

Academic Senate Minutes
October 25, 2007
3:00 – 5:00, Commons

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda amended and approved. Mathematics Minor for Teachers approved. Associated Student Report. Provost Report. Resolution: Reaffirmation of University Policy on Non-Discrimination approved. Revision of Student Grievance Procedures first reading. Motion to create an Ad-Hoc Committee approved. Election held. Ad-Hoc committee members: C. Nelson, N. Byrne, S. Moulton. Vice President of Administration and Finance report.

Present: Tim Wandling, Elaine McDonald, Edith Mendez, Robert McNamara, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Susan Moulton, Noel Byrne, Birch Moonwomon, Michael Pinkston, Steve Wilson, Ronald Lopez, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Ada Jaarsma, Terry Lease, Steve Cuellar, Raye Lynn Thomas, Tia Watts, Murali Pillai, Richard Whitkus, Rick Luttmann, Wanda Boda, William Poe, Margaret Purser, John Wingard, James Dean, Lillian Lee, Sandra Shand, Bruce Peterson, Eduardo Ochoa, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Whitney McClure, Jonathan White, Lane Olson, Thaine Stearns, Maria Hess, Karen Thompson

Absent: Scott Miller, John Kunat, Janet Hess, John Kornfeld, John Kramer, Ruben Armiñana, Adele Merritt, Art Warmoth

Proxies: Mary Dingle for Charles Elster

Guests: Rose Bruce, Ian Hannah, Elaine Sundberg, Susan McKillop, Susan Kashack, Vanessa Franklin

Chair Report – T. Wandling

T. Wandling asked what items were being handed around the table that day and stated that that during his term he would either summarize such items or ask someone to speak to them. He said one was a substitute motion for the proposal for an Ad-Hoc committee. He passed around the original item concerning the creation of an Ad-Hoc committee showing a small change to the copy in the packet. Two items were passed out by a Senator: a WASC response and a document showing faculty turnover. Another item, which the Chair said he would speak to, was described by Senator Byrne as a communication between A. Merrifield and the Chief of Police. The Chair reported that he wrote a message to the Chief of Police about the search for a computer in Napa, as people on the Senate had questions. He described the questions he asked. He said the Chief responded and said he couldn't comment on the investigation as it was on-going. He noted that Catherine Nelson would fill in for Scott Miller, performing his duties during his absence.

Approval of Agenda – Update on WASC added. Request to add support for students in Southern California fire zone. Second. Request to add the CIHS Audit and its relationship to broader university concerns. Second. *Approved*.

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Approval of minutes – delayed. (*recordings of minutes were available on the SSU-5 server*)

Consent Item:

Mathematics Minor for Teachers – *Approved.*

Associated Student Report – W. McClure

W. McClure thanked instructors who had allowed students to come in to talk about voter registration. She said they are having a very good turnout. She reported they have the highest committee placement of students in many years and are looking for more focused students. She noted that at their meeting yesterday, they were presented with over 500 student signatures demanding the Associated Students take some kind of action on sustainability. They are contemplating a task force. They are also creating their own policy for students on search committees.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

The Provost reported that the School of Education had their revised joint doctorate program approved by WASC. Sacramento has bowed out of the arrangement. We have had a productive and cordial relationship with the remaining partner, UC Davis. The WASC Accreditation Review committee met and endorsed a suggestion by A. Merrifield to set up a series of campus conversations about WASC. They have also accepted the team what will visit us in the Spring. He read the names of the team. He said could not help but note that the Chair of the team is an expert on GE reform. He reported on enrollment and said if the trend continues, SSU may end up with 300 FTES over target by the end of the year. He discussed the ways they are strategizing to be able to support the growth. He said the Division of Academic Affairs is working with the Schools and the CFO to identify any holes in academic budgets. He said they are moving forward with 4% IDC going to the Schools and spoke about training for PIs in the wake of the CIHS investigation. He assured the body that the system priorities that have been identified this year are to fund instruction at an SFR of 18.9:1 and to have a 75/25 split between tenure-track faculty and lecturers. They have developed a methodology to keep track of tenure-track faculty and determine searches.

A Senator asked how many searches would be going on. The Provost said about 33. Another Senator asked if the campus would be paid for the over enrollment of 300 FTES. The Provost said we would not get marginal cost funding from the CSU for those students, but we do get the student tuition. The Senator asked why, if we are over enrolled, we're still admitting in the Spring. The Provost said that we still have to admit some in the Spring due to attrition. He further elaborated on why to keep admitting in the Spring. He discussed how targets are set. A Senator asked how the 18.9:1 figure was arrived at, if the 75/25 ratio would follow ACR 73 and not result in losses of lecturer employment, and asked for assurance that, if a department wished to hire their lecturer faculty through conversion, he would not stand in the way of that. The Provost said the 18.9 was what the system is at. The 75/25 is part of the legislation, but it is unfunded. They are only applying it to growth money, not the base. He said the departments have a process of tenure-track hires that he thought

did not structurally discriminate against lecturers and that under normal circumstances he would accept the recommendation of the department on faculty hires.

Time certain reached.

Resolution: Reaffirmation of University Policy on Non-Discrimination – Second Reading – R. Luttmann and R. McNamara

R. Luttmann introduced the second reading of the resolution. He said the situation was worse than he thought, as he had found out that the Athletics department had a donation from the Army for \$15,000 for a basketball tournament in December and that the tournament was going to be called the U.S. Army Basketball Classic. He then said the following, which has been transcribed verbatim:

I want to make sure it's very clear what this resolution is saying and what it is not saying. It is specifically about the issue of discrimination. The U. S. Army is a discriminatory employer. It cannot honestly subscribe to our non-discrimination policy. It is not about whether we think the Iraq war is a good thing, or whether we think it is possible to serve honorably in the military or a host of other questions that may be related. It is specifically about discrimination (against gays and lesbians).

The co-sponsor asked the Senate Analyst to send the resolution to the Athletics Department if it passes.

The Past Chair brought a statement from a faculty member who is serving on the Athletics Council. The statement described the faculty member's experience on the Council regarding the Basketball Tournament. She had raised the issue previously and was told there would be plenty of time to discuss it. It only came before the Council again recently, and she discovered that the decision had already been made.

A Senator asked about the right of a state agency to judge a federal agency in our non-discrimination policy, even though the military is a blatant discriminatory organization. He asked for the legal precedent. R. Luttmann argued that before the Solomon amendment, it was clear on this campus that the military was a discriminatory employer and we barred them from campus. After the Solomon amendment, that has changed, but the Solomon amendment does not include advertising. R. McNamara noted that the policy states discrimination against sexual orientation will not be tolerated on the campus. We have to accept recruiters because of the Solomon amendment, but not advertising.

The Chair commended the faculty member on the Athletics Council for bringing this forward and encouraged all faculty sitting on administrative committees to bring issues to the Senate.

There was continued discussion, with arguments for and against the resolution. A member argued for reworking the non-discrimination policy and asked if the funding can be stopped. The CFO said they would need to consult with the General Counsel. It was argued that the issue was not legal, and that the campus was not required to accept advertising. It was argued that the Senate should condemn the

funding and make a strong statement to enforce the policy. It was argued that there will come a day when homophobics will be viewed in the same light as racists are today, and anything the Senate could do to hasten that, it should. A member argued that the resolution could be made stronger. The Provost talked about what had been talked about in the President's Cabinet. He said that if they find that the Solomon amendment does not cover this, then we should find a way to get out of it.

Motion to extend item by 5 minutes. Second. No objection.

Motion to add third resolved clause: Resolved that the SSU Academic Senate condemns the acceptance of the money from the U.S. Military for the Basketball Tournament and urges the Administration return the money. Second.

Amendment to add phrase: and to secure alternative funding. Second. *Approved.*

Motion restated: Resolved that the SSU Academic Senate condemns the acceptance of the money from the U.S. Military for the Basketball Tournament and urges the Administration return the money and secure alternative funding. *Approved.*

Motion to add: sponsorship as well as money to new third resolved clause. Second. *No objection.*

Vote on resolution. *Approved. Unanimous.*

REAFFIRMATION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION

Resolved: that the Sonoma State Academic Senate reaffirm those principles outlined in the University policy on "non discrimination" (Policy #2003-1);

Resolved: that the Sonoma State Academic Senate urge the administration to immediately remove all advertisements from the United States military, due to its discriminatory policy against gays and lesbians, which may appear on the University web page or any other property of the University.

Resolved: that the Sonoma State University Academic Senate condemns the acceptance of money from the US Army for the basketball tournament and urges the administration to return the money and secure alternate funding and sponsorship.

Rationale: Sonoma State University has a clear policy on non-discrimination, which includes discrimination against sexual/gender preference. Paid advertisements by the Army or any other branch of the United State military are contrary to the University policy on non-discrimination given the military's current policy prohibiting gays and lesbians from openly serving in the armed forces. Recent displays include Army advertising on the University website, which the President has ordered removed, and an Army poster in the University gym, still being displayed. Such advertisements are not required under the Solomon Amendment, and contradict the University's stance on diversity and non-discrimination.

Revision of Student Grievance Procedures –First Reading - K. Thompson

K. Thompson introduced the item and explained that it needed revision based on the Senate's approval of the creation of a Fairness Board and the Formal Dispute Resolution Procedures. A Senator questioned the language that no retaliation shall ensue from a student grievance. Various members noted that this kind of language was present in other sorts of documents, such as the Civil Rights Act and union contracts.

First reading completed.

Motion to create an Ad-Hoc Committee – T. Wandling

T. Wandling passed the gavel to Past Chair McDonald-Newman. He introduced the motion as a response to the Senate from the last meeting, when the Senate had referred to the Executive Committee the structuring of 30 minute conversations in the Senate on issues related to the vote of no confidence. He stated that he has had no response from Chancellor Reed or Board of Trustee member Achtenberg to visit the campus this semester. He did talk with them informally this summer, but there has been nothing since then. He thought this [motion](#) signaled the urgency for the Senate to express its frustration concerning the issues raised by the vote. He urged the Senate to vote on it.

Motion to waive the first reading. Second. *Approved.*

Motion to substitute the Executive Committee's motion with another passed out by Senator Nelson. She described the differences, noting it now follows more precisely the Senate by-laws on creating ad-hoc committees. **Second.**

Question called. Second. *Approved.*

Vote to substitute. *Approved.*

There was discussion about whether the ad-hoc committee meetings would be open.

Motion to strike first sentence of resolved number two. Second. Yes = 21, No = 8. *Approved.*

Motion to amend: #2 "to plan and manage"... and to change all items to start with "to." Second. *Approved.*

Discussion continued on the main motion.

Question called. Second. *Approved.*

Vote on amended motion. *Approved.*

The Chair then said he would take nominations from the floor. Nominees were: B. Moonwomon, C. Nelson, N. Byrne, S. Miller, S. Moulton, E. Mendez, S. Brannen, T. Lease. Each nominee gave a brief statement about what they would bring to the ad-hoc committee. E. Mendez withdrew her name. The vote was held by secret ballot.

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While the votes were being counted, the Chair returned to reports.

Provost Report continued

A Senator asked if the 18.9 SFR was specific to Schools or for the whole university. The Provost responded that was for the whole university.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on a decision from the Campus Reengineering Committee concerning sustainability. The goal is to reduce electricity use by 15% by the year 2010. He passed out a handout showing what initiatives they would propose to do to meet this goal. He thought that any debt incurred by achieving these initiatives would be offset by the energy savings. He wanted to make the body aware of them and asked for input, either to himself directly or to faculty reps on the CRC. A Senator commended the CRC on moving in this direction and asked if the campus had investigated being a biodiesel hub. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said no, but he would look into it. Another Senator also commended the effort and asked where the 15% came from. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that within negotiations between the CSU and the CSSA they came up with 15%. A Senator asked about the CIHS report. Was it a report or an audit? L. Furukawa-Schlereth said the campus retained KPMG to render an opinion and further clarified that in the process of a financial audit an opinion is rendered.

The Chair interrupted to announce the results of the election for the Ad-Hoc committee: N. Byrne, C. Nelson and S. Moulton.

Motion to extend by 5 minutes. Second. No objection.

Motion to change the agenda to move to the item added regarding support for students in Southern California. Second.

Discussion. Vote on motion. Failed.

Questions for Vice President of Administration and Finance

A Senator asked if the CRC was working with the Green Building Program in ENSP. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they were working with students and appreciated all the good comments.

A Senator asked about the rumor that an administration and finance employee was deputized and given a gun for the Napa police action. He also asked, if this was true, was the person given training to handle a weapon and why were they deputized? L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he had no knowledge of the event at all.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmstrom