

Academic Senate Minutes
March 12, 2015
3:00 – 5:00, Student Center Ballroom A

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda – Approved. Minutes of 2/26/15 – Approved. Revision to Computer Science major and minor – Approved. Theses Project, Public Nature policy approved. President Report. Provost Report. SAC Report. Vice Chair Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Associated Students Report. Vice President of Student Affairs Report. Resolution in Support of AS-3197-14, The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy on Academic Freedom approved. Statewide Senators Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. CFA Report. Staff rep Report. Good of the Order.

Present: Richard J. Senghas, Kirsten Ely, Margaret Purser, Tom Targett, Catherine Nelson, Deborah Roberts, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Matthew James, Birch Moonwomon, Judith Friscia, Jess Hazelwood, Joshua Glasgow, John Palmer, Ed Beebout, Karen Thompson, Jennifer Mahdavi, Sunil Tiwari, Mary Ellen Wilkosz, Matty Mookerjee, Lauren Morimoto, Suzanne Rivoire, Laura Watt, Michelle Goman, Rheyna Laney, Michael Pinkston, Donna Garbesi, Ruben Arminana, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Christian George, Brandon Mercer, Cynthia Figueroa, Katie Musick, Richard Whitkus, Julie Shulman

Proxies: John Kunat for Parissa Tadrissi, Nicole Lawson for Laura Krier, Hope Ortiz for Marisa Thigpen, Melinda Barnard for Andrew Rogerson, Jason Wenrick for Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

Absent: Jennifer Roberson, Florence Bouvet, Viki Montera, Melissa Garvin, Edie Brown, Elaine Newman, Melinda Milligan

Guests: Karen Brodsky, Elaine Sundberg

Chair Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that he had received communication about the California Community College BA programs. A few of their proposals would not be going forward for recommendation, some proposals had concerns and the remaining would go forward. (to see the list, go to: <http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/useful/reports.html>). The Community College chancellor would be taking the proposals to their Board of Directors to make decisions. There was still some question about whether all fifty would go forward since they all need consultation. He noticed that other campuses were looking at transitioning to electronic SETE's. He reported on the President's Diversity Council meeting. G. Flores talked to the PDC about SSU moving closer to becoming a Hispanic serving institution. Such a designation could allow funds to come to campus that would benefit all under-represented groups. He reported on the GMC meeting. They heard a presentation about all the academic-related events that were

happening in GMC, both Weill Hall and Schroeder Hall. Hearing this presentation, the Board started to understand what it meant to have academic/instructional activities in the GMC.

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Minutes of 2/26/15 – Approved.

Consent item: Revision to Computer Science major and minor – Approved.

Theses Project, Public Nature policy – K. Brodsky, L. Watt for M. Milligan

It was noted that no comments had been received since the first reading, except “good job” and “at last!” **Vote on Theses Project, Public Nature policy - Approved.** K. Brodsky noted that ScholarWorks was not just for graduates, but was also for faculty. (note: the Academic Senate uses ScholarWorks for archiving agendas and minutes now. <http://sonoma-dspace.calstate.edu/handle/10211.1/341>)

President Report – R. Arminana

R. Arminana reported on the proposal for BA degrees in the Community Colleges. He noted that none of the area community colleges were asking for a degree. He thought it was a cost issue.

Provost Report – M. Barnard for A. Rogerson

M. Barnard reported that she and E. Sundberg were heading a task force on internships. There was an Executive Order that stated that all campuses should have a policy on internships. They called together faculty from departments that had large numbers of internships, such as Biology, Sociology, ENSP, etc. They were talking about what approach the campus would want to take. They would bring a proposal to the Senate committees eventually. A member asked if this was the mandate coming from the Chancellor’s office about site visits, etc. M. Barnard responded, yes and they needed to come up with guidelines in such a way that did not increase workload very much. The member said she was concerned about the mandate as it seemed that it had the possibility to shut down certain experiences for students. M. Barnard said they were looking at other CSU campus policies for ideas. M. Barnard reported on the progress of the salary increases in the recent contract for faculty. She said the delay on retroactive checks was at the Controller’s office. Once the contract increases were finished, she would be able to work on the campus based equity. A member noted that the Nursing department had a very strict definition of internship and asked what definition they were using in the task force. M. Barnard said that the Executive Order specifically exempted Nursing and Counseling. A happy dance broke out. A student member asked if there was a plan for student feedback on the guidelines. M. Barnard said she would make sure they consulted with students. A member asked about the \$800,000 that was needed for the equity program on campus and wondered whether the Provost and CFO had identified a funding source yet. M. Barnard said that the figure of \$800,000 included various phases of the program such as GSI, lecturer range movements, salary adjustments,

CSU wide equity, and the exceptional service to student awards. SSU received \$755,000 towards these costs. Adding in the first and second year release and campus based equity, an additional \$800,000 was needed. She thought the Provost and CFO had a preliminary meeting, but she did not believe they had come up with a solution yet. J. Wenrick noted that the money for next year had been identified, but they were looking for permanent funding. A member asked whether there was a definition of clinical internships. M. Barnard said the Executive Order identified specific departments for exemption. The member asked when the internship policy might be implemented. M. Barnard thought it would be fall 2016. A member noted several colleagues had contacted her about the \$800,000 cost and they had several questions. In the School of A&H, they had an unexpected reduction of 35 classes and people wondered if that was part of finding the money to cover the \$800,000. There was a request for a more transparent and simplified system of budget reporting that could be given to faculty. She asked for a clarification of the revenues available and where they came from and the cost of instruction. They wanted to know the proportions – if revenues went up, could more money go to instruction? M. Barnard asked the member to email her questions to S. Kilat and the Provost. She noted that the budget was very complicated and there was constant change going on. She thought there could be transparency about the process they were using. She noted that the contract increases were separate from the lecturer budgets. The Chair thought the Senate Budget Subcommittee could also look into these questions.

SAC Report – J. Shulman

J. Shulman reported that SAC had visitors at their last meeting to help them understand how to advocate for issues in Student Affairs. They heard from J. Kornfeld and E. Sundberg. J. Kornfeld talked about Student Academic Services, which included the career center, undergraduate advising, various transition programs, testing and freshman/ sophomore programs. This area needs more administrative support since many programs were expanding in a lateral direction. They needed leadership for the advising center. They needed permanent funding for positions that were grant funded. E. Sundberg gave them an update about outreach and recruitment, as well as admissions and records. They needed to work on retaining highly skilled staff, to keep pace with rapidly changing technology and increase numbers of applications. They also meet with E. Brown and talked about remediation needs. Over 1000 students had come into the campus with math remediation needs and 759 with English remediation needs. They also received an application for priority registration for four technology assistants working in Weill Hall. They declined the application because those student assistant positions were very much like many other student assistant positions on campus. A member noted that only 650 students were enrolled in math remediation courses. J. Shulman said she would look into that.

Vice Chair Report – K. Ely

K. Ely reported that Theresa Alfaro Velcamp had been appointed as the campus representative to the Academic Council on International Programs. She noted that the faculty governance general election was in progress and encouraged everyone to vote.

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

J. Wenrick reported on the discussions about moving students from Google mail to Exchange mail. He noted there were issues with separate email accounts. This would put everyone on the same calendar. Whether they did this or not, they would make Google apps available from the SSU login as they had heard these were being used in the classroom. If they moved students to Exchange, they would also be able to offer the Microsoft office suite to students for free. He also reported that the Chancellor's office had mandated a new standard on the Cal State American Express card, so that card would be discontinued. The new requirement would mandate that American Express card holders submit a report about every item purchased and affirm all purchases had been for business only. They would be working with the contracts and purchases office about advance travel purchases. He said they did not want the change to put financial pressure on individuals. The new policy goes into effect July 1. He said he had learned that the reason most people like the card is that it had the word "government" on it. So, they were talking about re-doing the campus ID cards for employees which would indicate the card holder is a state employee. He said they were also interested to see if the campus Procard could be used for advance airline ticket purchases. A member voice concern about the men's locker room extreme lack of cleanliness. A member asked about increasing the email limit in Exchange. J. Wenrick said he would check on that.

Associated Students Report – C. George

C. George announced that Brandon Mercer was elected as the Associated Students President. Students also approved the new Associated Students fee. A member asked if the Tutorial Center should be supported by Academic Affairs rather than students. C. George said there was a long history to the funding of the Tutorial Center. When the University was unable to provide support, the Associates Students had asked the students to help out, so there was already a commitment by the students. He said they would be working with Academic Affairs and Administration and Finance to find a more permanent solution. A member commented that the fee was a good step, since she had been notified that there was not enough money to put on all the tutorial sessions they needed.

Vice President of Student Affairs Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips reported that they had a very successful first Mental Health Awareness week. He appreciated all the members of the campus community coming together for the event. Sexual Assault awareness week would be held April 6th – 9th. More information would be forthcoming. He noted an Alcohol and Drug conference for the CSU would be held on April 16th and 17th and the campus would be sending employees to that conference. He said the VPs of Student Affairs had met and were talking about Title IX issues, and how to help students with health care coverage between southern and northern California. He reported on the co-curricular task force. They had decided that their document was too long, so they were going to shorten it and focus on the learning outcomes and developmental matrices.

Resolution in Support of AS-3197-14, The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy on Academic Freedom – First Reading - R. Whitkus

R. Senghas said that this item has been proposed at the last Senate Chair's meeting. It had gone to the Academic Freedom subcommittee and then to FSAC. **Motion to waive the first reading. Second. Approved. Motion to change all references to the Statewide Academic Senate to be Academic Senate CSU. Second.** Appreciation was extended to AFS and FSAC. **Motion to waive first reading approved. Vote on resolution – Approved.**

Resolution in Support of AS-3197-14, The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy on Academic Freedom

Resolved the Academic Senate of Sonoma State University endorse AS-3197-14, [The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy on Academic Freedom](#), which was passed by the Academic Senate CSU on January 23, 2015; and be it further

Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the SSU President Armiñana, CSU Chancellor White, the Academic Senate CSU, and the CSU Board of Trustees.

Rationale the last format statement on academic freedom for the California State University was formulated in 1971 and a proposed policy would address important up-to-date academic freedom issues.

Statewide Senators Report – C. Nelson, D. Roberts

C. Nelson made a few comments about the process of BA degrees in the Community Colleges. She noted that there was a strong concurrence between the faculty and administrators in the CSU about duplication. They found no problem with the Mortuary Science degree. Most of the campuses found potential duplication with all other proposed degrees. When Chancellor White sent the formal response to the Community Colleges Chancellor, he reported objections to two programs; concern about four programs and offered willingness to work on them and no objections to nine other. So what the Chancellor sent was very different from what was received in the consultation process. The Statewide Senate Executive Committee was following up about the discrepancy. San Jose State's Academic Senate had passed a resolution voicing concern about the granting of BA degrees in the Community Colleges. D. Roberts noted that there was always a question and answer period at the Statewide Senate meetings for the Chancellor and CSU administrators. She asked to carry the voice of the faculty to the meetings and asked for input. She voiced concern about the appalling racist events at universities across the country recently. She was a member of the Faculty Affairs Committee and asked the Senate if they would empower her to author a resolution from that committee about these events. The VP of Student Affairs offered that the Bias Motivated Response Team procedures and policy might be useful. **Motion to ask D. Roberts co-author a**

resolution in the Statewide Faculty Affairs committee concerning these incidents and what were best practices. Second. Approved.

EPC Report – L. Watt for M. Milligan

L. Watt reported that EPC continued discussing the revised GE course proposal form. They reviewed a proposal for a unit increase for University 150B. They reviewed a proposal from Biology for revising their BS degree. They also heard the proposal for the discontinuance for the Direct Entry Master of Nursing. This was not a happy conversation. A lack of faculty that preventing the program from working. It had been a very successful program and no one wanted to see it discontinued. EPC thought that it was important for the campus community to hear about this and they decided to hold a public hearing on this discontinuance. She reminded the members that the CANDEL discontinuance public hearing would be held on April 2nd (<http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/committees/discontinuance.html>).

FSAC Report – R. Whitkus

R. Whitkus reported that FSAC was looking at the new contract, some documents on the Senate website and the Senate constitution about defining faculty. They would be bringing a proposal about this to the Executive Committee. They continued their discussion about class climate and decided to bring the topic to the Associated Students. They would request that the AS bring forward a resolution about how students could provide feedback on class climate and diversity which then FSAC could consider. He noted they had a very thoughtful conversation about this topic. By bringing it to the AS, they hoped to bring the conversation to a wider audience. He would also bring the topic to committees. It was clarified that FSAC was reviewing the definition of faculty in the Senate constitution.

CFA Report – S. Brannen for E. Newman

S. Brannen reported that CFA has produced a white paper titled “Race to the Bottom” which argued that CSU faculty had lost buying power over the last 10 years and the same could not be said for Community College faculty or University of California faculty. (<http://www.calfac.org/race-to-the-bottom-paper-1>) He encouraged everyone to read it.

Staff Representative Report – K. Musick

K. Musick said she had been approached by “AC’s” on the campus with the request to be able to vote in department chair elections. She had done some preliminary research for precedence in the CSU and found that staff do have a voice in the department chair selection process at two campuses. The department chair had a significant impact on the AC work environment. She requested that the Senate support AC’s having a voice in department chair selection. A member noted that the topic was discussed in her department and it was very contentious. She said that as an individual, she would support the idea. A member asked how the Senate would support this. K. Musick said that she thought this should be decided by the Senate. A member said she thought this was a fascinating topic and noted that the faculty

contract did not specify that department chairs had to be elected. A member asked if the contract allowed this proposal in terms of a vote. M. Barnard said that the department recommends the department chair to the Dean. The department was considered all unit 3 employees. She thought that *input* on the department chair could include input from ACs. K. Musick said she had found that some CSU Deans did ask for feedback from the staff. A member supported having the discussion because the department chair could have impact on the staffing needs. How would the Senate have this conversation? **Motion to refer the topic to FSAC. Second. Clarification of motion to have FSAC bring a recommendation about how to have this conversation. Approved.**

Good of the Order

A member reminded the members about the Emeritus Dinner on March 26th, honoring faculty recently receiving emeritus status. The Chair said he had been to several dinners and appreciated talking to the emeritus faculty. He noted they appreciated seeing the current faculty at the dinner. A member noted that S. Rivoire was a recipient of the President's Scholarship Award, which used to be the Goldstein Scholarship award. L. Cominsky was the second recipient. She thanked the President for supporting the award. M. Barnard noted that the recipients would receive their awards at the University Research Symposium on April 15th. It would be the first collaborative research symposium for the campus. The Chair noted that the Society and Culture Undergraduate Research Forum would take place that day as well and they would have a keynote speaker to be announced. The Chair reminded the Senate about the next Faculty Conversation with the Provost on March 25th from 12-1 in the Faculty Center. They would be talking about the potential restructure of faculty governance and he would try to have pizza again.

Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes