

Academic Senate minutes

4/24/03

3:30 – 5:30 Commons

Abstract

Report from Chair. Correspondence received from Kerry Mazzoni. Agenda amended and approved. Approval of full minutes delayed, summary of actions submitted. Reports from President, (Rose Bruce for) Provost, Vice-President of Administration and Finance. Two information items offered – Resolution on Large Enrollment Classes and Resolution from Associated Students: On Faculty Deadline for Textbook Orders. First reading on Resolution on University Community Solidarity Fund. Report from Stuart Jones, Director of Development.

Present: Noel Byrne, Rick Luttmann, Susan McKillop, Victor Garlin, Wanda Boda, Robert Karlsrud, Eric McGuckin, LeiLani Nishime, Tim Wandling, Heidi LaMoreaux, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Liz Thach, Edith Mendez, Richard Whitkus, Steve Winter, Peter Phillips, GerryAnn Olson, John Kornfeld, Raye Lynn Thomas, Scott Miller, Jan Beaulyn, Marilyn Dudley-Flores, Birch Moonwomon, Helmut Wautischer, Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Ephraim Freed, Greg Tichava, Art Warmoth, Elizabeth Stanny, Karen Thompson

Absent: Catherine Nelson, Phil McGough, Steve Cuellar, Sunil Tiwari, Derek Girman, Robert McNamara, Bernie Goldstein

Proxies: Jeff Silverman for Steve Wilson, Jamie Holian for Jen Minnich

Guests: Rose Bruce, Elaine Sundberg, Judith Hunt, Melanie Dreisbach

Meeting began 3:40

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Noel Byrne

N. Byrne reported that minutes will be delayed for awhile as Laurel masters the new voice recognition software. She has suggested she make available a summary of actions that will be available with each Senate packet. Thus a summary of the actions of the Senate meeting of 4/3/03 is included today. He brought up a matter that he thought the Senate should be aware of and perhaps consider at greater length later in the meeting. PeopleSoft training is now required by all faculty so that are grades can be submitted. The question arises as to the circumstance of adjunct faculty, are they going to be required to undergo people soft training in order to submit their grades since the paper option is not available? If so this does raise the issue of compensation. We may want to address this at a later point if not today than at a later meeting.

Correspondences: Letter from Kerry Mazzoni

N. Byrne reported on a letter included in the Senate packet from Kerry Mazzoni. The letter to the editor in the San Diego Union regards the budgets allocated to the

community colleges, the CSU and the UC systems. One of the central points of the letter is that the CSU and UC are not provided budgetary resources in proportion to the tasks that must be performed in the same proportion as the community colleges. He commended it to the Senate's attention. He then deferred time to Wanda Boda for an announcement.

W. Boda announced to the Senate that the second survey of freshman has been sent to freshman courses and she wanted to underline the importance of having students complete the survey. If you can't fill it out, let us know and we'll give it to another course. It gives us a good assessment of how they are doing after their first year. Dr. Rose Bruce has been doing the same assessment for about 4 or 5 years and we're trying to get a database of all the information. Compliance has been low in the past which limits the analysis. R. Bruce noted that in terms of the discussion on campus about our GE program, this is a tangible way to get concrete information if we get a large enough sample size. We know faculty time is very important, but this would allow us to make some very meaningful comparisons of the freshman year experience. She thanked the Senate for its help.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda – The Chair set time certain. R. Coleman-Senghor noted an information item of the preliminary WASC Diversity and Planning Statements was forthcoming to the session. **Agenda as amended approved.**

Approval of Minutes – Summary of Actions presented. Full minutes delayed.

REPORTS

R. Armiñana reported on three items. Budget – The May revise it is due three weeks from now. The assembly Democrats reluctantly accepted yesterday a proposal from the speaker that includes a significant number of cuts. No details are currently available. They hoped they would get Republican support to issues about two billion dollars in bonds, before May 9th, to pay PERS contributions. Most of the cuts appear to be ones recommended in the Governor's January budget. At least there is some movement to provide a sufficient level of revenue and cuts - approximately 40 billion dollars towards that 36+ billion-dollar cuts. But there are not details. There has been a statement from systemwide about a bill setting a framework for blended education degree with a maximum of 135 units. The bill has a lot of other pieces dealing with articulation with that community colleges. There is an attempt to see if the bill could be enacted as an revision to Title V. There is a short timeline on this. One of the major issues of the legislature is programs that have two many units. Suggestions that this blended program could have more than 135 units would not be welcome by the authors of the bill, who I believe have the votes. We ought to be concerned about legislative intrusion in curricular matters. He reported that he hopes to make a decision on the new Provost the first week of May.

N. Byrne noted that B. Goldstein was not available today, but that Dr. Rose Bruce was in attendance to offer a report.

R. Bruce stated that B. Goldstein asked her to mention had a Diversity Retreat last Tuesday. The purpose was to share with the campus community what was done in

the past year in the Campus Climate Committee and the Diversity Steering Committee to implement the Diversity Vision Statement. We realized a lot of people couldn't attend, so there will another venue to share that information with you and will be bringing clear initiatives to the new Provost. She also passed out the drafts of the WASC report on Diversity and on Planning. These reports have gone to APC and SAC and have their input. This is an evolving document brought to you as an information item. Please send any comments to me or to R. Coleman-Senghor or K. Thompson. The documents will come before the Senate again in the Fall and the final report goes office campus in January. WASC will visit in Spring '04.

N. Byrne asked if there were any questions for President Armiñana.

V. Garlin asked the President to state the character of the university's commitment at this time for student access and section funding. R. Armiñana responded that the university has the same commitment it had before. We have committed \$650,000.00 and need to find another \$250,000.00 - \$300,000.00 more. That carries us to the Governor's budget.

Vice President/Admin. and Finance - (L. Furukawa-Schlereth) T. C. 4:00

L. Furukawa-Schlereth passed out a handout. He reported that the Provost Search committee plans to meet Tuesday morning and would appreciate any feedback from Senators who have had a chance to meet with the candidates by end of day Monday. He reported on the Green Music Center construction bid. The bid went out approximately two weeks ago and has come in at \$2.5 million over our estimate. Given the initial construction estimate was two years old and the modest inflation rate, this information was not too bad. We do not have that \$2.5 million and the President authorized my office to reject all the bids. We are now looking carefully at the construction documents to see what could be removed or eliminated, deferred or reengineered in some way so we can go back to bid in the not too distant future. He reported that the 2002-2003 budget document is out and advised the body where it can be located on campus – On Reserve in the Library, Dean's offices, Senate office, etc. If you have any questions about it, I'd be happy to provide elaboration. The main topic of the report concerned a brief on where the campus stands with this year's budget planning as we go into the May revision. The handout describes this information. L. Furukawa - Schlereth briefly discussed the items shown. Approximately \$4,000,000.00 will be gone from the budget starting the July 03 year assuming the Governor's budget. He then described how the cuts were allocated to the various departments of campus. What this means is that first of all, there should be no loss of employment for permanent people, employees of Sonoma State University because of the Governor's budget reduction. Second, it does appear we will make our target enrollment next year if we are able to receive the January budget. In order for things to work so as not to have a significant impact on courses of instruction for our students, we do have about a \$917,000.00 budget gap. That is not a precise figure, it is a best estimate the Dean's have been able to give us. We have identified \$650,000.00 toward the \$917,000.00. My confidence level is about 95% that we will find the difference from year-end analysis. The President has not approved over \$917,000.00. That will mitigate largely student issues, but the campus will be very, very different next year. Many of those things in support of instruction will be gone in the '03-'04 year. The PBAC meeting has been moved to May 22 to have time to fully

understand the May revision and receive guidance from the Trustees. If the May revision is substantially different than the January budget it becomes very, very difficult to make target enrollment. The Fall schedule is set and we will proceed with that.

(The recording quality was severely degraded after this point in the meeting. Please refer to the abstract.)

submitted by Laurel Holmstrom