

Academic Senate Minutes
January 29, 2015
3:00 – 5:00, Student Center Ballroom A

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda amended and approved. Senate Action for 12/11/14 – Approved. Faculty Eligible for Emeritus status – Frederick Griffin, Carol Harvey, Terry Lease, Perry Marker, Laxmi Tewari, and Ervand Peterson – Approved. President Report. Provost Report. Associated Students Report. Community College BA degree programs feedback. Vice Chair Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Statewide Senators Report. Review of alternative process for Senate meetings. EPC Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. CFA Report. Staff Report.

Present: Richard J. Senghas, Kirsten Ely, Margaret Purser, Catherine Nelson, Deborah Roberts, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Birch Moonwomon, Judith Friscia, Jess Hazelwood, Joshua Glasgow, John Palmer, Ed Beebout, Jennifer Roberson, Karen Thompson, Florence Bouvet, Jennifer Mahdavi, Laura Krier, Sunil Tiwari, Suzanne Rivoire, Laura Watt, Rheyne Laney, Michael Pinkston, Donna Garbesi, Ruben Armiñana, Andrew Rogerson, Elaine Newman, Christian George, Brandon Mercer, Katie Musick, Melinda Milligan, Richard Whitkus

Proxies: Michelle Kelly for Mary Ellen Wilkosz, Sandra Shand for Marisa Thigpen, Nicole Lawson for Julie Shulman, Mercedes Mack for Cynthia Figueroa, Christopher Dinno for Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

Absent: Matthew James, Parissa Tadrissi, Matty Mookerjee, Lauren Morimoto, Michelle Goman, Melissa Garvin, Edie Brown, Matthew Lopez-Phillips

Guests: Elaine Sundberg, Melinda Barnard

Chair Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas introduced Kirsten Ely as the interim Vice Chair. He noted who was returning to the Senate. He noted that governance was also looking for a semester replacement for the Secretary of the Senate. He reported that he would be meeting with other campus chairs on February 19th and they would be talking about the implementation of the new contract article for extraordinary service among other things. He said that faculty governance would be hosting the statewide chairs meeting on April 16th. He reported that the GMC Board of Advisors was changing its name to the Weill Hall and Green Music Center Board of Advisors to reflect the various activities going on in that area. He discussed the passing of two students since the semester started – Francis Lynch and Dominic Del Rossi. He thought posthumous degree requests would be coming forward. A member asked what was expected for the reassignment awards for exceptional service. The Chair said the awards were release time for faculty to give them more time for their service. He said there was a large range of activities that would qualify. R. Whitkus confirmed that there would be release for four faculty per year.

Approval of Agenda – item added: Community College BA degrees feedback – Approved.

Approval of Senate Action for 12/11/14 – Approved.

Consent Item: Faculty Eligible for Emeritus status – Frederick Griffin, Carol Harvey, Terry Lease, Perry Marker, Laxmi Tewari, and Ervand Peterson – **Approved.**

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported on the Governor's January budget and said it was exactly what the Governor said it would be in July – \$119.5 million for the CSU and the UC on the condition that there be no tuition increases. There was \$25 million for emergency repairs and \$25 million for competitive innovation grants. No one understood what competitive innovation grants meant. He noted that at the UC Regents meeting last week, they established a committee of two to look over the UC budget request and the policy to raise tuition by 5% over the next 5 years, which was against the Governor's wishes. The two people appointed to the committee were the President of the UC and the Governor. He said most of their deliberations will be done in private. The question for the UC was, would there be pay-offs or not, using this strategy. He noted that the Governor's budget for the CSU only allows 1% enrollment growth supported by the State. There was much more demand in the whole CSU. It was a dilemma how to deal with enrollment.

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson reported that the average unit load was 13.4 and he thought most students were happy since his office was not getting any complaints. He thought this average unit load was what students wanted, as there were many open seats students were not taking and the wait list was half of what it was last year. He said they were pleased with that carrying capacity and it worked well with next year's scenario. The number of first time freshman applications was 15,222, up 829 from last year. The number of transfer applications was 4725, up 371 from last year. The number of out-of-state first time freshman was 213, up 64. They had done some modest recruitment for out-of-state students and that seemed to be "bearing fruit." A member voiced concern about the situation in Social Sciences, where they were seeing a 30% drop in their part-time budget. This would mean fewer and larger classes and problems for students needing to graduate. She said there was talk that this may just be in the School of Social Sciences and may be part of the "structural deficit" in Academic Affairs. She said asked if this was one-time blip or the new normal. The Provost said he was perplexed by this. All that had been allocated were FTES totals, no budget allocations had been made to the Schools yet. He said the notion that there were draconian cuts was false and this was just week one, so it was just the first pass. He said now was not the time to panic, but to look at where more allocations were needed and those would be taken care of. The member said the first schedules were due next week and they had to work with something, even if budgets were not allocated yet. She had just come from the CDC meeting and the damage to all departments in the School was extraordinary. She was not sure where the disconnect was between the Dean and the Provost's office. The Provost said he would bring it up in the Dean's Council and not to worry, he would get to the

bottom of it. He said the budget was not that much different from last year. A member asked how the Provost was measuring students happiness she, a department chair, was dealing with a lot of unhappy students. She asked if perhaps he was not getting complaints due to the good work of department chairs. The Provost said he thanked the department chairs profusely and his measure of happiness was based on the number of complaints that reached his office or the President. A member voiced her frustration as a department chair in Social Sciences about the notion of a structural deficit in Academic Affairs and asked when would that be fixed. She argued that this problem has been on-going for many years. The Provost responded that there was still a structural deficit of \$1.9 million. There was enough money to cover this year and next year without any scooping. He and the CFO were working on covering it permanently. He would meet again with the CFO when the CFO returned from vacation. He said no one has suggested scooping money from the Schools since they were solvent for the next two years. The President said he thought the term “structural deficit” was antiquated and rooted in the mentality of the old orange book. The reality was that all money comes to the campus in a singular way and then is divide into different functions. Every year, the year ends with a surplus or a carry over of roughly of a million dollars. The reason is that no one can spend 100% of their budget. That amount repeats consistently. At the new fiscal year, that money was used to cover that “structural deficit.” He said some people do not like this definition of the situation, but that was what was going on. He wanted to get away from the notion of a structural deficit. He noted that the money was not in one area, but the aggregate of many areas. The member said she thought if the left over money was being used to fund the same thing, it spoke to the priorities of the campus. A member noted an increasing disconnect in the Schools between the timing and mechanisms they had for dealing with scheduling and the budgeting process. She said the problem coming up in the fall, was that the huge freshman class that was admitted a few years ago were coming into junior status and needed upper division courses in the major. She asked for this topic to be on the agenda of the next ACT meeting. The Provost agreed.

Associated Students Report – C. George

C. George reported that Associated Students was proposing a fee increase of \$3 for the next four years to help the AS continue to serve students well and also to help fund the Tutorial Center. He reported that he was hearing about courses where the room did not have enough actual seats for the students. He thanked the faculty and the rest of the School for supporting the community around the students who had passed away. He noted that the AS election was upcoming and encouraged faculty to send students to them for more information. A member noted that chairs could not be added to classrooms due to fire marshal rules and he encouraged faculty to only let enrolled students in the classroom, if there were not enough chairs. The Chair noted that he was working with D. Condrón's office to put together more robust procedures for what to do when a student passes away and he was open to input on this topic.

Community College BA degree programs feedback – R. Senghas

R. Senghas said he did not expect feedback on specific degrees proposed at this meeting. He noted that the CSU was asked to look for duplication only and did not

have veto power. He said the local Community Colleges were not participating in the pilot at this time. He thought this was precedent and that it was good to get a response back, so the CSU would continue to be asked. He would be putting together a report by February 12th. He also wanted comments about how well the process worked. There was some discussion about the Occupational Studies degree. The EPC Chair noted that EPC discussed this item and brought forward a general concern about maintaining the distinction between upper and lower division courses. EPC was concerned whether Community Colleges have enough time to put together upper division courses with enough rigor. They were also concerned about maintaining the character of upper division courses at four year institutions. The Statewide Senators provided some context from the Statewide Senate. One Statewide Senator noted there were other degrees in the pipeline, to be brought forward if any of the first fifteen proposed degrees were not approved. She noted that the Community Colleges were not interested in GE issues or any other “advice.” So, she thought that duplication was the main issue. She noted that some programs were very creative in what they were offering, so it was important to look at the details of the program. The other Statewide Senator provided information about the legislation that brought this about. A member asked if they could comment on specific courses that might be duplicated and whether those courses could be counted if a student transfers. The Chair said he could include in the report duplications and other areas of concern. One Statewide Senator reminded the Senate about the fierce fight the CSU had with the UC about offering Ph.D. degrees and noted that the Community College BA could be a win-win situation. The other Statewide Senator noted that the Education doctorate was not a degree the UC wanted to offer. The Community College BA proposals were substantially different and they may duplicate things the CSU was already doing or wanted to do. The President said that it would take awhile for the Community Colleges to figure out what they want to do and this was just the beginning. These degrees would not get additional funding, they would be funded at the community college rate, so some proposals may not go forward due to funding issues. The Chair noted he needed the responses from the CDCs as soon as possible. A member asked if there were no concerns, did the Chair want to know that? The Chair said that would be helpful.

Vice Chair Report – K. Ely

K. Ely asked the members to be more obvious if they wanted to speak for the next few meetings. She reported that faculty had been appointed to the Vice President for Development search committee. They received four interest statements, so an election was not needed. The faculty were Richard Senghas, Mike Visser, Jenn Lillig and Paul Draper. She noted that the call was still out for the Dean of Social Sciences search committee. She reported that the call for elections in faculty governance was out. She turned over the report to the Chair to talk about the task force for the Senate reorganization. He reported that the task force was going to be approaching the councils of department chairs about a proposal to restructure representation. They would also talk to the Standing Committees about potential changes. He hoped this would come to the Senate later in the semester. K. Ely reminded the members that the current Secretary was unable to serve this semester, so a call was out for a semester replacement. She noted that the ex-Vice Chair, T. Lease was delighted that two people were needed to replace him.

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

A member asked about money coming to the campus for deferred maintenance and what the campus priority would be. C. Dinno responded that the campus water tanks would be a priority. The campus had two water tanks of 250,000 gallons and the money set aside for the campus would pay for a new water tank of 300,000 gallons. This would address campus growth as well as upgrading the water tanks. The Chair reminded the members that C. Dinno's report on the campus infrastructure needs were on the website:

<http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/useful/reports.html>. A member asked if the campus could do anything to help the campus not to flood. C. Dinno responded that Copeland Creek had filled to capacity and was backing up into campus on the day of the flood. He said they had two strike teams working 24 hours to maintain clean drains and they were very effective. He noted they typically have some problems in Ives, Salazar, the Information Center and the Darwin basement. They worked really hard to make sure those areas were clear. No water entered any building. Once the creek reached capacity, they could not evacuate water. The campus flooded on Redwood Drive between the bridge and Laurel Drive. A member voiced concern about the state of the campus restrooms in the older buildings. She said they were "disgusting." When water leaked, the answer was to turn off the water and the feminine hygiene disposal bins had sharp edges that were not safe. C. Dinno said water should not be shut off and he would look into that. He also said he would look into the feminine hygiene disposal bins and see what the provider was doing. He agreed that sharp edges were not appropriate. He took responsibility for the cleanliness of the bathrooms and said he would look into that as well. He also noted that Stevenson needed a complete makeover since it was 52 years old.

Statewide Senators Report – C. Nelson, D. Roberts

C. Nelson reviewed the resolutions passed by the Statewide Senate. "The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy on Academic Freedom" urged an update to the academic freedom policy with broader protections for faculty in all the various areas that faculty operate, particularly social media as well addressing the privacy concerns that go along with social media. "Non-Tenure Track Faculty and Shared Governance in the California State University: A Call to Campus Senates" urged the inclusion of lecturers, coaches, librarians and counselors on campus Senates. SSU already includes these categories, but some campuses did not. "Opposition to Unnecessary Bundling of Online Academic Journal Articles" endorses the decision of the CSU to discontinue its arrangement to purchase online journal access from Wiley because of Wiley's bundling of journal content, resulting in significantly higher costs to university libraries, and urges faculty, where possible, to avoid Wiley textbooks and other educational materials in their classes until the situation is resolved. C. Nelson said she was a member of the Chancellor's General Education Advisory committee and they had discussed upper division GE as it relates to the Community College BA degrees. They were approached by the Community College rep to that committee to work with the Community College Statewide Senate on helping them define upper division GE with an eye toward creating more depth and meaning in their degrees. The Community College Statewide Senate was originally opposed to the pilot program and they also made it

clear to their Chancellor that upper division GE was required to make the BA degree substantive. What they were trying to do was to create a rigorous and substantive program. In this discussion, the articulation with the CSU question came up. This was just one of the many issues. They did not have an answer to the articulation question yet. The GE Advisory Committee created a sub-group to review upper division GE across the CSU to see if there were any common themes or common elements that the Community Colleges could use. The idea of campus autonomy came up in this discussion as campuses dealt with upper division GE in various ways. D. Roberts reported that four faculty were nominated for faculty trustee. She reported on Course Match, a service that allows student from one university to take courses at another university online and those course have been vetted. She noted that SSU students were heavy users of Course Match. There had been three sessions of Course Match so far. The registration process was becoming easier for students. They had a 90.5% - 74% completion rate with a C- or better for the three sessions. A member asked if that completion rate was better than for-profit universities. D. Roberts said yes.

Review of alternative process for Senate meetings – R. Senghas

R. Senghas asked for feedback on the process of the last Senate meeting which was cancelled, but business was conducted via email. Members thought it went well and appreciated the Chair taking into account the commutes people had.

EPC Report – M. Milligan

M. Milligan noted that she had proposed to EPC to do business via email for their last meeting (cancelled due to campus flooding), but members of the committee expressed interest in hearing the business items and they carried that business over to the meeting today. They approved four curricular change proposals: Reduction of units for the Electrical Engineering BS; Revision to the Human Development BA; Revision to the Business Administration concentrations; and a Revision of the Psychology minor.

FSAC Report – R. Whitkus

R. Whitkus reported that they had created a task force to review the applications for the educational experience enhancement awards. The applications were due on February 6th. The recommendations from FSAC would go forward on February 20th. FSAC reviewed the model being put forward by the task force on restructuring faculty governance in terms of how it affected FSAC. They were positive about the model, but still needed to talk with their subcommittees. He reported on the re-writing of RTP policy. They started to draft a set of questions to start the discussion and they wanted to have an electronic forum for this, similar to the SETE forum they set up, to get feedback. Some of the major issues they were thinking about were the teaching evaluation; the balance between scholarship and service; and changes to the periodic vs. performance reviews. The Chair offered that one of the faculty conversations could be about RTP.

SAC Report – N. Lawson for J. Shulman

N. Lawson reported that SAC heard from C. Morozumi and J. Kornfeld about recommendations to change the FIG program. They had five major recommendations. They recommended moving FIG to Zinfandel which would help them double the students in the program. The program would be renamed as ACE - Academic and Career Exploration, and the living environment would become more aligned with the FLCs. They would restructure University 102 into a 2 unit combination class. In the fall, it would be a transitioning to college program and in the spring, it would be a career exploration course. They would hire a faculty coordinator who would partner with the transition course, transition course faculty and Res Life to keep the communication open between those groups. They would bring in a faculty-in-residence to help with co-curricular activity planning. SAC continued to work on their report on the state of student affairs on campus compared to other campuses. They had collected all the data and were working on the narrative portion.

CFA Report – E. Newman

E. Newman updated the members on the implementation of the contract. She noted that the President was playing a leading role in the CSU on the campus based equity program. He had made a commitment last year to fund that program and now is able to do that. He and M. Barnard were consulting with her on this and she said an email had gone out about it. The delays in the seeing the mandated raises in faculty checks was unfortunate and there were multiple emails that had gone out about the timing of that. She recommended that faculty check to make sure they were getting what they should be. She noted they were working on new articles in the contract such as the exceptional service awards and encouraged faculty to apply. They would be keeping an eye on issues related to the reassigned time for research and scholarship for new faculty. She asked that faculty tell them what they were hearing in their departments and schools. A member asked if the reassigned time for new faculty depended on the rank of new hires. E. Newman responded that probationary faculty was anyone hired on the tenure track. A member asked how the reassigned time was given – the departments or schools? E. Newman said CFA did not have any purview over how it was done. The Provost said he hadn't decided yet, but it would probably go to the schools. A member suggested that this benefit be communicated to faculty search committees.

Staff Representative Report – K. Musick

K. Musick reported that she thought everything was going well with the staff. She also requested that if faculty heard anything from staff that could be reported to the Senate, to ask that staff member to contact her. A member asked K. Musick to convey to the staff faculty appreciation for the heroic work the staff do in the first weeks of classes.

Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes