

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

March 27, 2017

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (At-large), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large), Tim Ryan (ASI), and Lynnette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Joseph Castro (Ex-officio) and Otto Benavides (Statewide Senate)

Guests: Venita Baker (Academic Senate), Paul Beare (Kremen), and Fredrick Nelson (Kremen)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:08pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of March 13, 2017

Friendly amendment accepted

MSC approving the Minutes of March 13, 2017, as amended

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Provost Zelezny

Announced that she would have to leave the meeting early to attend a press conference where the university was announcing a major new research report by Dr. Antonio Avalos (Economics).

Noted that she was eager to launch the search for a new AVP for Faculty Affairs. The Senate Executive Committee agreed to select the faculty members from those who were nominated by email.

b. Vice Chair Holyoke

Noted that today is the day that faculty and staff Zimbra email accounts were replaced by Gmail. So far everything seems to be going fine.

c. Chair Ayotte

Noted that he forwarded all of the appointments to the faculty workload task force to John Karr (Music) who will convene the task force for its first meeting.

d. Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies)

Announced a book launch party for a new book by Dr. Larissa Mercado-Lopez (Women's Studies) and Dr. Christina Herrera (Chicano and Latin American Studies).

e. Action Items

- i. Memo dated January 20, 2017, from Timothy P. White, Chancellor to CSU Presidents re: Delegation of Authority to approve subprograms and minors Executive Order 1071 Revised January 20, 2017. Memo has been received.

This was placed on the agenda of the Senate Executive Committee.

- ii. Memo dated March 16, 2017, from Timothy P. White, Chancellor to CSU Presidents re: Reconsideration Procedures for Management Personnel Plan Employees – Executive Order 1106. Memo has been received.

It was decided that this did not concern faculty so no further action was taken.

- iii. Memo dated February 17, 2017, from Timothy P. White, Chancellor to CSU Presidents re: Teacher Education Preliminary Credential Programs Executive Order 1077 Revised February 17, 2017. Memo has been received.

Dean Beare (Kremen) indicated that the Kremen School has no concern with this revised executive order so no further action was taken. Senator Ram (University-wide) indicated that when we receive executive orders for consultation that we should also know to whom the president's office has already distributed each order.

- iv. Email dated March 16, 2017, from Kevin Ayotte re: Revisions to APM 113 Policy on Academic Organization. Email has been received.

Chair Ayotte explained that currently APM 113 says nothing about what becomes of a proposal to create a new academic department after it is approved by the Academic Senate. The revisions would make it clear that it is then sent to the Office of the Provost.

The item was referred to the Academic Policy & Planning Committee.

- v. Email dated March 14, 2017, from Christine Miller, Chair Academic Senate of the California State University to ASCSU and Campus Senate Chairs re: Committee report and recommendations. Email has been received.

The report regards faculty intellectual property and the Statewide Senate is requesting faculty comments. It was decided that the document will be sent to all faculty. Faculty can respond with comments to Vice Chair Holyoke by Friday, April 28. These comments will then be sent to the Statewide Senate. The chairs of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee and patent board will also be asked to look at the report and respond to Vice Chair Holyoke.

- vi. Memo dated March 10, 2017, from Brian Tsukimura, Chair University Personnel Committee to Kevin Ayotte, Chair Academic Senate re: APM 309 Policy on Faculty Consultation and Voting and APM 309A Policy on Department Chairs. Memo has been received.

MSC approving the item for the Consent Calendar of the next meeting of the Academic Senate.

- vii. Memo dated March 21, 2017, from Student Ratings of Instruction Task Force, to Kevin Ayotte, Chair Academic Senate re: Student Ratings of Instruction Task Force Recommendations. Memo has been received.

The item was placed on the agenda of the Senate Executive Committee.

- viii. Email dated March 27, 2017, from Kevin Ayotte, Chair Academic Senate to Senate Executive Committee re: Revisions to APM 237 Policy on Faculty Responsibility for Accessible Instructional Materials. Email has been received.

The item was placed on the agenda of the Senate Executive Committee.

4.) Liberal Studies Department Proposal. Second reading.

Dean Paul Beare (Kremen) and Dr. Frederick Nelson (Kremen) explained the proposal to change the Liberal Studies Program into a full undergraduate department in the Kremen School of Education. Currently the program is largely taught by part-time instructors and students do not really have any sense of identity as liberal studies majors. They feel that departmental status will give the program a stronger advocate across the campus and give majors a stronger sense of identity.

Numerous questions about the new department's organizational structure were asked. Dean Beare made it clear that this does not involve any change in curriculum, nor will it reduce FTEs in any other college.

MSC approving this proposal for the next agenda of the Academic Senate.

5.) Request for Information Regarding Statewide General Education Policy

The Chancellor's Office appears interested in reviewing the Breadth requirement portion of statewide GE policy and seeking input from faculty, students, and administrators regarding the current policy (which is laid out in Executive Order 1100).

Chair Ayotte will announce to senators at the next Academic Senate meeting to seek feedback from their departments and send any comments to Vice Chair Holyoke. The Vice Chair will also send the request for feedback and the current policy in EO 1100 to all faculty requesting feedback be given to him by Friday, April 28. The Chair of the General Education Committee will also be asked for feedback.

Once feedback has been received, the Senate Executive Committee will discuss how to combine it and send it on to the Chancellor's Office at the committee's May 1 meeting. At that time we will decide whether to combine our comments with those from students and the administration.

6.) Governing documents.

Final changes to the University Constitution were discussed, as well as whether the committee should propose a special senate position for lecturers. It was decided that since lecturers could already seek senate membership through their departments because they are regular members of the Academic Assembly we would not propose creating a special senate position.

MSC approving this item for the next agenda of the Academic Senate.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 5:06pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Monday, April 17, 2017.

Submitted by:
Thomas Holyoke
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Kevin Ayotte
Chair
Academic Senate