

Senate Executive Committee Minutes
December 10, 2009
3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Abstract

Agenda amended and approved. Minutes of 10/22/09 amended and approved. Chair Report. President Report. Provost Report. Sociology Curriculum Revision approved for consent calendar. Geography revision approved for consent calendar. Elimination of a minor in History approved for the consent calendar. Statewide Senate Report. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. CFA Report. SBC 50% resolution approved for Senate agenda. Discontinuance policy update. EPC questions about Double Major policy. Holiday Party for Campus. Faculty Retreat. Senate Agenda approved.

Present: Susan Moulton, Robert McNamara, Carmen Works, Sam Brannen, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Deb Kindy, Derek Girman, John Wingard, Andy Merrifield, Eduardo Ochoa, Paula Hammett, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Ruben Armiñana, Scott Miller

Absent: Margie Purser, Kelly Estrada,

Guests: Steve Wilson, Melinda Milligan, Cindy Stearns, Tim Wandling

Approval of Agenda – SBC report and Sociology Revision added to the agenda. No objection.

Minutes 10/22/09 – amended and approved.

Chair Report – S. Moulton

The Chair sent out online a resolution from San Luis Obispo endorsing SB656 and she suggested the Executive Committee consider one from Sonoma. She reported on the Statewide Chairs meeting. She had telecommuted from San Francisco State and noted that it went very well. She said the general feeling of all chairs was negative about the Dickenson process. The Chairs thought that a degree was not the only validation of an education and wanted that message taken back to the Chancellor. The Chairs asked if increasing the graduate rate was the number one priority and the Executive Vice Chancellor said it was. The Chair noted that all three Chancellor's in higher education met with the legislature regarding the Master Plan and made some remarks about administrative costs. During this budget time, they are looking at everything. Sacramento has a "gang of 35," made up of faculty and administrators, communicating and collaborating on how to deal with the budget. There was also a discussion of shared governance. She said over all it was a good meeting.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana said there would not be information on the budget until later in December. He said they wanted to see the return of \$350 million to the CSU that was promised. He said if that does not happen, it will be incredibly difficult. He noted the increase of applications to the CSU, both duplicated and unduplicated. He said that the Chancellor's position is that furloughs end on June 30th. If furloughs were to be continued they would have to be bargained and would not be the same. The furlough concerns are the same everywhere and there was a consensus to close campuses for furlough days. People taking their furlough days on different days was becoming difficult. He said the CSU would not participate in the March 2 or March 4th closure dates. That was up to the unions. He said a retention plan was due to the Chancellor by December 25th. He said there was a meeting of large institutions nationally and they were going through a similar process of increasing graduation rates. He noted that Sir Michael Barber was not paid by the CSU, but rather by the Education Trust. He said the Task Force on Retention had already done a lot of the work toward the plan. He said there had been layoffs in the trades union system-wide and in the IT department in the Chancellor's office. There was discussion about the legal difficulties with furloughs since it had not been done before. A member questioned the retention effort and the President said that success meant that students leave with a degree. The Chair suggested that there were other measures of success. The President said that it was hard to explain to legislators why half of the students who come into higher education do not leave with a degree. Students from underrepresented groups have a much higher rate of non-completion. The CFA representative said they would be participating in the March 4th intersegmental actions in higher education institutions. CSU alums who work for Cirque du Soleil and Ringling Brothers & Barum and Bailey Circus have offered to help organize the event due the large number of participating groups.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa reported on the “closing the achievement gap initiative” and the progress toward a plan. He noted the plan would get more feedback after it was submitted to the Chancellor. He said it would be a living document and a marker to help us with the objective. He agreed with the President that there was a national conversation shifting the focus from access to success. He discussed the notion that success included the idea that the degree needed to retain meaning for it to be a measure of success. He discussed a productive meeting with a subcommittee of JCAP, looking at restructuring and prioritizing. The subcommittee is looking at creating SSU's own priorities and using the Dickenson book only as a reference. He then spoke about scheduling and enrollment. He thought students may be more challenged to complete their schedules in the spring. He also noted that it was challenging to reach target. He found out at PBAC that one-time monies would be forthcoming to substitute for the endowment distributions. He did not know how much it would help. He noted that a communication would be coming out from his office about furloughs in the spring for faculty and campus closures. He noted that classes could not meet off campus during the campus closures. The Statewide Senator remarked that he thought that no one could really argue against working to reduce the achievement gap, but did agree with the Chair that success meant more than a

degree and that it meant a quality education. At the Statewide Senate, they are talking about the Barber initiative and the details in his book that include more online courses, etc. He thought these were the kinds of things faculty were trained to be suspicious of and to ask tough questions about. He thought focusing on seniors might be more effective to move students along. There were specific questions about the one-time money. There was further discussion about the retention issue and externalities.

Time certain reached.

Sociology Curriculum Revision – C. Works

C. Works introduced the change. Sociology wanted to add a new requirement called the Sociological Experience. **EPC requested this item be on the Senate's consent calendar. No objection.**

Provost Report continued

There was more discussion of retention issues.

Geography Revision – C. Works

C. Works introduced the item. She noted this would have come forward with the previous Geography concentration revision, but they were waiting for approval for a new GE course. She noted the side by side comparison she put together. **EPC was requesting the item as a consent item for the Senate's agenda. No objection.**

Elimination of a minor in History – C. Works

C. Works noted that the minor the History department wanted to eliminate had to do with teaching. Because the State rules had changed, the minor was no longer viable for students who wanted to have a secondary teaching subject. **Motion to put it on the Senate's consent calendar. Second. Approved.**

Statewide Senate Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara said the Statewide was working hard on the retention issues as discussed already. A faculty Trustee has still not been appointed. He said the Chancellor's office had concern about the March 2nd resolution of the Statewide Senate. He said the Chancellor's office also thought the Statewide resolution on the faculty furloughs had overstepped their boundaries.

Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reported that S&F would be discussing the Diversity Committee in preparation for the second reading at the Senate. They also would be discussing faculty representation on JCAP and possibly coming forward with a recommendation.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth noted the upcoming Town Hall meeting on the Foundation and encouraged everyone to attend. He noted that PBAC reviewed the campus reserve and saw that they were about half way through the reserve.

Vice President of SAEM – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips noted the retirement of Sandy Ratliff who had worked for Student Affairs for 31 years. He noted that more H1N1 vaccines were available and thanked the Nursing Department for their help with a shot clinic. He noted the LSS department had applied for two new grants that will help with SAEM's diversity efforts. He worked with the enrollment management team to create the ability for students to pay their deposits online, so that gives the campus more information more quickly. He said it's a high stress time and the Counseling Center has given a couple of workshops on stress management. He noted EOP applications were up.

FSAC Report – P. Hammett

P. Hammett said they are working on various policy issues that they hope to present early in the Spring.

SAC Report – D. Girman

D. Girman noted progress on the grade appeal issue for culminating experiences in graduate programs.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield said the biggest issue facing CFA was that the contract was expiring on June 30, 2010. All the campuses had given feedback and the bargaining committee will look that over and begin preparing for bargaining. He then discussed the events of March 4th known at that time. He said they were also asking people to send emails to the Governor prior to the budget news about the importance of higher education. He said they are working to generate resources wherever they can. The Chair asked if there were coordinating meetings about March 4th. A. Merrifield said yes and noted that students were doing a lot of the organizing.

Senate Budget Committee Report – T. Wandling

T. Wandling presented a resolution that he asked go to the Senate for endorsement. He noted it was a recommendation and that SBC thought the faculty should have a voice in the matter. The resolution was asking that at least 50% of the state budget received by SSU to be spent in the Academic Schools. He noted that his figures did not include the Provost's office or the Library. He discussed the rationale. There was some discussion about the details of the resolution, such as not including the Library in the figures and the accuracy of the figures presented. There were concerns about how to determine readiness. Discussion continued. **Motion for the resolution to be on the Senate agenda. Second. Approved.**

Discontinuance Policy update – C. Works

C. Works noted that the discontinuance policy from the Curriculum Guide was included in the packet. She went over the discontinuance policy and noted where EPC was considering making changes and asked for feedback. It was suggested to clarify the final authorities in the Curriculum Guide. The Provost thought the Guide needed to be more clear about implications that there were two tracks, one through administration and one through faculty governance. He noted the Guide assumed that discontinuances came from the ground up. He suggested that if the university took a systematic look at the whole university, it might create a committee to look at discontinuing programs that could then insert itself into the current process described in the Guide. The CFA rep said that unfortunately, the destruction of programs, was an administrative prerogative and required work with the union if it entailed layoff. He argued that the policy could describe what faculty do, not what administrations could do. C. Works confirmed that the Executive Committee did want EPC to clean up the language in the policy.

EPC question about Double Majors policy – C. Works

C. Works said that the discussion about a policy on double majors was not completed. She said that the Provost's office asked for more guidance from EPC and she had heard that if students have 120 units, they would be graduated. It was suggested to have a policy to avoid a vacuum if something came from the top down. The Provost noted that the Chancellor wanted to give the Presidents authority to graduate students if they have met qualifications for graduation even if they haven't applied to graduate. The Chair noted that it was the faculty's authority to grant degrees and hoped that faculty would be involved. A member voiced concerns about communication issues around this topic. A member noted that the university grants the BA, but departments verify a BA in a particular major. There was more discussion about the new authority of the President. It was suggested that the topic be brought up at the next Executive Committee.

Meeting was extended by 5 minutes.

Holiday Party for Campus – S. Moulton

S. Moulton announced a campus wide Holiday Party in the Art Gallery 4:00 – 6:00 the following Wednesday. She asked people to bring food and clothing for the homeless and wrapped presents for children.

Faculty Retreat – S. Moulton

S. Moulton noted that the Faculty Retreat would be January 27, 2010 and said she would be working with Organizational Development to help facilitate the retreat regarding how to maintain faculty academic priorities in the current situation.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Susan Moulton

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Geography curriculum revision – emailed

Sociology curriculum revision – emailed

Discontinuance of a History minor – emailed

Special Report: President's Diversity Council – T. C. 4:15

BUSINESS

1. Resolution to form Senate Diversity Committee – C. Nelson & S. Brannen – Second Reading – 12/3 agenda T. C. 4:25
2. Resolution from SBC: Spending a minimum of 50% of state budget in Academic Schools – First Reading – T. Wandling T. C. 4:00

Approved.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega