

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
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(EC-16)

April 4, 2016

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

Members excused: Joseph I. Castro (Ex-officio)

Guests: Venita Baker

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:04pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of March 14, 2016

Friendly amendments were offered

MSC approving the Minutes of March 14, 2016 as amended

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Provost Zelezny

She asked the deans to indicate whether any of their departments wanted to make changes to their program eligibility requirements because of impaction. Three departments in the College of Health and Human Services (Deaf Studies, Exercise Sciences, and Nursing) do, so their faculty were asked to come give brief presentations on the proposed changes to the Academic Affairs

Leadership Team. The Provost would like these faculty to briefly present the same information to the Academic Senate at a future meeting. She also noted that a high school in Bakersfield serving a highly diverse student body would like to become part of our ROTC program even though they are outside of our service area. CSU Bakersfield does not have ROTC. Interim Dean Moore (CGE) presented on this to the Academic Affairs Leadership Team.

Vice Chair Holyoke asked if any other departments were likely to request student eligibility changes due to impaction. The Provost said no because the deadline had already passed.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) asked how many Academic Senate meetings we had this year, noting that the schedule is getting tight. Did we have any other policies coming from the committees that were priorities, including policies we had referred back to them? We have three senate meetings on the calendar and the big issue on the agenda now is changing the drop / add policy (APM 231), but the proposal for a new city and regional planning degree will also probably come out of the Budget Committee this year and we will have to take it up. Also, we are inviting President Castro to come talk to the Academic Senate about the breakdown of salaries at the April 11 senate meeting. We decided to tentatively schedule a fourth senate meeting for May 9, but will cancel it if we get our work done.

b. President Hudson (ASI)

ASI is very concerned about the impact the proposed changes to APM 231 regarding the deadline to drop classes will have on students. She has been negotiating with AP&P Chair Mullooly about some changes to the proposal that would make it easier on students. The basic problem, she explained, is that many students are trying to get into classes with very few seats, so they hold off on making final decisions on what classes they will enroll in until the semester has already started, hoping that seats will open up in the classes they need. However, since financial aid requires students to be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of classes, students enroll in classes they have no intention of taking and will drop them when they finally get the classes they want. Moving up the drop date thus imposes a hardship on students because they might

have to drop unwanted classes before they know if they can add the classes they want (the add deadline remains four weeks into the semester).

One possibility to lighten the load on faculty was to empower department administrative assistants to sign drop forms, but many members of the Executive Committee expressed concern about this.

Since President Hudson is still negotiating a solution with AP&P Chair Mullooly and Dean Fu (Undergraduate Studies), we will wait and see what their compromise is. If we are okay with the compromise, we will substitute it for the current proposal regarding APM 231 on the senate agenda.

President Hudson also noted that there is an issue with only having one ASI senator from Student Affairs. That senator is representing too large a division and perhaps is not able to represent entities handling diversity issues as well as they deserve. Ultimately a new ASI senator position will likely be created, but that can take a couple of years. In the meantime, ASI is creating a new committee focusing on diversity chaired by the ASI senator for Student Affairs that will focus on diversity issues.

President Hudson also wished to discuss a concern regarding a student who faced considerable disrespect when attending a senate committee meeting.

Senate Executive Committee went into executive session at 4:13pm.

Senate Executive Committee returned from executive session at 4:53pm.

Committee briefly discussed the idea of issuing a call for a parliamentarian next year, or perhaps asking the retired faculty member and former parliamentarian John Cagle to come back.

#### 4.) Women's Studies Senate Seat

Senator Kensinger's term ends at the end of May, but she does not want to step down early. However, the Women's Studies Program wants to

elect her as their new senator, and this requires her to be sworn-in in late April. Current Women's Studies Senator Slagter is willing to remain in that position until Senator Kensinger's term on the Statewide Senate ends.

MSC approving the plan to allow Senator Slagter to serve as interim senator for the Women's Studies Program until Senator Kensinger's Statewide term ends (Senator Kensinger abstained).

Generally, this is a problem we need to try to figure out as we amend our bylaws.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 5:03pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 3:00pm on Monday, April 18, 2016.

Submitted by:  
Thomas Holyoke  
Vice Chair  
Academic Senate

Approved by:  
Kevin Ayotte  
Chair  
Academic Senate