

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
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(EC-13)

February 12, 2018

Members present: Thomas Holyoke (Chair), Bradley Hart (Vice Chair), Melanie Ram (At-large), Jennifer Miele (At-large), Susan Schlievert (State-wide), Loretta Kensinger (At-large), Rebecca Raya Fernandez (At-large), Lynnette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Joseph Castro (Ex-officio), Blake Zante (ASI)

Guests: Venita Baker (Academic Senate), Brian Tsukimura (Chair of Personnel Committee)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 3:01pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of January 29, 2018

MSC approving the Minutes of January 29, 2018, as amended

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Brian Tsukimura (Chair of Personnel Committee)

The Personnel Committee recently received a request to place Associate Professors on a college personnel committee, which is a violation of the APM and the collective bargaining agreement. However, the college in question will soon not have enough full professors to review all faculty, leading to the question of whether this policy would have to change.

One possibility might be to create two committees at the college level, one of Associate Professors who review Assistant Professors and another of full Professors reviewing Associate Professors. This issue is expected to accelerate in coming years as the number of Associate Professors increases and the number of Professors drops due to retirements.

b. Provost Zelezny

The Provost announced that faculty hiring would decline next year due to the governor's proposed budget allotment to the CSU.

Deans have been instructed to be conservative with searches next year, including on replacement lines. Benefits costs are also rising, leading to more budget pressure.

The Provost announced the upcoming Student Success Summit and encouraged Senators to save the date of the event (April 19).

Senator Kensinger announced that the CFA would be holding an event in Sacramento in early April to lobby the governor for a budget increase in the May revision.

Senator Schlievert (State-wide) announced that there would be an event on March 23 by the Campaign for College Opportunity.

c. Action Items

- i. Memo dated January 4, 2018, from Maxine McDonald, Associate Vice President for Student Success Services to Dr. Frank Lamas, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management to re: Support for Emeritus Status. Memo has been received.

Moved to the agenda.

- ii. Memo dated January 25, 2018, from Lynnette Zelezny, Provost to Thomas Holyoke, Chair Academic Senate re: Provost Awards Committee 2017-2018. Memo has been received.

Put off to next meeting executive session.

- iii. Email dated November 30, 2017, from Thomas Holyoke, Chair Academic Senate re: Member-at-Large and Senate Vice Chair Terms. Email has been received.

Moved to agenda.

4.) Information item on APM 324A (Brian Tsukimura)

Chair Tsukimura related that the Personnel Committee had made changes to the Model Probationary Plan to align it with current APM language. The largest changes were related to professional development and publications that are considered eligible for consideration for tenure. Scholarship of Application moved under service section rather than teaching.

Senator Ram (At-large) asked for clarification as to whether publications submitted and returned for revisions before a faculty member began their position at the university would be explicitly allowed to count. Chair Tsukimura responded that this was the intent of the sentence in question.

Senator Kensinger (At-large) suggested adding specific language to make it clear that these publications should be counted. Senator Ram (At-large) suggested specific language to clarify the intent of the policy. Chair Tsukimura stated that his committee would revisit the language to ensure the intent of the language regarding resubmissions was clear.

Senator Kensinger (At-large) expressed concern over language in recent probationary plans regarding assigned time and release times being provided to new faculty, specifically the requirement for the department chair to account to write a report accounting for release time. This language was being inserted by both Faculty Affairs during Probationary Plan revisions and was being given to new faculty at training events.

The Provost stated there had been concern expressed about how the probationary plan addresses collaborative work between faculty and units across the university. The Provost suggested assembling a focus

group to explore new faculty perceptions of the categories described in the probationary plan.

Chair Tsukimura stated that his committee has been examining possibilities for a digital RTP process and would be making some recommendations to the Executive Committee in the future.

The modified model probationary plan will be presented to the Academic Senate following additional updates by the Personnel Committee.

#### 5.) Senate representation for Art & Design

Neil Chowdhury has been serving as an ex-officio member of the Senate and has been elected by his department, but since that time the previous senator he was replacing has resigned.

The Executive Committee decided that Art & Design should be required to run a new election for department senator since the situation had materially changed since the last election.

#### 6.) Memo dated January 4, 2018, from Maxine McDonald, Associate Vice President for Student Success Services to Dr. Frank Lamas, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management to re: Support for Emeritus Status.

The Executive Committee decided that administrators being granted emeritus status was a matter for Dr. Lamas and the President to decide, and that the Committee should take no action at this time. The Committee suggested a policy be developed for non-academic divisions granting emeritus status.

#### 7.) Member-at-Large and Senate Vice Chair Terms

The Committee clarified that Vice Chair Hart will have to run for reelection at the end of the current semester. The At-Large replacement's term (Senator Miele) on the Executive Committee will end when the current Vice Chair's term in that role would have ended (Spring 2020).

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 4:26 pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Submitted by:

Bradley Hart

Vice Chair

Academic Senate

Approved by:

Thomas Holyoke

Chair

Academic Senate