

FSAC Meeting Minutes:
May 27, 2010
Sue Jameson Room
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Present: Richard Senghas (Chair), Melinda Barnard (Vice-Provost), Janejira Sutanonpaiboon, Chip McAuley, Paula Hammett, Viki Montera, Victor Garlin (CFA rep), Richard Whitkus (recorder)

Absent: Jenny Tice (AS representative) [I wonder if Tice was absent; was there already a transfer of office?- RJS]

Convened: 1 p.m.

Agenda: Approved.

Minutes: Approved with following changes: 1) Business Item #2, last paragraph, last sentence. "With approval of FSAC, Paula and Melinda will work on this..."; 2) Removal of names from general discussion.

REPORTS

Chair Report (Senghas)

The question of having a representative of CSU-ERFA on the Academic Senate comes to the Academic Senate for a vote today.

First reading at Academic Senate on change in GE policy on requiring GE courses to be 3 units. General discussion in FSAC as to whether such a change would put a constraint on academic freedom at the department or school level. This led to a broader discussion around academic freedom, policy and workload issues related to changes in the GE policy.

Faculty-link (analogue to Staff-link) to be announced at Academic Senate.

AVP (Barnard)

Update on FERP settlement that was introduced at last meeting. Analysis indicates 46 individuals will be eligible at SSU from the SP04-SP07 time frame. A survey asking for detailed information will be sent to the eligible FERPs to gather relevant information for the settlement and is to be returned by June 30. Academic Affairs will be collaborating with departments on how to provide access to the information the eligible FERPs may need to fill out the survey.

Ten faculty searches are tentatively scheduled for Fall 2010.

Full time lecturers who have served for six years are eligible for sabbatical leave. One lecturer is now eligible.

Issue has arisen of an emeritus faculty member's inappropriate use of SSU email account. Agreement around table to use email account agreement as guidance to Melinda on handling this instance.

BUSINESS (getting down to) [!! ;-) -RJS]

1. Registration holds for advising (guest: Jennifer Madhavi, incoming SAC Chair).

SAC recognizes a general difficulty in students at SSU getting advice. Working with SAEM, SAC would like to put forward a resolution to the Academic Senate that will require a one-time registration hold on students, to be lifted by the advisor, in the following cases:

- Students under 21 units
- Student declares a major or minor
- Student changes major
- Transfer student with less than 21 units completed at SSU

Discussion on issue by Committee was supportive of requirement for students to seek and obtain early advice, especially critical for timely completion of graduation requirements in the major. This is seen as part of training of students in working responsibly. One point of discussion was the concern that certain populations of students, for cultural and social reasons, are less likely to transfer their primary advising to the departments of their disciplinary majors. Although agreement on this concern, the Committee felt there is a need for students to be guided into their major for curricular advising. Other discussion points arose on the process for lifting holds (staff vs. faculty, workload issues; implementation within the PeopleSoft system). Sidebar issue arose on who is ultimately responsible for advising (faculty vs. staff) and request by Whitkus for FSAC to return to this issue in the fall. This item will be added to the FSAC agenda for AY2010-2011.

2. Coaches proctoring exams for traveling student-athletes (guest: Duane Dove).

Issue has arisen on who is the proper individual to proctor exams during student travel. The Committee considered this question in light of the larger issues of proctoring exams by non-faculty (such as at DSS, administrative coordinators, etc) and conflict-of-interest issues. These concerns must be balanced with maintaining academic flexibility for traveling students. Question raised if any current policy covers this issue. Senghas reported he could not find any such policy, nor could the senate analyst, so FSAC may need to revisit this issue next fall. One point of clarification raised was whether or not faculty should work on a policy if there is concern is over conflicts of interest, or apparent conflicts of interest. If the concern is about proctoring exams, then Academic Affairs should be consulted. FSAC will provide a letter of consultation to AVP Barnard on the need for care in choosing who proctors exams as a means of protecting faculty and others from conflicts of interest, or potential of same. This letter should be routed through the Executive Committee to ensure faculty input, and FSAC does not envision this issue needing to go to the full Academic Senate, barring unforeseen developments.

Items 4 (Faculty Exit Survey), 5 (Electronic/Online SETE) and 7 (Departmental RTP Criteria Review) on agenda were quickly reviewed and no discussion ensued. AVP Barnard indicated there was no need for follow-up discussion of item 5. Due to an editing error on the part of the Committee chair when drafting and enumerating the agenda, there was no business item 3.

6. Follow up on Time/Place/Manner proposed policy.

At last FSAC business meeting, there was a question as to whether the input from AFS, endorsed by FSAC, would be acted upon by the Campus Expression Committee this summer when faculty are not available for input. AVP Barnard reported that input from AFS will be used in constructing the final policy. Senghas reported the Chair of the Academic Senate indicated no meeting will occur during the summer to work on this policy, but the Expression Committee will work with Tryon Woods before he leaves campus to address proposed changes in the language in the policy, following the AFS report.

Final item from AFS was report of three seats not filled on the committee. Senghas will inform Structure and Functions about the need for elections or appointments for these seats.

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

FSAC recognized this was Jane's final meeting and thanked her for her service.

Meeting adjourned 2:55 p.m.