

Senate Executive Committee Minutes
December 8, 2012
3:00 – 5:00, Academic Affairs Conference Room

Abstract

Approval of Agenda. Chair Report. President Report. GE Unit Policy approved for Senate agenda. Proctor Policy for off-campus tests referred to EPC. Provost Report. Resolution Regarding Shared Governance, the Statewide Senate Budget and the Leadership of Chancellor Reed approved for Senate agenda. Information Item: Academic Calendars 2012 – 2016 referred back to EPC. Disruptive Student Behavior Policy approved for Senate agenda. Statewide Senator Report. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. APC Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. Associate Students Report. Senate agenda approved.

Present: Ben Ford, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Sam Brannen, Jennifer Mahdavi, Richard Senghas, Kelly Estrada, Armand Gilinsky, Deborah Roberts, Andrew Rogerson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, John Wingard, Margaret Purser, Ruben Armiñana, Terry Lease

Absent: Brian Wilson, Andy Merrifield

Guests: Steve Wilson, Paul Ramey, Catherine Nelson, Jason Wenrick, Michael Smith

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Minutes delayed.

Chair Report – B. Ford

B. Ford reported on the progress of the committee formed to write a letter to an impartial third party regarding the student referendum vote on the new student center. The committee had sent letters to the State Auditor, WASC, and the Sonoma County Grand Jury. He said that WASC said no, the State Auditor could not even tell him when it could be looked at and the Grand Jury had not sent a response and was not answering their phone. He noted that a retired ombudsman offered to help pro bono, if his expenses were paid. The Chair asked for help from the Executive Committee about how to report this to the Senate. He thought the committee had fulfilled its charge and that the Senate could give it another charge, if it wanted. He noted that the committee members did not agree that the charge was fulfilled. Members voiced support for the Chair's position. The Chair then reported on the Statewide Chair's meeting. He said a Director had been hired for the Cal State Online (previously CSU Online) and that the initiative was proceeding and that faculty had been appointed to the CSU Online board. He noted that the research showed that online education was not a way to make money fast which was one of the faculty concerns. The CSU Online Director would be visiting all 23 campuses. There were still a lot of unknowns about the initiative. They also discussed the Statewide Senate budget.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported that the trigger would be pulled and it would be a permanent reduction. He said this was a \$750 million cut to the CSU, which was about 30% of the CSU budget. He said the budget that the Governor would propose in January was based on the assumption that tax increase ballot measures would pass. He reviewed the various tax increase measures that might qualify for the ballot. He said that if the Governor's tax increase proposal didn't pass, it would trigger more cuts mid-year. He reported that International Programs would have a program in Israel again in Haifa, even though there had been opposition to re-opening CSU programs in Israel. A member asked about the triggers in January and if the budget would go lower. The President responded that it could go lower, but they really didn't know whether the budget would go lower, higher or stay the same. He expressed his disappointment in the current Governor. A member asked about when the tax increases would come to a vote. The President said it might show up on the June ballot, but most likely on the November ballot. He discussed the difficulty of the voting occurring in November as that was five months into the budget already. The student representative asked if another student fee increase would be enacted due to the cuts being permanent. The President said that the recent fee increase was enacted based on the cuts being non-permanent, however, he did not think another fee increase was likely. A member asked about the status of the lawsuit about student fees and what that would cost the CSU if the lawsuit was lost. The President said the cost would be approximately \$20 million and he thought any more progress on it was a year away. It was clarified that the decision to make the cuts permanent was coming from the Governor.

GE Unit Policy – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky said EPC had reviewed and approved the revision to the GE Unit Policy and was now bringing it to the Executive Committee for the Senate agenda. M. Smith provided background to the revision and described his analysis of whether there was GE "unit creep." He noted that they had determined a threshold of 83.3% and if 4 unit courses went over that number, they would not approve them and they would ask the Schools to either increase 3 units seats or decrease 4 units seats. A member noted that the 3 unit courses should be called a "floor" instead of a "cap." The Chair said that the item would be approved for the Senate agenda at the approval of the Senate agenda.

Proctor Policy for off-campus tests – L. Morimoto

L. Morimoto said the Athletics Council had a question about off campus tests for athletes. Last semester some teams had been off campus for final exams. Some faculty had agreed that the Assistant Director of Athletics could proctor the exams and other faculty were not in agreement. She asked that a policy be developed for proctoring off campus exams and asked the Executive Committee for a referral to a committee to create this policy. **It was decided that EPC take the lead on policy development and confer with FSAC and SAC. No objection.**

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson reported on the Provost group that was formed to promote undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activities involving students across the CSU. He was heading the subgroup that was looking at key issues: why promote student research, how to incentivize student research and the importance of student research, particularly off campus. He said a statement had been written that would go the Provosts in January and he was happy to share it. A member asked for an update on registration. The Provost responded that so far it was going well, but they would know more the next day.

Resolution Regarding Shared Governance, the Statewide Senate Budget and the Leadership of Chancellor Reed – C. Nelson

C. Nelson summarized the resolution and asked for it to be include on the Senate agenda. She noted she did not present the resolution lightly. She said the Statewide Senate assigned time had been cut in half to 1.5 units. There was substantial discussion. She wanted SSU's Senate on record for this issue. The President noted that the curricular initiatives referred to in the resolution were not all ideas of the Chancellor. C. Nelson argued for including the curricular initiatives in the resolution. The President also noted that the cut to the Statewide Senate was 5% which was lower than the cuts to the CSU. C. Nelson said she would include an email from the Chair of the Statewide Senate that explained all the cuts to the Statewide Senate and that this last round had forced them to cut the assigned time in half. She noted also that the Statewide Senate was running on soft money and this did not show an institutional commitment to effective shared governance. A member suggested that the resolution could include where shared governance should be on the list of priorities in a diminished financial environment and clearly state that the cut was effectively suspending the function of the Statewide Senate. **Approved for Senate agenda.**

Information Item: Academic Calendars 2012 – 2016 – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky presented the proposed academic calendars for 2012-2016 and made note of some of the changes and considerations debated by EPC regarding the calendar. He said there was intense debate in EPC about scheduling Spring break during the sunniest periods in desired locations. The Chair noted that the calendar guidelines were under the purview of the Senate, as well as whether the actual calendar followed the guidelines. There was discussion about whether specific years met the guidelines. **The Chair asked EPC to reconsider the guidelines based on the Executive Committee feedback and whether the current calendar proposal met them. No objection.**

Disruptive Student Behavior Policy – J. Mahdavi

J. Mahdavi introduced the latest revision to Disruptive Student Behavior policy. She noted the changes. The reference to disability was removed. The reference to personal electronics was also dropped. She noted re-writes were based on Executive Order 1043. The FSAC chair said that limitations on personal electronics could still

be put in faculty syllabi. The student representative asked how it would affect grades based on attendance if a student was removed from a class. It was clarified that if students thought grading was capricious or the sanctions were too severe for the action, they could file a grievance. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

Statewide Senator Report – C. Nelson

C. Nelson reported that they would be having a teleconference soon and hoped to get more clarity about the implications of the budget situation with Statewide Senate.

Chair-Elect Report – B. Ford

B. Ford gave the S&F report. He noted that the nominations for the Chief of Police Search Committee were supposed to be approved by the Executive Committee, but S&F would not discuss the nominations until next Tuesday and there were not more Executive Committee meetings this semester. He proposed to bring the names to the Senate for approval, since all the members of the Executive Committee were on the Senate. A member proposed that the Executive Committee approve via email. The Chair agreed.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips said his searches were going forward for the Director of the Multi-Cultural Center and the Conduct/Orientation Officer.

APC Report – K. Estrada

K. Estrada reported that APC was beginning to draft the SSU online course policy, and created a subcommittee of APC to work on the MOU with Extended Ed. She made her first presentation on the undergraduate student assessment idea and received suggestions to help start a campus wide discussion about it. She talked about faculty developing goals for undergraduate development based on the mission and working back from those goals to determine whether outcomes were met using a robust undergraduate performance assessment experience. She wanted to get students thinking about how their GE, Major and co-curricular experiences connect. She said this was the beginning of the conversation and that it had a long developmental arch.

EPC Report – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky reported that EPC was looking at the Bachelors of Arts in Music (BA) becoming a Bachelors of Music (BM). The re-convened University Program Review subcommittee had met recently and would start work on guidance for program reviews in the future. They would start their work on the 2008 Ukiah Liberal Arts program review.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that FSAC continued to work on the Sabbatical policy. They were also working on the textbook policy. He noted that changes to departmental RTP criteria were due soon so that they were ready for the next RTP cycle. He described a handout for faculty about procedures for cheating and plagiarism that would be coming out soon. A member asked what issues were being discussed regarding the textbook policy. R. Senghas provided an overview of the issues.

Associate Students Report – P. Ramey

P. Ramey reported that the Associated Students had replaced two officers that had stepped down. They had also hired an Elections Commissioner. They passed a resolution about the protest demonstrations that happened prior to Thanksgiving. The resolution thanked the students, faculty, staff and administrators who helped with the demonstration, noted that in Berkeley and Davis protests had not been so peaceful, and pointing out that the way it happened recently at SSU was the way it could happen in the future at SSU. A member asked about changes to the Associated Students officer transitions. P. Ramey said they had decided to have the current officers hold office until the last day of the semester and have the new officers start at the beginning of the Fall.

Senate agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Ben Ford

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes - emailed

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Information item: Academic Calendar 2012-2013

BUSINESS

1. Resolution regarding Protest and the University – Second Reading – M. Purser - attached
2. Disruptive Student Behavior Policy – First Reading – J. Mahdavi - attached
3. Resolution: Shared Governance, the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) and the Leadership of Chancellor Charles B. Reed – First Reading – C. Nelson - attached
4. GE Unit Policy – First Reading – A. Gilinsky – attached

Approved.

Good of the Order

B. Ford announced the final lunch with himself and the Provost about the academic story conversation and encouraged everyone to join in. He reminded the committee about the Faculty Retreat on Jan. 12th and asked them to recruit people to poster on the theme of collaboration.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström