

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

March 18, 2010

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Abstract

Approval of agenda. Approval of minutes of 2/18/10. Chair Report. President Report. Statewide Senator Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. APC Report. EPC Report. Revision to Physics Major and Astronomy minor approved for consent calendar. SAC Report. Associated Students Report. Evaluation of Temporary Faculty. Online/Blended Course Policy discussion. Time/Place/Manner policy discussion. Grade Appeal and Student Grievance procedures held for legal opinion before moving to Senate. New By-Laws Section and Senate Diversity Committee approved for Senate agenda. Resolution applauding the Recognition of Norooz by U.S. House of Representatives approved for Senate agenda. Senate agenda approved.

Present: Susan Moulton, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Carmen Works, John Wingard, Robert McNamara, Derek Girman, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Sam Brannen, Deb Kindy, Richard Senghas, Ruben Armiñana, Art Warmoth

Absent: Scott Miller, Eduardo Ochoa, Margie Purser

Guests: Steve Wilson, Jenny Tice

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Approval of Minutes of 2/18/10 – Approved.

Chair Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton reported on concern expressed on the Statewide Chairs listserv about program elimination. They were hearing reports that faculty retirees' positions were not being filled and programs were being de-funded, so that programs die. The Chairs argued that if programs were to be eliminated or merged, there should be a process. She noted that if there was a lack of policy, then there needed to be more shared governance.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported that the State was spending \$600 million dollars a month more than it had revenues. He thought the deficit would grow larger as time goes on. He said there would be no more news on the budget until the May revise and probably nothing definite until June. He said from all indications, the Governor seemed firm on the money back to higher education and noted that the challenge would come from the Democrats in the Legislature. The Board of Trustees passed an Early Start program. He discussed the task force that created the program. It was a program to remediate students in their senior year of high school or in the summer before college, who were deficient in Math or English. He noted that made the EAP

program mandatory. He said students would not be denied admissions, if they had not yet made up the remediation. He said an implementation team would need to be created and he had decided to assign this to the Graduation and Implementation Team. He noted a plan needed to be submitted to the Chancellor by October 2010. He discussed the English Council's recommendation to lower the EPT score requirement as the current one was the highest cut off point in the country and their proposed change would not significantly make a difference. He noted the Math group was also looking at a resetting of the ELM score, but had not made a recommendation. The Statewide Senator noted that Statewide, they had a committee on academic preparation, and noted that faculty were very upset because it was not vetted by the Statewide Senate before it went to the Board of Trustees. The President noted it was not vetted by the President's either. The President described the actions of Board of Trustee member Carter who had been very interested in this matter and some of the politics of the Board. The Chair asked the President whether there was a plan in place for consultation if the budget problem grew worse in the summer. The President said he thought they knew that the system would have what it had this year, plus, annualized, \$1.2 million. He thought the issue would be more about what to do with extra revenue. A member asked how the early start students would be acknowledged. The President thought students who wanted to go to the CSU, UC and perhaps the Community Colleges would be advised they have to take the appropriate placement tests early. The President thought the School Districts were not taking the necessary steps to help students who needed remediation.

Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara reported that the Statewide Senate had an extensive meeting with the Vice Chancellor regarding the Graduation Initiative. She announced that campuses would start meeting to share their plans. They also had a long meeting with John Travis of CFA and he discussed various issues with the CFA contract and the CSU. He noted a resolution about private donors and academic freedom that was passed at the Statewide Senate.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth noted he would meet with the Enterprises Board to talk about helping to fund the scholarships for '10 – '11 year. He said that Development had identified about half of the money normally given and he hoped the Enterprises Board would be able to fund the rest. He had meet with the Athletics Council about budget and noted a good dialogue back and forth. He offered to give an Athletics budget report to the Senate. He reported on the Conflict of Interest group meetings and said they were going well and having spirited debate. He noted that they would be combining the CIO position with the Director of CMS and that would create some money savings. He wanted to direct those savings to the faculty workstation refresh program. He said he was in active dialogue with M. Lopez-Phillips about the staffing of the Center for Culture, Gender and Sexuality. The Chair asked if the Academic Technology Committee was being consulted about information technology priorities. L. Furukawa-Schlereth thought so. A member questioned whether the campus would be better off next year in terms of budget. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that funding for Academic Affairs will not go down, but would not

get any more money. All the rest of the divisions were going down. He said any portion of the \$305 million that comes to the CSU would be most welcome. The President asked the Vice President to talk about why the scholarship money was down. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that scholarship money comes from interest earnings from the Foundation. Currently, portfolios all over the country are not making money, so the Foundation had been in a similar situation. He said that they look at the earnings in June and then make a determination. If the Foundation has done better than expected, then SSE might not be asked to help. He noted that none of the Carnelli money was in the Endowment. He said they may still ask SSE to make a contribution as the scholarship office likes to be one year ahead in funding. He asked if the members wanted to hear about the Carnelli lawsuit. He noted that the Foundation was being sued by Carnelli, not SSU. The lawsuit had to do with the money Carnelli repaid to the Foundation for loans given right before he filed for bankruptcy. According to bankruptcy law any creditor paid within 90 days of the bankruptcy is considered a preferential creditor and is not allowed. L. Furukawa-Schlereth thought it was a lawsuit due to some of the terms in the suit that SSU disagreed with. He said they were trying to work that out. He thought the cost of litigation would exceed the amount in question and thought the two groups would authorize the lawyers to negotiate.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips noted that the Black/Jew Dialogue that was cancelled due to rain, was rescheduled to May. He talked about activities in the Greek community. He talked about the interns in the CCGS and what they were working on.

APC Report – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth reported that JCAP had met that morning and had a wide-ranging discussion about the implementation plan for improving graduation rates. They set up a curriculum planning and implementation work group to work on planning issues. They want to identify areas of investment in the curriculum and co-curriculum that will improve graduation rates while maintaining quality. He offered a written report from that group for the Senate. He also reported on the Sustainability work group and noted a number of things going on in the curriculum and the administration towards “greening” the campus. They wanted to get a website up and running to document all initiatives. They will meet once a month. The Chair asked if the webinar on Sustainability was still available. A. Warmoth thought some of it may be available, but didn’t know where that was. A member asked what community groups Dean Rahimi’s group was talking to regarding the graduation initiative. A. Warmoth said the Dean was talking to the Economic Development Board and Chambers of Commerce and that the group reminded him that there were more community groups beside economic ones that would be useful to talk to. He noted they thought it would be a good idea to identify what community relationships already exist among the faculty as a good place to start.

EPC Report – C. Works

C. Works reported that the GE Subcommittee was working on the assessment piece of their report. They had their first meeting with faculty in Area B and had some

negative pushback. They were rethinking their plan. She then spoke about program reviews and asked for clarification about the MOU with the Provost's portion. She was hearing from some faculty that Deans were supposed to draft these MOUs. C. Works said she spoke with E. Sundberg about it and E. Sundberg said she would work with the Provost to make sure the departments were able to meet with the Provost. The Chair suggested that perhaps EPC could draft a framework for the MOUs.

Revision to Physics Major and Astronomy minor – C. Works

C. Works described the changes to both the major and minor. She noted EPC asked for these to be on the consent calendar as they had been unanimously approved at all levels. **No objection to the items as consent items for the Senate.**

SAC Report – D. Girman

D. Girman reported that SAC had made recommendations to SAEM for changes to the website on matters of diversity, as recommended by the Ad-Hoc Committee on Diversity. He noted that the changes had been implemented. They also reviewed the recruitment information from the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee and decided not to take that information up. He spoke about their concern for Counseling and Psychological Services and that they recommended that someone there be designated as a Victim's Advocate. They were also talking about advising holds. Some of the events that would trigger an advising hold they were discussing: students under 21 units, students declaring a major, a change in major, and new major transfers. He thought they would talk with FSAC about faculty workload and how faculty can get trained for advising. They were reviewing the Time/Place/Manner policy. He reported that Jennifer Mahdavi would be chair next year. It was clarified that a Victim's Advocate position would have full confidentiality. A member asked how the final decision would be made about advising holds. M. Lopez-Phillips responded by discussing how he and SAC were talking about the advising holds.

Associated Students Report – J. Tice

J. Tice reported that the Student Senate rescinded a previous resolution of their Senate that they could only fund internal programs. She was happy to report they now had more flexibility in their budgeting. She reported she planned to go to the Capitol on March 20 for the big march for higher education and lobbying. ASI had been working with Students for Quality Education more lately and encouraged them to use their governance process to have their voices heard. On March 26, a furlough day, a group of students are planning "Class on the Grass" to show that students are committed to their education despite furloughs. She spoke about a resolution coming forward asking faculty governance to have more variety of courses in GE and another student was interested in shortening the winter break in the academic calendar. J. Tice said she was working on helping seniors get more priority for classes and noted there was another resolution asking more faculty to participate in the new student convocation.

Evaluation of Temporary Faculty – R. Senghas

R. Senghas noted after the first reading at the Senate they reformatted some of the information in the policy so it was easier to see. He wanted help from the Executive Committee to guide a more effective discussion in the Senate. He noted some replacements that needed to be made on the Senate floor. The Chair asked R. Senghas to run the changes by CFA.

Online/Blended Course Policy – R. Senghas

R. Senghas noted FSAC (when they were learning about Moodle), realized they did not have an online/blended course policy as do many other CSU campuses. He thought various faculty governance committees might want to talk about it. He hoped for coordination in the Executive Committee. R. Senghas recommended having Moodle be the focus of the Spring 2011 faculty retreat.

Time/Place/Manner policy – S. Moulton

S. Moulton talked about the creation of the Time/Place/Manner policy that resulted from an issue during a Jobs Fair. She described how the committee membership had broadened to include the staff representative to the Senate, the Chair of the Academic Freedom subcommittee and other interested faculty. She noted some aspects of the policy were controversial and thought it needed to be widely distributed. She thought the all constituencies should be heard. She had also asked for it to be online. (<http://www.sonoma.edu/expression>).

Grade Appeal and Student Grievance procedures – D. Girman

D. Girman introduced the item. He noted that a case had come before the Fairness Board, with which they were very uncomfortable. A student filed a grade appeal on a culminating experience that would have led to licensure or some other professional degree. After SAC talked about it, they decided that such cases were better handled as grievances. He noted new language in the Grade Appeal policy and Student Grievance policy that addressed this issue. D. Girman asked for any feedback. The VP of SAEM recommended a short talk with University Counsel before it went to the Senate. It was agreed consultation with counsel would precede the item going before the Senate.

New By-Laws Section and Senate Diversity Committee – John Wingard

J. Wingard introduced the item. He said that Structure and Functions was returning the item about a Senate Diversity Committee referred to them by the Senate. S&F decided that the best place for such a committee would be a subcommittee of the Senate. This decision led to the discovery, that the by-laws did not include language for subcommittees of the Senate, even though one already existed. The item included a new section for the by-laws about subcommittees of the Senate as well as the actual by-law language for a Senate Diversity Subcommittee. The VP of SAEM recommended that the future Director of the CCGS might be valuable on the

committee. The Chair noted that the membership rules included liaison language that could cover that. **There was no objection to adding this to the Senate Agenda.**

**Resolution applauding the Recognition of Norooz by U.S. House of Representatives
– S. Brannen**

S. Brannen introduced the item. He thought it would be good to alert students to different cultural practices. A member asked that the resolution be in the subjunctive. **No objection to adding this to the Senate Agenda.**

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Susan Moulton
Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Revision to Physics major – emailed

Revision to Astronomy minor – emailed

BUSINESS

1. Periodic Review of Temporary Faculty Policy – Second Reading – R. Senghas – *re-attached* T. C. 3:30
2. Arts and Humanities GE Reform proposal – Second Reading – C. Works – **(3/11 agenda!)** T. C. 4:30
3. From S&F: By-Laws recommendation and Senate Diversity Committee – First Reading – attachment – S. Moulton T. C. 3:45
4. Resolution applauding the Recognition of Norooz by the U.S. House of Representatives – First Reading – S. Brannen - attachment

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega