

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

October 23, 2008

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Present: Tim Wandling, Scott Miller, Deb Kindy, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Terry Lease, Ruben Armiñana, Sunil Tiwari, Carmen Works, Eduardo Ochoa, Art Warmoth, Susan Moulton, Andy Merrifield, Karen Thompson

Absent: Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips

Guests: Steve Wilson, Derek Pierre, Tristan Kelley, Mike Ezra

Approval of Agenda – one item added “Senate response to acts of vandalism.”
Approved.

Minutes delayed.

Chair Report – S. Miller

S. Miller reported on the Diversity Conference he attended last week. He said his attention is on the budgetary situation and he is meeting with the Provost and President and noted that there may not be that many good ideas available to the campus. He and the CFO are working together with other campus constituencies to sponsor campus forums on the budget. He thanked S. Moulton and T. Wandling for chairing the last Senate meeting. He noted his awareness that there was a request for more discussion on planning at the Senate. A member asked if the Chair thought the ideas from the Diversity Conference would allow us to be a more diverse campus next year. S. Miller responded yes, incrementally. He felt he had tools to help with incremental change at SSU. He noted the disparity between campuses represented at the conference in terms of personnel in charge of diversity.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana discussed the Chancellor’s email about an immediate budget reduction and possible further budget reductions in January. He provided background on the current budget reduction. The State is now sweeping up money left over from state agencies from last year’s budget and for the CSU that comes to 31.3 million dollars. The CSU is taking that money out of reserves. It leaves the campus with \$1400 in the university reserves. He described probable costs that can occur in the coming year. He said there is a very strong possibility of a mid year reduction. These cuts will basically take away the \$97 million the CSU received in the budget that recently passed which puts the CSU back to the January budget. However, the cuts need to be made in one semester. He reviewed the pros and cons of various options. He noted the FTE over enrollment in the CSU was the size of CSU Chico. He said the ‘09-’10 budget looks awful.

Minor in Jewish Studies – C. Works and M. Ezra

C. Works introduced the item and read the motion passed by EPC about the proposal for the minor which limits the minor to three years if the expected external funding is not realized. She noted that the proposal had gone through all appropriate committees up to this point. She noted the questions that had come up in a previous Executive Committee and M. Ezra answered them. There was discussion.

This item was approved for the Senate agenda.

Questions for the President

A member asked how the policy of access and the over enrollment issues might play out in the legislature. The President said they have been told to get as close to target as possible. He noted that a significant number of the over enrollment students are special admits. Also, we are doing better at retention and average unit load. He also said that the system and universities cannot offer a course of study so much in excess with limited resources. He thought whatever the outcome, the students will be disadvantaged. A member remarked that he thought the over-enrollment was a huge mistake. The President discussed how enrollment models are derived and used and why they are not holding currently. He noted that the issue was more on the transfer side than the freshman side while discussing all the variables causing over enrollment. A member asked if freshman admits would be limited in the coming semesters. The President said the freshman class came in below target, so it was not a freshmen problem. The member asked further if the President would be revisiting his no lay off of permanent employees policy. He said he did not anticipate lay off of permanent employees.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa reported on the strategies being contemplated to deal with the budget cuts. He then said that his office, after consultation with various people, had decided to go ahead with the 16 unit cap for students. There would still be a petition process for students that needed more units to graduate and a blanket exemption for Hutchins students and post baccalaureate education students. There was considerable discussion about the 16-unit cap and consultation with faculty governance.

It was moved and approved to extend the discussion for 5 minutes.

The Provost noted that there will be fewer classes and fewer seats. The question is how to ration the seats we will have and the 16-unit cap is a way to do that. D. Pierre noted that the AS will be passing a resolution opposing the 16-unit cap. The students feel the cap is limiting student's education. He argued that the budget cuts could be taken by other places in the university besides instruction. The chair of SAC noted that they had talked about it at their last meeting and confirmed that students do not like it. The SAC felt that graduating seniors should be exempt and should not have to fill out a form. The Chair-Elect noted that the cap would prevent students from

taking other courses that round out a liberal arts education. The Provost noted that 50% of students this semester have less than 15 units.

Check in on Committee Business – S. Miller

S. Miller asked the Standing Committee Chairs what business might be coming forward and how things were going generally. The Chair of APC provided a written report and talked about the difficulties planning in the current fiscal environment. The Chair of EPC noted business items that would come to the Senate and other work of the committee. The Chair of FSAC noted that FSAC wanted the Executive Committee to charge Structure and Functions with creating an appeals panel for the PPI program. He reported on the implementation of the new RTP policy and other business. He requested deadlines for the work FSAC is doing. The CFA Chapter President explained the process for creating the appeals panel for PPI. The Chair of SAC explained the collaborative projects they were working on.

The Chair asked to postpone the item about the status of reports for the CFA Chapter President and the Vice President of SAEM. *No objection.*

Provost Report continued

Questions and comments continued regarding the 16 unit cap. A student argued that the cap was limiting the education he paid for. A member noted that there were two questions – how to allocate the reduced sections fairly within Academic Affairs and whether university wide other budget decisions could be made. D. Pierre student argued that classes should have first priority in budgeting. He argued that it was an opportunity for Academic Affairs, faculty and students to unite. A member argued that perhaps after first registration students could then enroll in more units.

Chair-Elect Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton reported that Structure and Functions has two recommendations for the Campus Planning Committee that need Senate approval. They were Scott Severson and Michael Visser. They are also looking for a rep from Business and Econ for the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee and a rep from Arts and Humanities for SAC. They are updating the by-laws for grammar and spelling. The Associated Students also brought their voting resolution to the committee and it was passed unanimously by S&F.

General Questions

It was noted that the CFA President had a question for the Provost. He asked when the faculty who were eligible for PPI's would be notified. The Provost said M. Barnard was handling that and he thought it would be very soon.

The Chair of EPC asked if the Executive Committee wanted the GE learning outcomes to go through the Senate for approval. The Chair said he would gather together all the questions from the Committee reports. **It was moved that the learning outcomes come to the Executive Committee. *Approved.***

EPC Report – C. Works

C. Works reported that the move from 3 - 4 units by departments in the GE program is under review in EPC. They are considering how to deal with that to keep a healthy mix of courses at 3 and 4 units.

Discussion of student vote on EPC and SAC – K. Thompson

K. Thompson said she brought the item forward to get feedback from the Executive Committee before the discussion about it in SAC. D. Pierre explained that the students want a vote on APC, EPC and SAC and their subcommittees. He requested the proposal to change the by-laws be put on the Senate agenda. He noted the background research they did on the issue. It was clarified that the students were not asking for seats on committees they do not have seats on now. There was discussion. **It was moved that the item be put on the Senate agenda. Second.** Discussion. *Approved.*

Third Discussion on WASC issues – S. Miller

S. Miller read from the WASC report on how the campus is using learning outcomes and assessment and what needs to still be done. He thought the item could be called “Closing the Loop on Assessment” and suggested that C. Works carry the item at the Senate. N. Rank was suggested. Also suggested to speak at the Senate was E. McGuckin from Hutchins. There was further discussion about the item and how it would be presented at the Senate.

Senate response to acts of vandalism – T. Wandling and others

T. Wandling asked the President for funds to print more Safe Zone stickers as a faculty member had his torn down five times in two weeks and he wanted to put one up to show solidarity. He said that L. Holmström, a co-founder of the Safe Zone program, was out of stickers. The President agreed. **Motion for the Chair to bring a resolution to the Senate condemning the acts of vandalism related to the Safe Zone stickers. Second.** Discussion. **Questioned called. Second. Vote on ending debate. Approved. Vote on motion. Approved.** The President said he had talked to the Chief of Police as well and noted that stickers were not enough to solve the problem.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Scott Miller

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes – 10/2/08 & 10/16/08 emailed

➤ Update on WASC

Special Report: SSU Athletics – B. Fusco, L. Furukawa-Schlereth and D. Dove T.C. 4:00

BUSINESS

1. Resolution Condemning Hate Crimes Against Members of the Campus Community – First Reading – attachment – C. Nelson & S. Miller T.C. 3:15
2. New minor in Jewish Studies – First Reading – attachments – C. Works T.C. 3:30
3. By-Law amendments – Student suffrage on standing committees and subcommittees – First Reading – attachments - S. Moulton
4. Continuation of Second WASC Discussion on Coalescing Planning Processes (*attachments in 10/16 agenda*)

Approved.

There was continued discussion of the 16-unit cap and how it might be managed.

The meeting was extended by 5 minutes to continue the discussion.

Good of the Order

S. Wilson announced that the CFA Affirmative Action committee would be holding a diversity workshop the following Tuesday.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström