

THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
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(AS-11)

April 16, 2018

Members excused: L. Bryant, M. Dangi, D. Lewis, S. Pooya, M. Ram, B. Singh, J. Smith-Warshaw, G. Thatcher, T. Van Camp

Members absent: P. Adams, N. Akhavan, A. Alexandrou, D. Cady, M. Golden, C. Guerra, M. Raheem, M. Richaud, E. Waldman, C. Yun, B. Zante.

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 4:04 p.m. in HML 2206.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of April 2, 2018

MSC approving the Minutes of April 2, 2018 (1 abstention)

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Provost Zelezny

The Provost shared a resolution delivered to her in Sacramento marking the tipping point of the CSU having more female university presidents than male presidents.

The Provost also introduced the new Associate Vice President of Water and Sustainability.

The Provost recognized Markel Quarles to introduce the upcoming Student Success Summit later in the week.

b. Laura Yeagar (Registrar)

Announced that students will no longer have access to grades until they become final on the grading deadline. This change has been made to increase the reliability of transcripts and other documents that reflect grades that may still change.

Senator Wilson (Computer Science) asked whether it is possible to submit partial grades for a class. The Registrar stated that this is not currently possible but she would check.

Senator Jones (Communication) asked whether any changes would be made to the existing grade change deadlines. The Registrar stated it would not.

c. Mathematics Department

Representatives of the department were recognized to report that new digital tools are being employed to advise students more effectively and assess their skills.

d. Senator Martinez (ASI)

The Senator updated the Senate on a recent ASI resolution supporting online, night and hybrid classes. The resolution calls for an increase in those course offerings to accommodate students with non-traditional schedules.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) asked for clarification as to the resolution's intent. Senator Primavera stated that the intention is to offer students more scheduling flexibility to take the classes they need.

4.) New business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

5.) Academic Senate Bylaws

Chair Holyoke stated that these changes were made to the document to bring it in line with recent changes to the university constitution.

This was considered a first-read item and will return to the agenda in the following meeting.

6.) M/I Graduate Requirement Response to E.O. 1100.

Chair Holyoke stated that this report was commissioned in response to the recent executive orders concerning M/I and other GE courses. The report concludes that M/I should be created as a separate graduation requirement outside of GE. Under the proposed plan, students will be able to double count courses in their major departments toward other requirements, though departments will be able to explicitly forbid this. In fall 2019, departments will be allowed to propose new M/I courses that can be double counted.

Senator Ram (University-wide) suggested explicitly including a moratorium on the new courses until fall 2019. Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) seconded the motion and spoke in favor of it.

Senator Kensinger asked when the changes to GE and M/I will be applied to students who are currently enrolled, or when the changes will actually take place. Dean Fu was recognized and stated that the changes will apply to students who start in 2018-2019, and none of the changes will apply to students currently enrolled.

Senator Ram asked how that would affect students who opt to change their catalog year. Dean Fu stated that students could choose to do so, but it would be complicated and there is no evidence a large number of students would do so. Senator Ram asked what kind of messaging is being given to students to educate them on these changes. Dean Fu stated that there is outreach to advisers and advising centers underway, and there is also an outreach team in place to educate students about the changes.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) stated that the report and plan seems to address many of campus concerns about the changes to M/I and commended the task force for its work. Dean Fu echoed the commendation to the committee and stated that future catalogs will explicitly mention M/I as a separate requirement and thus elevate its status.

Senator Ong (Marketing) asked how faculty expertise in M/I would be established. Chair Holyoke stated that this is still to be determined and would be determined in the coming year. Dean Fu stated that faculty would be asked to demonstrate some form of expertise in the general area in the same way faculty must demonstrate their training and qualifications to teach upper division courses in academic fields now.

Senator Sullivan (Sociology) asked how enrollment in M/I courses might change as the result of these changes and whether they would help large departments at the expense of smaller ones. Dean Fu stated that this is a curricular question, but some departments may choose to require their students to take M/I from a specific department to enhance their learning. Keith Clement (Undergraduate Curriculum Committee) stated that this was the reason behind the 2018-2019 moratorium, and that discussions were already underway to potentially cross-list some courses in Social Science.

Senator Schettler (Africana Studies) asked whether the Craig School of Business would continue to have an exemption from the M/I requirement under the new policy. Dean Fu stated that the college's exemption has already expired, and that the Management Department's M/I course will continue to count.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked whether M/I courses would automatically double count. Dean Fu clarified that a department could choose to double count units or not. By default, units will double count. Dean Fu suggested that departments could create additional degree requirements to force students to take an additional M/I course outside the department, but this is a curricular matter.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) stated that this interpretation is not in line with overall M/I goals, which is designed to force students outside their majors. Dean Fu clarified that it would be possible to force students to

take courses outside of their departments using curriculum revisions. Chair Clement reiterated that using curricular tools would be essential.

Senator Ho (Physics) asked whether new M/I courses would need to be approved by the GE committee. Dean Fu stated that new courses would need to be approved by a new M/I subcommittee that does not yet exist. Senator Mullooly (Anthropology) stated that his department would be changing its curriculum to force students outside their own program.

Senator Henson (English) asked for clarification as to what exactly the Senate is being asked to consider at this time. Chair Holyoke stated that the structure of the committees being created will be voted on next academic year. Senator Henson asked who would request the committees be created. Chair Holyoke clarified that these details are yet to be worked out, as is the exact structure of the committees. Senator Henson asked how those policies would be specifically formed, and who establishes criteria for faculty expertise in M/I, specifically for new instructors. Chair Holyoke stated that this would be left to departments to determine, but that the department would have to show that they do have faculty on hand to teach them.

Senator Schettler (Africana Studies) asked how these changes might affect the Smittcamp Honors College. Dean Fu stated that Smittcamp courses also go through the same curriculum committees, and that it is not clear whether any courses would have to change.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) stated that the policy itself should be clarified before any specific committees are formed. The Senator suggested moving the Fall 2018-Spring 2019 line of the Phase 2 action plan above the line about forming committees to clarify that policy should be determined first.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked whether the M/I task force will continue to operate, and if not asked for clarification as to the committees that will be working. Chair Holyoke stated that the task force job is done, and that new committees will need to be formed.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked for clarification as to when department chairs should submit curricular changes, especially since the policy was not

fully developed. Chair Clement stated that only new students will be affected, and departments should think now about what courses they want to count toward meeting the M/I requirement. A huge amount of curricular changes will be taking place in the coming year. Dean Fu reiterated that no current students will be affected, but departments can decide to require students to take courses outside their courses through a curricular change now.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked about informational outreach to department chairs, and how these changes are being communicated. Dean Fu stated that this outreach would be starting, and a new GE advising form has already been generated.

This was considered a first-read item and will return to the agenda in the following meeting.

7.) APM 320 Policy on the Composition of Search Committees for Designated Administrative Positions. Personnel Committee.

Chair Tsukimura (Personnel) was recognized to introduce the item. The revisions to the document began in 2015 and were sent to the Academic Senate in May 2017.

There are a number of major changes to the APM section in question. The entire document has been renumbered to be consistent with other sections. In addition, the title has been changed to be more concise. MPP positions are fully defines and procedures have been added in Sections 2, 3 and 4. Problematic definitions were removed throughout and some clarifications made. Executive Orders 883 and 927 are now included in section V.F. Search committees retain the right to review all applications in circumstances in which search firms are used.

The Senate will continue examining this matter at its next meeting.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:18 p.m. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, April 23, 2018.

Submitted by  
Bradley Hart  
Vice Chair

Approved by  
Thomas Holyoke  
Chair

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