THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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October 26, 2015

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Abigail
                      Hudson (ASI), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Loretta
                      Kensinger (State-wide), Melanie Ram (University-wide),
                      Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large), Lynette Zelezny

Members excused: Joseph I. Castro (Ex-officio) and Madhu Katti (At-large)

Guests: Venita Baker, John Beynon (English), James Mullooley
                      (Chair AP&P), Rudy Sanchez (AVP for Faculty Affairs)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:08pm in HML 1222.

1.)   Approval of the agenda

       MSC approving the agenda

2.)   Approval of the Minutes of October 19, 2015

       MSC approving the Minutes of October 19, 2015

3.)   Communications and announcements

       a.) Provost Zelezny

           She received strong opinions from the faculty of the College of Science
           and Math about searching for a dean as soon as possible. She will be
           initiating a search soon, but also noted that four CSU campuses
           currently lack permanent deans of the science colleges.

       b.) President Hudson (ASI)

           The climate survey that ASI had planned to deploy has been
           temporarily suspended at the request of the Division of Student

Affairs. They want to see if perhaps another entity should have responsibility for administering the survey.

Also noted that students from the Armenian Studies Program have come to ASI to talk about pushing a resolution requiring the Fresno State Foundation to disinvest from the Republic of Turkey because of its refusal to recognize the Armenian Genocide.

c.) Senator Kensinger (Statewide Academic Senate)

Expressed concern about the requirement from University Police that chairs set up in front of the Free Speech Area for Take Back the Night had to be removed because they prevented police cars from using the road. She noted that this had never been a problem before, and argued that University Police should tailor their procedures around campus events, not vice versa.

Chair Ayotte commented that this might be more of an issue of fire safety, having enough room for a fire truck to access any and all parts of the campus. He will contact Chief Huerta about the incident for more information, and then the Executive Committee will decide whether to ask Huerta to come to the committee to explain his department's policies.

d.) Action items

1.) Email dated October 20, 2015, from Ellen Shimakawa, Director, Research and Sponsored Programs, to Kevin J. Ayotte, Academic Senate Chair re: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. Email has been received.

The proposal for a policy on unmanned aerial vehicles was referred to the Senate Academic Policy and Planning Committee.

2.) Nominees for faculty representation on the Information Technology Security Committee and Information and Educational Technology Coordinating Council. Will be handled in executive session.

4.)   Preferred Name Policy Proposal

Professor John Beynon (English) presented the proposal. He noted that several LGBT students have been having problems getting their official names changed at the university, including their names on Professor Beynon's own class roster. He contacted Blackboard about it, but nobody there quite knew what to do. Jessica Adams from the Women's Resource Center met with the Registrar's Office, Division of Student Affairs, and TILT about making name changes. The Office of International Studies also wants to make it possible for students to use alternate names on the campus.

While different offices on the campus are trying to figure out what can be done, and CIO Leon will try to coordinate changes in the university's electronic records, there is a belief that we really need a general policy about name change in the APM, allowing students to use the name of their choice, even if original names will have to remain on legal documents such as diplomas. The proposed policy was written after Professor Beynan and others investigated similar policies on other campuses (147 American universities and colleges have some kind of preferred name policy).

President Hudson (ASI) asked that campus clubs and OrgSync (electronic support system for these clubs) be included on the list of entities required to honor student name changes.

Vice Chair Holyoke expressed concern that students may treat this as a joke and register all kinds of stupid names, as they often do with email names. There was discussion about who might make decisions regarding the approval of name changes, but no clear process has yet been put in place.

The proposed policy was referred to the Senate Academic Policy and Planning Committee for consideration.

5.)   Executive session

The Senate Executive Committee entered executive session at 3:51pm.

The Senate Executive Committee returned from executive session at 3:55pm.

MSC appointing Tiewei Liu (Library Digital Services) and Paul Ullucci (Physical Therapy) to the Information Technology Security Committee.

The appointment to IETCC was tabled until the next meeting.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 3:57pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 3:00pm on Monday, November 2, 2015.

Submitted by: Approved by:
Thomas Holyoke   Kevin Ayotte
Vice Chair   Chair
Academic Senate   Academic Senate