the proposal of faculty representatives to prioritize investment in curriculum over investment in physical and administrative infrastructure; clarify the operational meaning of the “commitment to address the deficiencies identified in the Repairing the Base Review; participate in follow-up to the “Commitment to Diversity” by both the President and the Academic Senate; clarify the extent to which the administration and faculty genuinely share “objectives and vision for Sonoma State University. The EPC Chair said they will review it, but she did not see curricular issues in it. The FSAC Chair said he has shared the response with all the committee members and they are still working on it. The SAC Chair said the committee is interested in how budgeting, planning and resource allocation would affect students, but they don’t see how SAC can be a part of that. They would like a voice on the Diversity Council and their AS rep noted that it is desirable to have students on more committees and they may be seeking voting rights again. T. Wandling reported on the Senate Budget Committee and he noted they are interested in the

“commitment to address the deficiencies identified in Repairing the Base Review” and the faculty development money. The Chair asked for process advice on this issue. The Provost offered the idea to move to another phase, to engage in all the areas that look promising and where there is agreement. There was continued discussion.

### **Continued Discussion of Diversity Council and Senate’s Ad-Hoc Diversity committee – S. Miller**

S. Miller said that he believed he had a clear mandate to convene the Ad-Hoc Diversity committee and he will do so. He also discussed the various issues associated with this and the Diversity Council in terms of the charge of each committee, the membership of each committee and how or whether the two would work together and/or merge together. He asked the Executive Committee for input on how to move forward. There was considerable discussion.

**Motion that the Executive Committee encourage the Chair and the Provost to put together an overlapping nucleus of faculty members of both the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee and the Diversity Council to attend the Diversity conference in Long Beach with the understanding that the final relationship between these groups is still under discussion. Second.** There was discussion.

**Motion to table the motion. Second. No objection.**

Based on the discussion, the Chair noted that he thought the sense of the Executive Committee was to have himself and the Provost move forward on the issue of sending faculty to the Diversity conference. The President expressed his frustration with the prolonged process and encouraged that the process be completed. A member noted that faculty governance had not been given a charge for the Diversity Council or asked to nominate faculty.

### **Senate Agenda**

**Motion to add charge of Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee to the agenda. Second.**

**Motion to amend that the Provost give a report on the Diversity Council as well. Second.**

**Failed.**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Scott Miller

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes – delayed

End of Year Report: FSSP - attached

➤ Update on WASC

Special Visit: Mayor Jake Mackenzie of Rohnert Park T. C. 3:30

## **BUSINESS**

1. Art Therapy Discontinuance – Second Reading – C. Works – attachment T. C. 4:15
2. More on Robert's Rules – T. C. 4:35

## **REPORTS**

1. President of the University - (R. Armiñana)
2. Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs - (E. Ochoa)
3. Vice President/ Admin. and Finance - (L. Furukawa- Schlereth)
4. Vice President of Associated Students – (Tristan Kelly)
5. Chair-Elect of the Senate - (S. Moulton)
6. Statewide Senators - (R. McNamara, C. Nelson)
7. Chairs, Standing Committee - (Warmoth, Works T. C. 3:10, Tiwari T. C. 3:15, Thompson T. C. 3:20)
8. Senate Budget Committee T. C. 3:25

*Approved.*

**Adjourned.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*