

## **Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

March 17, 2011

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

### **Abstract**

Agenda approved. Minutes delayed. Chair Report. Chair-Elect Report. Consultation re: naming opportunity at GMC. President Report. FSAC response to new job description of Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. Academic Calendar Change Feedback from Standing Committees. Counseling and Psychological Services fee. CFA Report. Latin American Studies minor reorganization approved as information item. FASC Endorsement Language for FSSP Report. Senate agenda approved.

**Present:** Maria Hess, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Margaret Purser, Jennifer Mahdavi, Kelly Estrada, Andy Merrifield, Richard Senghas, Elaine Newman, Sam Brannen, John Wingard, Ben Ford, Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Susan Moulton, Saeid Rahimi

**Absent:** Catherine Nelson

**Guests:** Murali Pillai, Alex Boyar, Steve Wilson, Patricia McNeil, Jason Wenrick, Lisa Wyatt

**Approval of Agenda** – time certain given to item #4 and the CFA report. **Approved.**

Minutes delayed.

### **Chair Report – J. Wingard**

J. Wingard reported on a Town Hall meeting on the budget had happened on Monday. A member noted he was unable to attend due to a previous commitment for Pi Day for the Math Department. He was encouraged to bring the event to the next Town Hall meeting.

### **Chair-Elect Report – B. Ford**

B. Ford reported on the business of Structure and Functions. He said they were working on resurrecting the University Program Review subcommittee of EPC and at the next Executive Committee meeting they would be bringing the revision of the Appointments to Administrative Search Committee policy.

### **Consultation re: naming opportunity at GMC – R. Armiñana & P. McNeil**

R. Armiñana said he had gotten the approval of the Campus Planning Committee for the naming of the GMC Concert Hall, Lawn and Commons to be the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Hall, Lawn and Commons. The Weill's had made a \$12 million cash donation. This would allow the concert hall to be finished by the end of the year. He noted that Sanford Weill was former chair of the board for Traveler's Insurance

Company and also worked for Citigroup. He had moved to Sonoma County part time. For twenty years, he had been Chair and principle donor to Carnegie Hall. The School of Medicine at Cornell University bares his name. Joan Weill has been Chair and major contributor to the Alvin Ailey ballet and a Trustee of the Paul Smith's College of the Adirondacks. They have a program to finance underprivileged students through the arts. The President asked if there were any objections. The members congratulated the President. The President said that it would be official once the Board of Trustees approved it. The President thought these donors would be helpful in attracting other donors for the GMC and other campus needs. It was noted that Mr. Weill would be on the GMC Advisory Board and Mrs. Weill would chair the fundraising committee. A member asked if the fundraising goals for the GMC had been met. The President said that the campus still needed \$4 million for the Commons area and about \$7 million for the recital hall.

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

R. Armiñana noted that Mark Resmer had died of a self-inflicted wound. M. Resmer had worked for SSU IT's department for a number of years previously. He then discussed the budget. He said it was grim. He reviewed how the numbers were deteriorating. He said the system was not making the target for the Spring and would have to return back to the Treasury \$75 million. They were hoping that the \$75 million might be an early payment toward the \$500 million cut, a perspective that had also been approved by the LAO and the Department of Finance. Unfortunately, the Legislature took the money away and put it toward Health and Welfare. He noted the campus share of the cut would be around \$8.9 million and in addition there were increases in mandatory costs – \$1.1 million. He said these were gross numbers. The details would follow. He noted unspent money from last year would be used for the mandatory costs; so the real cut would be the \$8.9 million. He said that was the good scenario. The worst scenario would be if the tax extension was not approved and it would double the cut. He discussed the survey data on the tax extension. If the ballot was held before June 30, they deemed tax extensions and the voters approve that by a small margin. If it were held after June 30<sup>th</sup>, they would be "new taxes" and the level of support drops dramatically. He noted the Senate passed budget reduction bills for the CSU, UC and Community Colleges recently and the FTE target was 331, 000 FTES with associated penalties for not meeting the target. He noted that the half billion scenario was more difficult than a billion dollar scenario because with the billion dollar cut scenario there were more options, horrible options, but still more options than with the half billion dollar cut. He said it was a major, major challenge. This was the information as of the last night. He did not see any relief from the \$500 million cut.

### **FSAC response to new job description of Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas introduced the item. FSAC looked at the job description because FSAC works closely with the AVP of Faculty Affairs. They were concerned about the position losing the title of Vice Provost and also wanted to know who would be the champion of Graduate Programs and Sponsored Programs, as neither of those was in the job description. He asked how this new position was fitting in with the

changes to the Provost job description. The Provost responded that the change of the position to a Vice President title had to do with how the Provost office was operating. He thought a Vice Provost was more for a “hands-off” type of Provost, but he thought the SSU Provost needed to be a “hands-on” Provost. He noted the organizational chart undergoing change would show the Director of the Academic Affairs Budget, the AVP for Faculty Affairs and the AVP for Academic Programs as the key players directly under the Provost. He hoped in the future to have the Director of Undergraduate Studies at that level. He said this provided the rationale for the title change. He then spoke to the issue of the champion of the Graduate Programs and the Sponsored Programs. He wanted to highlight both of these areas and after consultation, wanted to put a strong structure in place for the new Provost to accept. R. Senghas said FSAC was concerned about the timelines for both the Provost and AVP of Faculty Affairs searches and wondered if the Provost search should be completed first. The Provost thought that since the person in the Faculty Affairs was a competent person, perhaps the AVP search was not as sensitive. The Chair asked who was in charge if the Provost was absent. The Provost said his perspective was that Academic Programs should be the centerpiece of Academic Affairs and he would want the AVP of Academic Programs to be in charge if the Provost was absent. He also said one of the Deans could be appointed to do that as well. A member asked about the salary implications of the AVP position changes. The Provost said there were none.

### **Academic Calendar Change Feedback from Standing Committees**

J. Mahdavi said SAC was generally favorable of the change and noted the student resolution on the same topic. Their concern was about students receiving good advising regarding the lack of a winter intersession. R. Senghas said FSAC had preliminary feedback that perhaps the calendar change could be started in 2013. Departments that had expressed concern were Nursing, Music and Theater Arts. E. Newman said that EPC was hearing the same feedback that FSAC was about specific departments concerns and also had questions about how many students take intersession classes, why they take intersession, were they doing it for prerequisites, what were the implications of changing intersession from January to May and they brought up postponing to 2013 as well. R. Senghas also noted the loss of prep time for faculty was brought up as a concern, not an insurmountable one, but still brought up. K. Estrada, Chair of APC, voiced her own opinion that the work that would need to be done would need to be done in any semester. She asked if there was a systematic way to gather faculty opinion. There was further discussion regarding the feedback. **Motion to have the Executive Committee recommend delaying the calendar change to 2013 and during that time ask EPC to review the calendar guidelines. Second.** The President said he thought that if the campus did not make this change now, the Chancellor would impose a calendar beginning the first week of January. He said he intellectually agreed with starting in 2013, but knew it had become a major issue with the Chancellor. The Provost said he thought that the better approach was to make the change and help minimize the difficulties in specific units. A member asked for the Administrators to step in and help with the specific situations, especially where units are working with community members.

Time certain reached.

## Counseling and Psychological Services – M. Lopez-Phillips and L. Wyatt

M. Lopez-Phillips noted that the packet provided had been given to the Fee Advisory Committee and he asked Dr. Wyatt to give a brief overview of the need for the fee for Counseling and Psychological Services. L. Wyatt provided context for how much the Counseling Center needed more staff. She wanted the Center to come to the national standard of 1 counselor to 1500 students. The fee increase would bring the Counseling Center to that ratio. She discussed the various ideas that had been proposed for how the Counseling Center could function and noted that the student population on campus was presenting serious mental health issues currently which they were seeing all over the nation. She said the Center could not afford to use non-professional or non-licensed staff. She asked for questions. The CFA President asked if the new staff would be tenure-track faculty. L. Wyatt said they would be counseling faculty with one-year appointments. The CFA President expressed concern about the new hires not being tenure-track appointments. L. Wyatt discussed the EO order about the new Counseling fee and described how many more direct service hours would be able to be provided as well as outreach and prevention activities. She then discussed the issues with hiring tenure track faculty at this point in time. A member advocated creating stronger ties between the Counseling Department and the Counseling Center. There was further discussion about hiring lecturers versus tenure-track counseling faculty.

## Return to Academic Calendar change feedback

Discussion continued on the motion to start the calendar change in 2013. **Motion to amend that the calendar guidelines come back to the Senate this spring. Second.** The EPC chair provided information about how busy EPC was with curricular revisions and stated that she did not want to work on the guidelines this spring. **Vote on amendment – Failed.** There was further discussion on the motion to recommend a delay of the academic calendar to 2013. The Provost and President committed to helping units who had community partnerships that would be affected by the calendar.

**Vote on delaying change of calendar to 2013 – Failed.**

## CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported on the recent bargaining between the CFA and the CSU and he noted that the CSU had posted all the proposals from bargaining online to “counter misinformation” and had left two proposals off that CFA had offered. He strongly encouraged faculty to read the CFA website as well as what the Chancellor’s office reported about bargaining. He noted that CFA would be meeting locally with the President and his designees to talk about implications of the budget situation on workload and other employment matters. He announced an event that would be a plea for Class Action on Public Higher Education on April 13<sup>th</sup> that would coincide with similar events around the country. CFA, Students for Quality Education, and other groups were jointly organizing it. He noted that bargaining sessions were scheduled through May.

## **Latin American Studies minor Re-organization – E. Newman**

E. Newman introduced the item and noted that the main advisor for this minor had left campus and the new advisors were both history faculty, so the minor was moving to history. It had been approved by the all approvers on the reorganization form. **There was a motion to put it on the consent calendar. Second.** There was discussion about the status of the form and **it was agreed that the item would be an information item to the Senate.**

## **FSAC Endorsement Language for FSSP Report – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas passed out a draft of endorsement language from FSAC based on comments heard at the Senate regarding the report from FSSP. He noted that feedback could go to him during the coming week. He asked if the endorsement language needed to come back to the Executive Committee. It was decided that FSAC's endorsement language could go directly to the Senate.

## **Senate Agenda**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – John Wingard

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes 2/24/11 & 3/10/11 – emailed

**INFORMATION ITEMS:** Latin American Studies reorganization - emailed; Academic Calendar change - attached

### **BUSINESS**

1. GE Unit Policy – Second Reading – E. Newman
2. Request for endorsement of Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship – R. Senghas – Second Reading – report emailed – endorsement available at meeting TC 3:35
3. From SAC: Proposal for revised Class Attendance Policy to be university policy – First Reading – J. Mahdavi – attached TC 3:20

## **Approved.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*