

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
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(EC-5)

October 27, 2014

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), President Joseph Castro (Ex-officio), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Madhusudan Katti (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (State-wide), Moses Menchaca (ASI), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large), Lynn Williams (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Provost Lynette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Visitors: Venita Baker, James Mullooley (Chair, Academic Policy & Planning Committee)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:05pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC to approve the agenda

2.) Approval of the minutes of October 13, 2014

Senator Jenkins noted that he missed the meeting because of official duties and asked to be listed as “excused” rather than “absent.” It was accepted as a friendly amendment to the minutes.

MSC to approve the minutes of October 13, 2014, as amended

3.) Communications and announcements

a. President Castro

He was in Washington, DC last week for a meeting of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Two awards were given to Fresno State (more than any other university received). One was the McAuliffe Award for the Teacher Preparation Program. The other was the

Leadership and Diversity Award for our Leadership Preparedness Program.

The President, Provost, and Chair of the Academic Senate went to Long Beach with officials from the other CSUs to discuss ways to close the K-12 and higher education achievement gaps with the Chancellor. Chancellor White wants the gap closed by increasing graduation rates at the CSUs by 10%, which Fresno State hopes to achieve by next year.

Last Friday President Castro participated in a conference call with the Chancellor and the other CSU presidents about how to implement faculty salary increases under the new contract (assuming it is ratified). Statewide increases, including the statewide equity program, should be complete by early 2015. Only after those have been implemented will each CSU implement its own equity program. At Fresno State we will make our local equity program retroactive to July, 2014, which not all of the other CSUs are going to do.

b. Venita Baker on Box.com

This is a cloud-based document storage system the university participates in. Venita can create a protected file just for members of the Executive Committee to log into with their regular Fresno State IDs. She will set this up and, if necessary, have somebody from IT services come show us how to access it at a future meeting of the Executive Committee.

c. Search Committee for the Dean of Undergraduate Studies Nominees

Nominations have been received and will be discussed in executive session later.

d. Senator Williams

He would like to see the Academic Senate honor the memory of Earl Smittcamp in some way (probably a senate resolution).

He also noted that Football coach DeRouyter gave his players a long pep-talk the other day about the importance of respecting women.

e. Senator Kensinger (Statewide senate)

Drew attention to the recent message from Senator Benevidas regarding CSU programs applying for exemptions from the 120 unit cap. She felt there was a lot of misinformation going around about these exemptions and hopes everyone will read the information sent by Senator Benevidas.

Wanted to recognize the Women's Resource Center for sponsoring Take Back the Night.

4.) APM 220 (Program Review)

Concern was expressed over the new language that appears to require academic programs to justify their existence in terms of demand. Consensus was that this language needs to be softened quite a bit.

Concern was also expressed over the inclusion of language on program annual reports. This is the first time that annual reports have appeared in the APM, and they are not strictly tied to program review.

APM 220 will come back for second reading at the next meeting of the Executive Committee with a version that shows how the new policy was changed from the existing interim policy.

5.) Student Involvement on Academic Senate Committees

Most of the discussion revolved around the question of whether or not students should be given voting rights on senate committees. Currently it is fairly ad hoc, with students voting on some committees and not others. AP&P Chair Mullooly recommended giving students voting rights on all committees, the same right administrators currently have. This led to some discussion of whether administrators should have voting rights on committees. The general question was put off for another time.

Regarding the specific question of whether students, including the student appointed by the Division of Student Affairs, can vote on the GE Committee, APM 127 is clear on this point. The two student members appointed by ASI can vote. The representative appointed by Student

Affairs, which at the moment just happens to be a student, cannot vote.  
GE Committee Chair Crosbie will be informed.

- 6.) Executive Session to discuss appointments to the search committee for a new Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

Executive session began at 4:22pm and ended at 4:37pm.

MSC to appoint Paul Crosbie to the search committee.

Three tenured, full professors are to be appointed to the committee.  
Since two slots are still empty, discussion arose on how to proceed. Vice  
Chair Holyoke will review the APM to try to determine what the proper  
procedure is for filling the other two vacancies.

The meeting adjourned at 4:38pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on November 10, 2014.

Submitted by:  
Thomas Holyoke  
Vice Chair  
Academic Senate

Approved by:  
Kevin Ayotte  
Chair  
Academic Senate