

**Senate Executive Committee Minutes**  
February 2, 2012  
3:00 – 4:00; Academic Affairs Conference Room

**Abstract**

Agenda approved. Minutes of 1/19 approved. Degree designation change of Bachelor's in Arts, Music to Bachelor's of Music – approved for Senate agenda. Emeritus Policy – consideration of disability retirement. President Report. SAC Report. Provost Report. Question for President. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. Associate Students Report. Senate Agenda approved.

**Present:** Ben Ford, John Wingard, Maria Hess, Margaret Purser, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Andrew Rogerson, Richard Senghas, Deborah Roberts, Terry Lease, Armand Gilinsky, Sam Brannen, Brian Wilson, Jennifer Mahdavi, Ruben Armiñana

**Absent:** Andy Merrifield, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

**Guests:** Paul Ramey, Steve Wilson

**Agenda was approved.**

**Minutes of 1/19/12 – amended and approved.**

*Recording of first portion of meeting lost. Minutes pick up where recording started.*

**Degree designation change of Bachelor's in Arts, Music to Bachelor's of Music – approved for Senate agenda.** If it were found that recent abstentions via an email vote in EPC could still be considered unanimous, then item would be consent. If not, then a business item. The Chair said he would rule on that after research and consideration.

**Emeritus Policy – consideration of disability retirement – B. Ford**

B. Ford noted that a Senator asked if disability retirement could be considered in the Emeritus policy. The Chair asked if there was any objection to referring the item to FSAC. The FSAC Chair said that in their recent discussions about the Emeritus Policy the committee had not wanted to create alternate routes to emeritus status and asked to be working on other projects. The Chair said he would report that FSAC had considered this change and did not find in favor of it.

**Review of Registration Process for Spring 2012 – B. Ford**

B. Ford noted that there was considerable discussion at the Senate regarding the recent registration process and he had told the Senate he would bring it up at the Executive Committee for referral to an appropriate body. He thought the Academic Coordinating Team was the best place for this item. No objection. A member asked for an email to the faculty from the Chair informing faculty about the review of the

process. A member asked that there be central place for comments and the Chair volunteered to be that contact.

### **Information Item: Econ 205 was approved as a new GE course in D1**

#### **President Report – R. Armiñana**

R. Armiñana reported that they were figuring out how to make the \$2.3 million reduction permanent. He said they were considering many kinds of changes, none of which were happy. He reported that at the next meeting of Presidents, they were going to talk about how, at the campus level, to deal with possible additional reductions, if the tax measures did not pass. SSU was told that the additional reduction to SSU's campus could be \$4.6 million. He said he was of the opinion that such a reduction would radically change the institution. He said there were not enough pieces to cobble together \$7 million dollars of reduction. He said there were actions being proposed that were "nasty" and some "unpalatable." He said he had some ideas to implement some actions system wide, but did not know if they were legal. He did not think that a tuition increase to cover the reduction was feasible. He said K - 12 was closing schools and shortening the school year by three weeks. He discussed why enrollment could not be decreased. He reported that there was a estate bequest that would add \$1.3 million to scholarships and would be based on high achievement and need. A member asked how far could schools trim back and not affect WASC and other accreditations. The President responded by discussing the furloughs of the previous year and that the campus had been closed 24 days and it did not affect accreditations. The President discussed general bond obligations that affect the system and what tuition actually covers in terms of costs. He noted that Northridge was over-enrolled and was having more money taken out of their budget on top of the State reductions.

#### **SAC Report – J. Mahdavi**

J. Mahdavi asked the Executive Committee about presenting the Student Fee Referendum policy that SAC had been working on to the Senate as an information item as she thought the policy actually resided in Student Affairs and the Associated Students and not with the Senate. She said the Associated Students would recommend the policy to the President. No objection.

#### **Provost Report – A. Rogerson**

A. Rogerson noted that six campuses went over target and said that it was worth the bit of pain during this registration process using unit caps to not go over target. He reported on a meeting of the northern California CSU Provosts – Sonoma, Chico, Sacramento and Humboldt where they were starting to talk about a shared online Masters degree via Extended Education. A member asked what the degree would be in and the Provost said they had discussed many topics, one of which was a Masters in Science Administration. They wanted a degree for a large undergraduate population that are not clear where they are going. A member asked to include the Graduate Studies subcommittee as soon as possible.

## **Question for President**

A member asked whether the President thought the tax measures would not pass. The President described the main tax initiative as having two parts that had to be voted on together. One part was the tax on incomes over \$250,000, which was being supported and the other was an increase in the sales tax, which was not being supported. So it was hard to tell whether it would pass. He said he has just heard that the California Teachers Association was in favor of the tax initiative. He discussed other tax measures that were gathering signatures. He said if the economy improves the urgency of the tax measure would diminish. He noted the State Controller said the State would run out of money in March.

## **Chair-Elect Report – M. Purser**

M. Purser noted the email that was sent out about the constitutional change and she urged the members to encourage colleagues to vote when the election started. A member suggested that S&F remind committees to choose their chairs for the coming year.

## **Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips**

M. Lopez-Phillips noted that the opening of Black History Month was successful the day before. He commended the BSU and ASP for putting together a great month of events. He noted that Kappa Alpha Psi was back on campus. They were working hard on improving their grades and were rumored to be the first fraternity on campus, so it was good to have them back. He discussed admissions processes at that time. A member asked how many acceptance letters they send out to get the yield of 1800. M. Lopez-Phillips said an example was that the campus last year sent out 10,000 acceptance letters and made the 1800 yield. A member asked if there were enough seats in transition courses for all freshmen. The Provost said that there were enough seats for all freshmen that want that experience. He noted a new website that has been put up for this: [www.sonoma.edu/aa/flc](http://www.sonoma.edu/aa/flc)

## **EPC Report – A. Gilinsky**

A. Gilinsky said EPC would be taking up revisions to the Philosophy curriculum in a more humorous manner than recorded here.

## **FSAC Report – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas reported that FSAC was looking closely at the Sabbatical and DIP policies. They found out that the CBA separated sabbatical and DIP, so they would be bringing forward two policies. He noted some people had stepped forward to help with the SETE task force.

## **Associate Students Report – P. Ramey**

P. Ramey said that the Buck Starts Here campaign had started. He encouraged faculty to encourage “good” students to run for office. He talked about the Pack the Den spirit event with the men’s basketball team.

## **Senate Agenda**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Ben Ford

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes – 1/26 emailed

Correspondences

#### **Consent Items:**

Degree Designation change in Music – Bachelor’s of Arts  
to Bachelor’s of Music – emailed

**Information Item:** The “Buck Starts Here” campaign

### **BUSINESS**

1. Resolution Regarding the Subsidization of Category II (Local) Student Fees for Low Income Students – Second Reading – S. Cabaniss – 1/26 agenda
2. Academic Calendar Guidelines revision – First Reading – A. Gilinsky – 1/26 agenda

**Approved.**

**Adjourned.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*