

**Executive Committee Minutes**  
November 15, 2018  
3:00 – 5:05, Academic Affairs Conference room

**Abstract**

Agenda approved with added item. Minutes of 11/1/18 approved. Chair Report. President Report. Provost Report. ASCSU Tenets of System Level Shared Governance document added to Senate Agenda. Discussion about the Emeritus Dinner – referral from the Senate. Statewide Senator Report. Vice Chair Report. APARC Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. Senate agenda approved. CFA Report. Associated Students Report. SEC Report.

**Present:** Laura A. Watt, Melinda Milligan, Damien Wilson, Wendy Ostroff, Mark Perri, Jenn Lillig, Rita Premo, Ron Lopez, Laura Krier, Carlos Torres, Lisa Vollendorf, Erma Jean Sims

**Absent:** Carmen Works (on sabbatical), Joyce Lopes, Wm. Gregory Sawyer

**Guests:** John Dunstan, Victor Garlin, Kathleen Noonan

**Approval of Agenda – Item added: ASCSU Tenets of Shared Governance. Approved.**

**Minutes of 11/1/18 - Approved.**

**Chair Report – L. Watt**

L. Watt did not have a report for this meeting. A member noted how difficult it was for faculty with children at SSU when the local schools close and SSU does not. L. Watt said she had communicated this issue to the President and Provost.

**President Report – J. Sakaki (delivered by Provost Vollendorf)**

The Board of Trustees approved SSU's purchase of a \$42M 90-unit apartment building (the Marina Crossing) adjacent to the Petaluma Marina. There was an article in the Press Democrat today about the project. We anticipate starting to lease in late January or February.

We were glad to celebrate our first all-campus service and retiree celebration. We had a full house and two fantastic emcees (Michael Balasek and Damien Wilson).

**Provost Report – L. Vollendorf**

Provost Vollendorf gave a brief summary on the way we make decisions about closure and evaluating air quality. This includes National Weather Service projections to which we have access through the emergency management system, information about wind and inversion layers, fire predictions, and validated official air quality index information. AS Vice President John Dunstan asked some questions

that students have about: (1) whether masks were distributed during the campus closure and made available to all who worked, including culinary and RA workers (answer: they were); (2) is SSU going to put a student and a faculty member on the decision making body that operates during a crisis (answer: no, we are obligated to work within the NIMS/SIMS and similar protocols in place for declared emergencies but we are absolutely committed to strong communication through our shared governance representatives). Other concerns were brought forward and Provost Vollendorf assured Mr. Dunstan that Tyson Hill has requested to attend the next AS meeting to talk through these issues and answer questions the student leadership may have.

Provost Vollendorf explained how we reached the decision to not sponsor visas during this hiring cycle for the 2018-19 hires. Legal counsel had advised that we should take a pause to examine whether our pace of hiring international faculty was out of compliance or in danger of being out of compliance with the overarching rules that govern our ability to sponsor visas. We have performed the evaluation and consulted with legal counsel and feel confident that we are well within our ability to continue to sponsor visas. For the next cycle we can therefore make the decision to sponsor visas again, but we do feel we need to examine how we would roll out visa sponsorship in the next cycle so we can ensure we all understand what this commitment entails. Kathleen Noonan was visiting Executive Committee and expressed her overall displeasure with the decision.

### **ASCSU Tenets of System Level Shared Governance document – C. Nelson**

C. Nelson asked that this document be put on the Senate agenda to see if the SSU Senate would like to either recommend adoption of this document or recommend rejecting the document to the Statewide Senate. She provided the background to the creation of the document. The document has now been agreed upon by the statewide Executive Committee and the Chancellor's office. It cannot be amended or changed. It can only be adopted by the ASCSU or not. The Statewide Senate will have a resolution regarding adoption of the tenets, which can be amended or changed. Other senates have produced their own resolutions recommending for and against adoption. C. Nelson noted that the document was controversial systemwide. She summarized the main points of the document and discussed the pros and cons she's been hearing. Chief among the cons, was the need for a clearer definition of curriculum and concerns about the expedited process outlined in the document. There was discussion about the content of the document, the notion that shared governance is seen as passé within the administration, clarification of the con positions, concerns about the limits of faculty power in areas where they have purview, whether the tenets document was a reaffirmation of previous statements on shared governance, support for adoption if the expedited process was only used in extreme circumstances. There was a suggestion to create a pro and con document for the Senate to consider. **It was approved as a business item for the Senate agenda.**

## **Discussion about the Emeritus Dinner – referral from the Senate – V. Garlin**

V. Garlin expressed ERFSA's concern about the Senate Analyst being told she could not organize the Emeritus dinner after this year and about other substantive changes to the Senate Analyst's job description. He argued that the Emeritus dinner was a Senate function and ERFSA has been financially supporting the dinner most years. He had concerns about ERFSA not being told about it before they were told by the Senate Analyst and that the Senate Chair was not notified either. He asked the Senate to take interference in the internal affairs of the Senate as unacceptable. No one has been given a reason for removing the Senate Analyst from organizing the emeritus dinner. ERFSA would not have an issue with a new event, but they were not told about the recent event for emeriti faculty and were not invited to it. ERFSA would like to be part of a discussion about how to recognize the retirement of faculty. There was discussion. The Executive Committee requested that the Senate Chair, Vice Chair and Immediate Past Chair meet with the AVP of Faculty Affairs and the Provost, as well as the Senate Analyst to discuss this matter and how to move forward before the next Ex Com meeting.

## **Statewide Senator Report – W. Ostroff**

W. Ostroff submitted a written report and highlighted a few items. The Statewide Senate passed a couple of resolutions Observing the 20th Anniversary of the CSU Center for Community Engagement, and Student Success in Service Learning and Community Engagement; Requirements for Appointment of Course Outline of Record (COR) Evaluators for the California Course-Identification (C-ID) Process and Presidential Search Process in the California State University System; Announcement of Finalists and Visitors to Campuses. The last one was the most controversial since four campuses are searching for Presidents and they want a more open process. The CFA liaison provided an interesting report. She noted they had a very heated discussion about the tenets document. They heard budget presentations which described the budget situation in the CSU and what they will be asking for this year.

## **Vice Chair Report – M. Milligan**

M. Milligan said S&F continues to work on the interface between admin and faculty governance committees. They are still waiting for the list of committees from the administration. M. Milligan suggested that the admins were looking at where to draw the line about committees.

## **APARC Report – M. Perri**

M. Perri reported that APARC discussed the Lobo Connect software that is coming soon. APARC is worried that faculty do not keep up their grades in Canvas. They met with K. Moranski about GI 2025 and the assessment of that initiative. They discussed the Academic Affairs Strategic planning implementation with the Provost. At the next meeting, they will talk with Laura Lupei about strategic budgeting. The Chair asked if APARC was working on the Faculty Consultation in University Decision making policy. M. Perri said they were waiting for specific feedback about

what the issues are with the policy. The Chair offered to contact the admin for that feedback.

### **EPC Report – J. Lillig**

J. Lillig reported on the Open Forum for the GE revision. She noted she had a very good conversation with the Lecturer rep about their feedback on the GE revision. J. Lillig suggested that faculty governance take up the concern from lecturers about the GE revision that could affect lecturer voting rights and eligibility to serve in governance. If GE courses change from 4 units to 3 units, some lecturers would lose voting and service eligibility since they need to have 7.5 units or more to be eligible to vote and serve in faculty governance. She suggested that there be a lecturer seat on APARC or EPC. They have asked that the assessment plan for the new GE program should include effects on workload. The Chair noted that lecturers can run for any position in governance as long as they are eligible.

### **FSAC Report – R. Premo**

R. Premo reported that Faculty Affairs will be putting out a Qualtrics survey about On Base to get feedback on how that went. FSSP is considering a name/charge change to have a broader charge for research and scholarly activities, and not just sponsored programs. FSAC continues to work on the Emeritus policy. They talked to the Chair of URTP and found out that the number of sabbatical requests went up and this was the first year in a while that they had to deny worthy requests.

The Chair asked to extend 5 minutes. No objection.

### **SAC Report – R. Lopez**

R. Lopez said they continue to work on their charge. They have set the deadlines for priority registration. They will also work on a policy to honor indigenous lands at college campuses. This kind of policy is a national movement among universities.

## **Senate agenda**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Laura A. Watt

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes – emailed

### **Business**

1. Academic Affairs Strategic Plan implementation – L. Vollendorf – attached. (*this item was added after the meeting*)
2. Recommendation to the Statewide Senate for or against adoption of the Tenets of Systemwide Shared Governance – First Reading – C. Nelson TC 4:15 – attachments

**Approved.**

### **CFA Report – E. J. Sims**

E. J. Sims reminded the Ex Com that those affected by the northern or southern California fires, could apply for disaster relief with the California Teachers Association or the CFA/SEIU. More information is on the CFA statewide site.

### **Associated Students Report – J. Dunstan**

J. Dunstan noted that the AS has not taken a specific stance on the fires, but he had heard a lot of concern from students. He was unsatisfied with the answers from the Provost to his questions.

### **SEC Report – M. Perri**

M. Perri reported that the SEC was considering creating a resolution about the Second Nature initiative. (<https://secondnature.org/>)

**Adjourned.**

*Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes*