

Senate Executive Committee
Special Meeting
June 14, 2012
10:00am – 11:00am, Sue Jameson room

Present: Margaret Purser, Ben Ford, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Richard Senghas, Paula Hammett (for FSAC), Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Ruben Armiñana, Armand Gilinsky, Terry Lease

Guests: Anthony Gallino, Neil Markley, Erik Dickson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips

This meeting was called by the administration for the naming opportunity. The resolution was added later.

The Chair called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

Naming Opportunity for the GMC consultation – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana noted that the meeting was a consultation. He said the campus was in the process of negotiating a gift/sponsorship/commitment from a company – MasterCard. They had letter of intent to contribute \$15 million to the university in support of the Green Music Center. Some of that money would be for the future construction of the “pavilion” for outdoor performances which would seat 2500 – 5000 people. He described where the pavilion would be in the Green Music Center area. He said there was no decision on construction and no contract, yet. The proposal was for the pavilion to be called the MasterCard pavilion. He noted that a subcommittee of the Campus Planning Committee would make a recommendation to the full Campus Planning Committee. The Executive Committee was being consulted now and if all went well, they would present this naming opportunity to the Board in mid July.

Highlights of the discussion: Did the contract preclude other naming opportunities – other payment processing companies would be precluded, but that was all; it was noted that the pavilion name would be in perpetuity; MasterCard would be the preferred card, but the GMC would take most credit cards; that the “gift” would be problematic due to the campus perception that the Weill gift covered all the rest of the construction cost of the GMC venue; a member asked how the figure to finish the GMC went from \$8 million to \$30 million. L. Furukawa-Schlereth discussed the metamorphosis of the project and said that it would now probably cost between \$15 - \$30 million to complete. A member asked about the traffic management for large events at the GMC. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they believed they could accommodate 6-7,000 people easily and that they were in discussions with the City of Rohnert Park and the City of Cotati to help deal with the departures from performances. It was clarified that emergency medical services would be available. A member asked if the facility could be use for Commencement and that was affirmed. A member asked about the completion of Schroeder Hall. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that they needed about \$5 million to finish Schroeder Hall and discussed how they were strategizing to finish that space. A. Gallino asked if On Campus Presents would be able utilize the space and the answer was, yes. L.

Furukawa-Schlereth noted that it was students that spearheaded the creation of the “pavilion.” A member asked what MasterCard was asking for in the deal. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said MasterCard wanted to have a classy image, so their advertising would be very subtle. He then discussed various aspects of the negotiations that were proprietary as they were still in negotiations. There was a question about how the naming between the MasterCard pavilion and the Weill Commons would be worked out. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that still had to be worked through. There was a question about the naming to being in perpetuity. The President noted that it was CSU policy that building names were in perpetuity. Concern was expressed about the campus becoming polarized again about the GMC since it was thought the Weill donation finished it. A member argued for the campus to establish its own brand when creating series at the GMC so that the music series were associated with music at SSU and not MasterCard. A member voiced concern about how the donation from MasterCard would be presented to the campus so as to not create any more “rancor” about the GMC and fundraising. The President said this event was not in the same category as the other fundraising for the GMC and that they would not build until they had the money and the building would be done for a set price. A member noted that there seemed to be a need for perpetual fundraising for the GMC and its operations.

Resolution Regarding Search for New Chancellor – C. Nelson

C. Nelson introduced the item. She noted the search for the new Chancellor was underway and they had scheduled an open meeting in June 28th for input from the campuses and community. She reviewed the resolved clauses. It was noted that another campus and the CFA had made a statement about this matter and that there had been some press coverage in Sacramento and Chico.

Motion to waive the first reading. Second. Approved.

Motion to amend: in 3rd resolved clause: add after . . .Chancellor Charles B. Reed, *including opportunities for additional input from all constituencies on all campuses*; and be it further; Second. Approved.

Vote on resolution – Approved.

Resolution Regarding Search for New Chancellor

Resolved: That the Executive Committee of the Sonoma State University (SSU) Academic Senate welcome both the appointment of the Faculty and Student Trustees to the Trustees Search Committee for a new chancellor, and the June 28, 2012 open meeting for members of the university community and public to provide input on the qualities desired in a new chancellor; and be it further

Resolved: That the Executive Committee of the SSU Academic Senate strongly urge the Board of Trustees to appoint an advisory committee with representation from all CSU constituencies (including but not limited to administration, faculty, staff, students and alumni) to provide advice throughout the search for a new chancellor; and be it further

Resolved: That the Executive Committee of the (SSU) Academic Senate strongly urge the Board of Trustees to conduct an open and transparent search to replace Chancellor Charles B. Reed, including opportunities for additional input from all constituencies on all campuses; and be it further

Resolved: That the Executive Committee strongly urge the finalists for the position of chancellor be publicly announced, and that public visits with the university community be scheduled; and be it further

Resolved: That this resolution be sent to the CSU Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, Campus Presidents, the Academic Senate CSU, Campus Academic Senates, the California State Student Association and the CSU Alumni Council.

Rationale *(included for minutes, but not approved as part of the resolution)*

With the announcement of Chancellor Charles B. Reed's retirement, the Board of Trustees has the task of creating a search process to find a new chancellor.

The legitimacy of the successful candidate begins with the legitimacy of the search process. On June 12, 2012 the membership of the Trustees Search Committee was announced. The Executive Committee would have preferred a more diverse hiring committee representative of all campus constituencies, but the inclusion of the Faculty and Student Trustees on the committee is welcome. Given that the Trustees Search Committee has been appointed, the Executive Committee urges the Board of Trustees to appoint a diverse and inclusive advisory committee that will foster a collaborative working relationship among all members of the university community and contribute to the depth and breadth of consultation so important to an institution grounded in shared governance principles. Precedent for an advisory committee exists in the Board's current presidential search policy.

In addition, the legitimacy that an open and transparent hiring process confers on the successful candidate will be an important asset in building a successful transition. The Executive Committee welcomes the open meeting scheduled for June 28, 2012 for the university community and public to provide input on the qualities desired in a new chancellor. We urge the Search Committee to make a wide variety of opportunities available for finalists to engage directly with members of the university community in order to develop an understanding of the challenges they will face and create the groundwork for a constructive working relationship with the university community they will lead.

Meeting the challenges facing the CSU will require the cooperation of the entire university community. The SSU Academic Senate Executive Committee firmly believes that an inclusive, open, and transparent search for a new chancellor is the best way to build the trust necessary to that cooperation.

Sources

"Big Moment of Change for higher education," Sacramento Bee, 6/3/12

"California State University Board of Trustees Begin Search for New Chancellor,"
6/12/12, CSU News Release, <http://www.calstate.edu/chancellor-transition/>

"Commit to Openness: Transparency needed in selecting new CSU chancellor," Chico
News and Review, 6/12/12

Letter to Trustees Robert Linscheid and William Hauk, Chair CSU Board of Trustees
and Chair of Selection Committee for New Chancellor from Lillian Taiz, President,
California Faculty Association, 6/6/12

Memo to Dr. Jim Postma, ASCSU Outgoing Chair and Dr. Diana Guerin, ASCSU
Incoming Chair from CSU Fullerton Academic Senate Executive Committee, 6/5/12

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström