

Academic Senate Minutes

May 27, 2010

3:00 – 5:00, Commons

Abstract

Approval of Agenda. BS change in Geology – approved. Name change of LSEE to LEEE – approved. Linguistics move from Anthropology to English – approved. Curriculum Guide changes information item. President Report. Provost Report. Vice President for Administration and Finance Report. Associated Students Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. Chair-Elect Report. Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee Report. Revision to the WEPT Policy – Approved. Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees Policy Revision – Approved. Changes to S&F By-Laws – Approved. APC Report. 3-Unit GE Policy Revision – First Reading. Constitutional amendment – Emeritus Faculty Member of Senate - The manner in which this Emeritus representative is selected shall be established in the By-Laws – Approved. Proposal of Online Forum related to the tabled no confidence resolution – no action. Senators to the Executive Committee for 2010-2011 – S. Brannen and M. Purser. CFA Report. Changing of the Guard. Resolution Acclaiming and Commending Susan Moulton, Chair of the Faculty, 2009-2010 approved by acclamation.

Present: Susan Moulton, John Wingard, Scott Miller, Deb Kindy, Catherine Nelson, Noel Byrne, Sam Brannen, Edith Mendez, Michael Pinkston, Steve Wilson, John Sullins, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Chip McAuley, Mutombo M’Panya, Terry Lease, Paula Lane, Rick Robison, Cora Neal, Nick Geist, Tia Watts, Wanda Boda, Michael Cohen, Karin Jaffe, James Dean, Laura Watt, Maria Hess, Margaret Purser, Sandra Shand, Lillian Lee, Ruben Armiñana, Eduardo Ochoa, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Andy Merrifield, Dolores Bainter, Alex Boyer, Art Warmoth, Carmen Works, Richard Senghas, Jennifer Mahdavi

Absent: Robert McNamara, Ed Beebout, Florence Bouvet,

Proxies: Barbara Lesch-McCaffry for Janet Hess, Tim Wandling for John Kornfeld, Marisa Thigpen for Jacqueline Holley, Chuck Rhodes for Matthew Lopez-Phillips

Guests: Matt James, Sophia La Rosa, Alli Brinkerhoff, Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, Elaine Leeder, Saeid Rahimi, Susan McKillop, Helmut Wautischer

The Chair announced that a new listserv had been created for faculty. It was created for business and other things not related to Senate business. (<https://mailman.sonoma.edu/mailman/listinfo/ssufaculty-l>). She announced who was leaving the Senate and who would be new to the Senate.

Approval of Agenda – time certain requested for item 9 and request to move all times certain to 15 minutes earlier. Second. There was discussion. **Vote on change – Failed.**

Agenda approved as presented.

Consent items:

BS change in Geology – approved.

Name change of LSEE to LEEE – approved.

Linguistics move from Anthropology to English – approved.

Information item attached to agenda regarding Curriculum Guide changes.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana spoke about visiting the legislators in Sacramento. He said everyone supported the CSU, but no one would commit. They did not expect a budget on time and thought perhaps they would know in September.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa observed that this was probably his last Senate meeting. He noted that he had found the last seven years exciting and had enjoyed all of it. He thought SSU was one of the jewels of the CSU and commended everyone for their caring and commitment to the institution. He said he would watch SSU now from Washington D. C. The Senate applauded.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth introduced the new Chief of Police, Sally Miller, the first woman to hold this position at SSU. S. Miller said she looked forward to working with everyone and ensuring that this was the greatest place to learn, work and play. L. Furukawa-Schlereth then introduced J. Wenrick who spoke about SSU's first float in the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade and he invited everyone to participate. He noted SSU was the only CSU with an official Pride parade float. A member asked about the disposition of the Director of Diversity position. The Provost said a sub-group of the PDC had reviewed the application and would be sending a recommendation to him. A member objected that there was not a full compliment of candidates normally done for an officer of the campus. The Provost said the position was not an officer of the campus, but a re-assigned time position and with the PDC and President's approval, he had moved ahead. A member questioned if a faculty member had been on the committee. The Provost said it was a subset of the PDC and all members, including faculty, were able to volunteer to be on the committee.

Associated Students Report – J. Tice and A. Boyer

J. Tice thanked the body for an interesting year in which to graduate. She then introduced Alex Boyer who would be taking over her role. A. Boyer introduced himself. He noted he was a business major and that he spent the last year representing clubs and organizations which taught him the importance of students having a quality co-curricular experience. He said he has always been interested in the curriculum and particularly GE as he saw the university engaged in creating educated people and citizens, not just degrees. He said he liked getting all points of view to make ethical decisions and offered open communication, even over the

summer. He said he was very engaged with the students and would let the Senate know what they are thinking.

The Chair thanked J. Tice for her tremendous service in faculty governance.

Vice President of SAEM Report – C. Rhodes for M. Lopez-Phillips

C. Rhodes invited the members to the Rainbow Graduation that was being held that night. He also noted the dates and place for the Raza and African American student graduations. He said the enrollment figures were running ahead of last year and that they think the campus will clearly make target. He noted that 35% of first time freshman had identified as students of color.

Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reported that S&F had recommended three faculty to the CCGS advisory group – Don Romesburg, Christian Baker and Janet Hess.

Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee Report – B. Lesch-McCaffry

B. Lesch-McCaffry noted that a report from the remaining members of the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee was included in the packet. She noted concerns they had moving forward. They were concerned about the status of the CCGS; the lack of an individual to provide victim's advocate support, especially in cases of sexual assault; the need for better information to students about the diversity graduations; funding for MESA and were troubled by the lack of faculty representation on the committee to select the Diversity Director. Members of the Ad-Hoc Committee had committed to stay on in the Fall to effect a transition to the Senate Diversity Committee. She said they also hoped to see the Diversity Strategic Plan soon. She then read a statement from Janet Hess. *(thanks to B. Lesch-McCaffry for supplying this statement for the minutes)* "Students are gathered here today because they are concerned about the lack of support for women at Sonoma State University. They are concerned about students formerly helped by the now collapsed and empty C.C.G.S. They are concerned about victims of sexual assault who need support. A student assaulted last year on campus, who never returned, told me, "there was no safe place to run to on campus, nor was there professional assistance to deal with the . . . act that had been committed against me. There was no support network of people who were properly trained in crisis management and because there was no Women's Coalition, I [felt I] had no force to protect me . . . I felt no safety, no support, no compassion . . .[at]Sonoma State University."

We may say we are making efforts, we are trying, we are doing our best. But experts tell us that words or actions intended to keep an image of BENIGN SAFETY on campus can actually EXACERBATE the suffering of students who are vulnerable and lost. Attempts to suppress the voice of survivors of sexual assault, for example, can exacerbate rape trauma syndrome.

The students gathered here thank the Administration for its efforts thus far. But we urge the President and V.P. to realize their promises to provide funding for a Sexual

Assault Counselor, to hire a director for the C.C.G.S., AND to fund a resource person dedicated to working exclusively with women. We will be watching and waiting.

Margaret Mead once said, "Our value as individuals, our success as a society, can be measured by the compassion we show for the most vulnerable among us."

Thank you."

Revision to the WEPT Policy – Second Reading - C. Works

C. Works reminded the body that this was primarily a cosmetic change noting that English 275 was no longer offered as a WEPT alternative.

Vote on Revision to the WEPT Policy – Approved.

The Chair asked for discussion regarding the statement from J. Hess.

A member asked if there were any numbers or records to substantiate the claims in the statement. B. Lesch-McCaffry noted that incidents were reported through student services and the Student Health Center, but they also may be using a Crisis Line in Santa Rosa and that organization was not required to report back to SSU. The Police Chief noted that they would be doing more trainings for people with high contact with students and advised that on their website there was a lot of information, including statistics on reportings. They even note a reporting even if the student does not want to file formal charges. A member said that Counseling Services did see students that were victims of sexual assault and encouraged faculty to send students to them. B. Lesch-McCaffry noted that the piece that was missing was a person to help students complete their academic work. The Police Chief said that some of the sexual assault occurs off campus, so the reporting is in another jurisdiction. A member asked for a comprehensive understanding of what students can expect from SSU, if they are sexually assaulted. A student voiced her concern about this topic, discussing her knowledge of five sexual assaults in the dorms that semester and what the SSU process looks like from the student perspective. She asked for more serious action in this area. Another student told her story and asked for a place to go for support that was specific. A member asked if the students were asking for a specific Women's Center. B. Lesch-McCaffry noted that there was a conversation on-going about how the CCGS space could include a specific space for women.

Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees Policy Revision– Second Reading – J. Wingard

J. Wingard noted additional revisions made based on the first reading. He said the Appendix had been separated from the policy and reference to the appendix had been removed from the policy. The appendix will remain as an informational resource and maintained by the Senate office.

Vote on Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees Policy Revision – Approved.

Changes to S&F By-Laws – Second Reading – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reminded the body that the change was that the chair of S&F would be elected from the committee instead of being the Chair-Elect. He said there were no constitutional changes needed, only by-laws changes.

Vote on Changes to S&F By-Laws – Approved.

J. Wingard noted that in anticipation of this change, Murali Pillai was elected as Chair of S&F for the upcoming year.

APC Report – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth noted a written report was included in the packet. A member asked if APC's recommendations regarding curriculum and technology were anticipating mandates from the Chancellor's office. A. Warmoth responded yes.

3-Unit GE Policy Revision – First Reading - C. Works

C. Works discussed the current policy that GE courses had to be 3 unit courses with some exceptions. EPC had received many requests from around the Schools to change this policy and EPC referred it to the GE subcommittee. The changes from the GE committee opened up the policy to allow more possibilities for the unit load of GE courses.

Motion to waive the first reading. Second. There was substantial discussion alternating between waiting for the Fall to discuss this further or moving to a second reading so the Senate could give feedback to EPC.

Question called. Second. Approved.

Vote on waiving the first reading – Yes = 19, No = 10 – Approved.

Motion to amend second paragraph: departments may propose adding courses with other than 3 units, only if ~~they can demonstrate~~ the GE subcommittee determines that there are sufficient 3-unit courses remaining in the sub-area to allow any student to choose only 3 unit courses. Second. There was discussion.

There was a parliamentary point made that waiving the first reading required a 2/3rds vote and a motion was made to re-vote on waiving the first reading. The motion and motion to amend were ruled out of order. A parliamentary point was made that the motion should be to ask to reconsider and could only be made by a person who voted on the prevailing side.

Motion to extend the first reading by 5 minutes. Second. Approved.

The member who made the motion to amend asked if the GE subcommittee would consider the amendment anyway over the summer. C. Works said she thought the committee was open to suggestions. A few more arguments were made about why the policy change was needed and there was a suggestion for Senators to consult with their constituencies on the matter. C. Works noted that the feedback she had so far was to change the GE pattern units that currently showed 48 – 50, should be 48 – 51 and that the GE subcommittee should determine if there were sufficient 3 units courses in a particular area. There was a question about how this policy might affect lecturers who often teach GE courses. The CFA representative provided a clarification about time base and pay for lecturers according to the CBA, and noted that currently there is no contract language between CFA and CSU that addresses these concerns. While some CSU campuses had local arrangements, SSU was not among them.

Constitutional Amendment: Emeritus Faculty Member on the Senate – First Reading – R. Senghas

R. Senghas said that the proposal to have an emeritus faculty member on the Senate was brought by a member of ERFA (Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association - <http://csuerfa.org/index.html>) He noted it had gone to S&F and S&F had recommended that it be a non-voting position, FSAC did not make a recommendation on that point. ERFA was asking for the position to be voting and the Executive Committee agreed. He said it was coming forward as a first reading due to the fact that constitutional votes had to be held at Fall Convocation as the requirement to amend the Senate Constitution was a vote of all eligible faculty, with a 50% turnout and 2/3rds of those voting in the affirmative. He said twelve campuses had emeritus seats on their Senate, eleven of them were voting positions and the Statewide Senate also had an emeritus faculty seat on their Senate. There were questions about ERFA and how ERFA would elect/select a faculty member.

Motion to waive the first reading. Second. Approved.

Motion to amend: A representative from the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA), *chosen by the membership of the local chapter of CSU ERFA* who received emeritus status at Sonoma State University as a voting member. Second.

Parliamentary point made that the Chair did not ask for discussion when the motion to waive the first reading was made. The Chair agreed and asked for discussion of waiving the first reading.

A member argued against waiving the first reading due to concerns about whether the person from ERFA would represent the historical memory of SSU among other concerns raised above. The Chair clarified that the constitutional amendment states that the member from ERFA would have to be from SSU. A question was raised about whether an emeritus faculty member who didn't want to join ERFA would be able to serve on the Senate.

Question called on waiving the first reading. Second. Approved.

Vote on waiving the first reading – Approved.

Motion to extend 5 minutes. Second. Approved.

Motion to amend: A representative from the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA), *chosen by the membership of the local SSU chapter* who received emeritus status at Sonoma State University as a voting member. Second. There was discussion.

Question called on amendment. Second. Approved.

Vote on amendment above – Failed.

There was further discussion. Motion to extend 5 minutes. Second. Approved.

Motion to change wording of proposed amendment to mirror constitutional language of Staff Representative thus: The manner in which this Emeritus representative is selected shall be established in the By-Laws. Second.

Question called. Second. Approved

Vote on Motion to change wording – Approved.

Vote on amended language for constitution – Approved.

Proposal of Online Forum related to the tabled no confidence resolution –Second Reading – S. Moulton

S. Moulton said that the Executive Committee discussed the proposal based on the first reading of the Senate and she read the new wording. It was asked what form the online forum would take – a threaded list, a chat room? S. Moulton said it was her understanding that submissions would just be posted online. It was clarified that materials would be submitted in the Fall, remain online during the Spring and then be archived. A member voice concerns that the forum would exacerbate divisions already present on campus. He argued that there had been plenty of discussion about financial matters and priorities and thought the forum would become a no confidence resolution “lite.” Support for the new wording was voiced.

Motion to amend: Requests for anonymity will be considered by the committee and the designee of Administration and Finance. Second. There was discussion. S. Moulton summarized the Executive Committee discussion on this matter and noted that the Senate Analyst had volunteered to field requests for anonymity to the committee.

Motion to move the agenda. Second. No objection.

Nominations for the Senators to the Executive Committee for 2010-2011

Nominees were: Sam Brannen, Margie Purser and Terry Lease. A paper ballot was given to the body and they were told to vote for two.

Return to discussion of online forum while voting proceeded.

A member argued against the amendment stating that the vetting process was not for substantiation of fact, but rather if it was reasoned analysis and not ad hominem and that it was to be a Senate forum. He noted that scholars often disagree on reasoned analysis.

Motion to extend by 5 minutes. Second. Yes = 14; No = 15 – Failed.

Results of Senators to Executive Committee Election: Sam Brannen and Margie Purser.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported that CFA wanted to thank S. Miller and S. Moulton for working so well with the CFA and for SSU's Senate leadership for recognizing the importance of working together. He also said in all the years he had been in CFA, they had never been better served than this year with S. Moulton. He thought no one had understood better how to empower the faculty. The Senate applauded.

Changing of the Guard

S. Moulton also praised the CFA and then presented the Past Chair with the official "chair" and included a SSU teddy bear for his new son.

She made a few more acknowledgments – an egg timer for S. Brannen for his one minute time extension; a resolution called the Picayune Award for Terry Lease for his interest in Robert's Rules; Andy Merrifield for his fighting for the union, a bubble gun; and a old computer to the Senate Analyst due to computing needs in the senate office. (*fun*)

She then passed the gavel to J. Wingard along with a calendar book due to all the committee commitments of the Chair.

J. Wingard, as the new Chair, offered a resolution for S. Moulton:

RESOLUTION

Acclaiming and Commending

Susan Moulton

Chair of the Faculty

2009-2010

- WHEREAS** Susan Moulton led the Academic Senate during some of the most challenging and difficult times faced by this institution;
- WHEREAS** She unfailingly maintained her dignity and grace even when, at times, those around her failed to do so;
- WHEREAS** She was tenacious in her pursuit of transparency as demonstrated by her pointed questions and repeated calls for town hall meetings;
- WHEREAS** She never shirked from speaking truth to power;
- WHEREAS** She never tired in her advocacy for faculty consultation;
- WHEREAS** The arrows loosed by her detractors were always deflected by an armor of graciousness and respect;
- WHEREAS** Her iron will was balanced by a most generous spirit and delightful sense of humor;
- WHEREAS** Robert's Rules were merely guidelines that, to the potential dismay of those desiring order and discipline, never stood in the way of letting all voices be heard – even those who abstained;
- WHEREAS** She was unarguably among the hardest working and devoted individuals to hold the office of Chair of the Faculty;

THEREFORE BE IT

- RESOLVED** That, friend and foe alike, recognize her unfailing devotion and unrelenting energy in leading the faculty of Sonoma State University during these most challenging times and, furthermore, let us express our deepest appreciation for her very significant contributions to this institution.

Applause and **approved by acclamation.**

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmstrom Vega