

THE MINUTES OF THE EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
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July 19, 2012

(EC-16)

Members Present: Lynn Williams (Chair), Kevin Ayotte (Vice-Chair), Provost William Covino, John Constable (Budget), Gena Gechter (University-wide), Arthur Montejano (Student), James Mullooly (AP&P), Melanie Ram (Political Science), Mamta Rawat (Personnel)

Excused Absent: President John Welty, Jacinta Amaral (Statewide), Otto Schweizer (Criminology)

Visitors: Venita Baker, Patrick Newell (Library), Paula Popma (Library), Kimberley Robles Smith (Library), Monica Fusich (Library), Cynthia Teniente-Matson (VP for Administration), Art Parham (Budget), Dave Tyckoson (Associate Dean, Library), Marilyn Wilson (Graduate Committee)

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chair Williams in the Senate Conference Room, Thomas Administration 117.

1. Agenda.

MSC to approve the Agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of 6/21/12.

Chair Williams stated that revisions will be made to items 3, 4, and 5 in the minutes and they will be resubmitted at the next meeting.

3. Communications and Announcements.

A. CSU Budget

Provost Covino summarized information on the current budget situation from a packet presented to the committee. Two scenarios for addressing the \$250 million “trigger” cut that will occur if the Governor’s tax proposal fails in

November were discussed. Scenario 1 includes \$150/semester tuition increase (with no portion allocated to increasing financial aid), 2.5% decrease in salary and benefits for faculty/staff/administrators, decreased assigned time, use of one-time Continuing Education and other reserves, and beginning in 2013-14 a third-tier tuition structure and increased non-resident tuition. Scenario 2 includes no tuition increase but a 1.5% enrollment reduction with associated reductions in faculty/staff positions, 5.25% decrease in salary and benefits for faculty/staff/administrators, decreased assigned time, and beginning in 2013-14 a third-tier tuition structure and increased non-resident tuition.

A. Parham (Budget) asked whether enrollment reductions would be implemented by enforcing CSU admission requirements, because current demand is falsely inflated when admission standards are not applied. Provost Covino replied that this had not been discussed formally to his knowledge.

Discussion continued regarding possible changes in enrollment demand depending upon cost of attendance.

Parham asked whether planning scenarios showing impact on students, faculty, and staff (including impact if Scenarios 1 or 2 above are not implemented) have been made public to demonstrate consequences of failure to pass the Governor's tax proposal. Vice-President Teniente-Matson and Provost Covino stated that they would look into the public dissemination of this information.

B. Library Reorganization – Patrick Newell (Library) and Associate Dean Dave Tyckoson (Library)

Associate Dean Tyckoson explained that the Library's 7-year review and Dean's internal 5-year review have concluded that budget cuts, including reductions in faculty and staff, as well as changes in the usage of library resources have demonstrated that the current structure of library services is unsustainable. One planned change is the creation of a User Services Division with a component for each School/College comprised of existing library

faculty and staff. Staff will be consolidated into better-organized service points throughout the library.

Monica Fusich (Library) expressed a concern that the changes planned by library administrators did not involve consultation with library faculty, that the process was uncollegial, and that the changes may be ineffective.

Senator Ram (Political Science) asked whether there is a mechanism in place for consultation with library faculty. Associate Dean Tyckoson stated that the proposed changes were at the direction of the Library Dean and they are now in the process of gathering feedback from faculty.

Discussion ensued regarding the extent of administration consultation with library faculty. Patrick Newell explained changes in the Reference Department that were shared with that faculty. Discussion of the changes and consultation process continued.

C. Archiving Senate Documents – Patrick Newell (Library)

P. Newell described a digital archival process being implemented at some CSU campuses (e.g., CalPoly) to preserve as well as make accessible Academic Senate documents through the university library. Discussion ensued regarding the viability of and interest in implementing this system at Fresno State.

MSC to have P. Newell coordinate with V. Baker to develop a procedure for archiving Senate documents through the Library.

4. Campus Diversity Plan – Vice President Teniente-Matson.

VP Teniente-Matson distributed a draft “Rise to Excellence” newsletter from the President’s Commission on Human Relations and Equity and described the Commission’s work and membership.

VP Teniente-Matson noted concerns raised by faculty regarding inadequate consultation about Theme 3 in the report (Promoting and Supporting Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship). The Commission will be meeting on August 9 in a retreat setting to

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review feedback on this theme so that it can better reflect teaching and scholarship related to issues of diversity. Some faculty already on the Commission believe more faculty input would be helpful and so VP Teniente-Matson and Provost Covino are requesting the Expanded Executive Committee help identify 3 additional faculty members who are interested in attending the retreat. Discussion ensued regarding qualifications for additional faculty members.

MSC to have Chair Williams draft a call for faculty interest in the August 9 retreat. The call should note that this retreat is only for preliminary input in reviewing Theme 3. Interested faculty should include a cv or description of qualifications along with self-nominations. The Expanded Executive Committee will review nominations and select 3 faculty.

5. Interim Graduate Policies – Marilyn Wilson (University Graduate Committee).

A. Policy on Blended Undergraduate and Graduate Programs.

M. Wilson summarized the proposed interim policy. Discussion ensued regarding potential confusion of the term “blended” with usage of the term in Liberal Studies. Provost Covino noted that “blended” is the terminology used by the Chancellor’s Office on this issue.

A. Parham stated that this policy is needed to simplify student access to graduate education.

A friendly amendment was proposed and accepted to revise the policy name to “Policy on Blended/Accelerated Undergraduate and Graduate Programs” to address terminology concerns.

MSC to recommend approval of the Policy on Blended/Accelerated Undergraduate and Graduate Programs as an interim policy until full Senate review.

B. Policy on Dual-listed and Co-scheduled Courses.

M. Wilson summarized the proposed interim policy.

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Vice-Chair Ayotte noted unclear language on p. 2, item 5.b. (“to provide to demonstrate”).

Senator Ram (Political Science) expressed concern about basing university policy on the Lumina Foundation recommendations without closer study, as well as a concern that the policy substantially increases the work required of faculty in proposing new graduate courses. Discussion ensued regarding the complexity of the criteria for distinguishing undergraduate and graduate course work as presented in the proposed policy.

Provost Covino stated that the next round of WASC accreditation will require the sort of differentiation between undergraduate and graduate courses described in the proposed policy. Discussion continued regarding the widespread use of dual-listed courses at other universities and the potential positive and negative consequences for graduate programs at Fresno State.

MSC to refer the Policy on Dual-listed and Co-scheduled Courses back to the University Graduate Committee for revision based upon the concerns raised by the Expanded Executive Committee.

C. Policy on Graduate Faculty Groups for Doctoral Degree Programs.

M. Wilson summarized the proposed interim policy.

Chair Williams expressed concern that a strike-out copy showing specific changes from the original was not provided to the Expanded Executive Committee.

Chair Williams stated that a strike-out copy detailing specific proposed changes from the existing policy must be provided before the Expanded Executive Committee will discuss the proposed changes.

D. Policy for Initiating Voluntary Suspension of a Graduate Program.

M. Wilson summarized the proposed interim policy. Existing policies only provide specific procedures for

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involuntary suspension of graduate programs. Discussion ensued.

Friendly amendments were proposed and accepted to change item #4 in the description of petitions submitted to the University Graduate Committee to read “action plan and criteria/timeline for reactivating the program”; and item #2 in actions required of the University Graduate Committee to read “Review criteria for reactivation...”

MSC to recommend approval of the Policy for Initiating Voluntary Suspension of a Graduate Program as an interim policy until full Senate review.

6. Director of Sponsored Programs Position.

Chair Williams explained that this item was addressed in the discussion of revision of the Minutes of 6/21/12.

MSC to adjourn at 4:08 p.m.

The next meeting of the Expanded Executive Committee will be announced.

An Agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:

Kevin J. Ayotte  
Vice-Chair  
Academic Senate

Approved by:

Lynn Williams  
Chair  
Academic Senate