

Executive Committee Minutes

February 2, 2006

3:00 – 5:00 Sue Jameson Room

Present: Elizabeth Stanny, Edith Mendez, Elaine McDonald, Elizabeth Martinez, Melanie Dreisbach, John Wingard, Art Warmoth, Perry Marker, Ruben Armiñana, Eduardo Ochoa, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Doug Jordan, Carlos Ayala, Robert McNamara

Guests: Steve Wilson, Rick Luttmann

Approval of Agenda – items added: Resolution on the Green Music Center from Senator Luttmann; Revision to Chemistry minor; Revisions to Global Studies major – *Approved*.

Approval of Minutes of 12/8/06 – Approved.

Chair Report – E. Stanny

The Chair reported that the Spring Convocation went pretty well and the body would discuss that further as it is a business item on the agenda. The Faculty Retreat went pretty well too and the Analyst is preparing a summary of the issues brought out in the retreat and how they might be addressed.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported on the Board of Trustees meeting. He noted that the issues on our campus are not unique to our campus, they are CSU wide issues. He reported that only 10 campuses were able to submit their financial reporting packages for an audit. The Board was not happy that 14 did not submit them. He stated that some people think that it's only their side that has had budget cuts or workload increases, but the budget cuts have affected everybody. Not having the financial reports affected the whole university in its bond rating, its ability to contract debt, and its ability to justify the disbursement of financial aid. The President reported on his reflections on the Faculty Retreat. He stated there are certain things he cannot give the faculty. Joint decision-making is not something he has the authority to give, it has to be given by the Board of Trustees. We have consultative shared governance, not joint decision-making.

The President was asked about the campus being 2% below target and if there is a payback, when that would occur. The President responded that it would be next year. He stated that we are 220 within the target number and the contract courses are not in. All CSU campuses are in deficit, except for about three. Fullerton is the main campus that is over target, helping the whole system, due to going to YRO and thus it will not be there next year. However, other campuses that have been historically way over target are struggling. There was a 7-10% drop in the enrollment in community colleges. The number of high school students in the A through G curriculum is not growing.

The Chair asked the President if a decision to decrease enrollment targets was made, when would it be made. The President responded that he could not give that answer. We are targeted to grow 2.5% next year. The Chair followed up asking historically how many people enroll in contract courses. The President responded well over 100+. He said that the target is moving and we won't know for sure yet. The Statewide Senator noted that it would be beneficial if the Chancellor would average out the years instead of taking one year and punishing us as well as looking at how well campuses are doing on the graduation initiative. The President said all those issues are on the table. He noted that unless the state does something significant in getting more students in the A-G curriculum in high school, it is on a crash course to mediocrity. Sonoma County's participation in this regard has not been significant or stellar.

The President was asked about the overall relationship between performance in the majors and performance in general education, in terms of meeting targets. The Provost responded that some schools are making target and some are not, there are some shortages in GE courses and some in major requirements. The one general statement that can be made is that we have to improve how we create the schedule for the needs of our students. The President said that the unavailability of Darwin Hall has impacted the School of Science and Technology.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

The Provost had no report. The Chair asked him to comment on the Statewide RTP best practices workshop. He responded that he was asked by statewide to work with the Senate to identify participants, three faculty and a couple of administrators are going. Included in the group is Bill Poe, who is chair of RTP and a meeting is scheduled with him and the other faculty to discuss how they can best use the workshop. The faculty are Bill Poe, Melanie Dreisbach and Andy Wallace. It was noted that the Modern Languages Association will be coming out with an RTP best practices in the Humanities in their journal.

There was further discussion about anxiety and RTP at SSU. The President said that in 13 years he has not seen anyone turned down who did what was expected of them. The Provost said he thought the newer faculty were more concerned about the transparency of the process and exactly what is expected. It was noted that what constitutes appropriate scholarship is not clear. The Statewide Senator noted that statewide the campus RTP practices are not uniform and if scholarship is being emphasized more than that brings up discussions of resources. He also expressed concern about how the decision was made about the faculty going to the workshop. He thought it would have come to the Executive Committee. The Provost said the memo was directed to the Provosts to work with the Senate.

Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara reported that the Statewide Senate met for three days and reported on highlights of the sessions. One resolution that came out of the Faculty Affairs committee concerned support for probationary faculty, especially new hires. They got reports about bargaining from two different people. The contract was extended sixty days. FERP is still on the table as well as merit pay. In the plenary they passed

a resolution that generated from our campus on boycotting McGraw Hill. It was about external pressure on the curriculum and passed unanimously. Another resolution was passed on the graduation initiative and faculty concern about the impact on quality. A lot of time was spent discussing a constitutional amendment concerning the budget for the Senate and reducing the size of the Senate. He noted the concern that the Board is not understanding shared governance from a faculty perspective. With this new Board of Trustees, there's a sense there needs to be more communication.

Resolution on the Green Music Center – R. Luttmann

R. Luttmann introduced the reasons behind his resolution – financial duress, average class size has gone up, faculty workload has gone up, the ability to work closely with students has gone down, and SSU's reputation has gone down. There are little and big things to worry about like copy budgets and the computer refresh program, the ability to maintain small classes, and possible decreasing enrollment. He called the proposal for Academic Affairs to pay for the Green Music Center deficit of 850 thousand dollars outrageous and preposterous. Academic Affairs cannot afford to that kind of money and additionally, the GMC is not a faculty initiative. He proposed in his resolution that Academic Affairs pay nothing toward the GMC operating deficit.

The Provost stated he wanted to correct statements of fact. He stated that SSU's reputation has improved over the years, not declined. He stated that he is committed to restarting the computer refresh program next year. He said calling it a deficit a misnomer and that the figure is part of the operating budget and includes academic activity. He stated the FTE that will be generated in that building will create a revenue stream. He said the academic support budget is realistic.

Questions and discussion continued. (*full discussion available on SSU-5 server*)

Motion that resolution is ready to go forward to the Senate for debate and discussion. Second. Discussion.

Amendment to motion to send it forward to the Senate on February 23rd. Second. Approved.

Vote on motion of readiness – Approved.

Revision of Chemistry Minor – P. Marker

P. Marker said that this item was a carry over from last semester. EPC had already approved it, but there were some changes to be made. It is now ready for the Senate. It had unanimous consent at all levels. There was discussion to clarify the revisions.

Motion to put on consent calendar with signatures. Second. Approved.

Revision of Global Studies Major – P. Marker

P. Marker introduced the item and summarized the revisions. It had been approved unanimously at all levels.

Motion to put item forward as a business item with appropriate signatures. Second.

There was discussion about appropriate forms and processes for curriculum changes.

It was suggested that the curriculum change form, once updated, be linked to the Senate website.

Vote on motion to put item forward as a business item with appropriate signatures – *Approved*.

Spring Convocation Feedback – E. Stanny

E. Stanny reviewed the spring convocation survey results with the body. Of the people attending who responded with an evaluation, 75% preferred the new format.

She hoped this would be useful for the next years' convocation.

It was reported that the students were concerned about not being able to address the university at convocation. The Chair appreciated the comment and noted that only two students completed the evaluations and if the students have feedback, she would find that helpful.

The Chair thought it was a success and that pretty clear messages came out. She asked what should be done with the results of the group discussions. The Chair of APC said that APC was already looking at it.

It was suggested that more work be done on getting more faculty to attend convocation.

It was suggested to create a task force to look at this issue of spring convocation's format, timing, place, etc.

Vice President of Administration and Finance – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

No report.

APC report

A. Warmoth said he gave his report in the discussion of the convocation. They are also looking at changing the names of schools to colleges. They expect to send a recommendation forward at the next meeting.

EPC report

P. Marker reported that they will be discussing the calendar change. He discussed his understanding of the process to get it to the Senate in a timely manner.

FSAC report

C. Ayala reported that FSAC is bringing three policies forward – religious issues, faculty workload and faculty recruitment. He expressed his concern that people are going to an RTP workshop and no one from FSAC is going. He asked how information will get back to FSAC. M. Dreisbach offered her seat to someone from FSAC. The Chair asked FSAC to propose someone from their committee to replace M. Dreisbach. C. Ayala offered to go. He also reported that he spoke to the principal of the Technology High School and she would like to present to the Senate on March 9th or the 23rd at 3:00 if possible and needs 15 to 20 minutes.

SAC report

D. Jordan reported that they are working on advising best practices and will bring them to the Executive Committee when done.

Senate Agenda

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Elizabeth Stanny

Correspondences:

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes - 12/15/05 emailed

Revision to Chemistry minor

- ☛ Ongoing report: Update on WASC

BUSINESS

1. Academic Calendar Revision – First Reading – P. Marker T.C. 3:10
2. Program Review Policy – Second Reading – P. Marker – attachment T. C. 3:30
3. Consultation Policies – First Reading – E. McDonald T.C. 4:00
 - a: Faculty Consultation in University Decision Making - attachment
 - b: Faculty Consultation in Budgetary Matters – attachment
4. Revision to Global Studies Major – First Reading – P. Marker – attachment T. C 4:15
5. Standing Rule on Senate-Talk listserv – E. McDonald – attachment T.C. 4:30

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmstrom