

THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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(AS-11)

May 8, 2017

Members excused: N. Akhavan, P. Adams, N. Delich, M. Gilewicz, M. Jenkins, J. Smith- Warshaw, J. Wakabayashi

Members absent: B. Buckner, P. Garcia, M. Golden, B. Singh, T. Wilson

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:02pm in HML 2206.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of May 1, 2017

Friendly amendments accepted to add comment by Senator Ho (Physics), correct the name of Senator Wu (Construction Management) to Senator Youn (Biology), and correct Communications to Communication.

MSC approving the Minutes of May 1, 2017 as amended.

3.) Communications and announcements

a. President Castro

Expressed his thanks to former Senate Chair Ayotte and former Vice Chair Holyoke for their leadership. Related enrollment is strong, which is good but challenging, and the university will need to be thoughtful about resources.

Discussed various outcomes to potential tuition increase and state funding increases.

Related next year the university will move quickly on dealing with infrastructure challenges. There is the intention to make even more progress in the next few years and the university may use some of the reserved of the one-time dollars to do so.

Mentioned concerns about the increase of cost for the benefits pool. Related the need to accommodate this increase may result in fewer funds for other needs.

Chair Holyoke announced this is Senator Benavides' (Statewide Senate) last meeting. President Castro thanked him for his service.

b. Provost Zelezny

Announced opportunities to share feedback with the Chancellor's Office. AVP Blanchard will be visiting the campus for the day and the Trustees will visit the following week. Senate leadership will meet with the visitors, and she asked senators to provide feedback and questions for them to relate.

Thanked Senator Benavides (Statewide Senate) for his many years of service to the campus and the Statewide Senate. She thanked the senators in general and wished everyone a good and productive summer.

c. Senator Benavides (Statewide Senate)

Thanked the senate for its support and opportunity. Extolled the experience of being in the Statewide Senate and the opportunities associated with this. Senator Botwin (Psychology) praised Senator Benavides for his effectiveness in service.

d. Senator Sanmartin (MCLL)

Requested an update regarding the deadline date for final grades. Mentioned the time requirements in grading written assignments,

the issue with Blackboard last semester that provided a small extension, and asked further if anything was discussed with ASI.

Vice Provost Nef stated the final grade deadline, just released in an email, is May 26. He explained there is an extra piece of information that will be needed in the grading process. Faculty who give students a WU grade will need to report the last day of attendance. The system will automatically populate the date at 50% into the semester.

Lisa Bryant (Universitywide) asked if faculty can use the last day a student accessed blackboard. Kelley Russell (Financial Aid) replied faculty should enter the last day they can show participation. It cannot be logging in on Blackboard but actual participation.

Senator Ram (Universitywide) asked how the date impacts the student. Kelly Russell (Financial Aid) replied the auditor sees the F as if the student completed the semester and earned the F. The WU is for students who stop attending. The students have to show that they earned the financial aid money. If they stopped attending, they may not.

Senator Maldonado (Philosophy) noted there seems to be less pressure in the spring semester for grades because the summer break provides a greater amount of time. Asked why the deadline for grades does not reflect this. Laura Yager (Registrar) replied that there are requests for transcripts from various programs so students can take entrance exams and apply for other programs. Kelley Russell (Financial Aid) contributed they cannot release summer financial aid until satisfactory progress has been confirmed.

Senator Sanmartin (MCLL) noted that final assignments in some classes are essays and whether complex grading was taken into account when the deadlines were placed. Added just a couple of days can make a difference.

Senator Kar (Music) noted that pressured for grade deadlines have always been present and 8 days is not sufficient.

Senator Schettler (Africana and American Indian Studies) added there are 3 days of intense graduation activities, which shorten the grading period further.

Senator Kensinger (Women Studies) said quality in end of semester grading should be taken into account.

Senator Ayotte (Communication) explained that a 150 student class can result in 75 hours of grading and not having an end of semester term paper is not always an option.

Chair Holyoke explained there was a resolution passed by the Academic Senate earlier in the year. He will send that resolution to the Registrar and try to schedule a sit-down later in the week to see if any changes are possible for this semester.

- e. Chair Holyoke
Thanked Tim Ryan (ASI President) for his service and welcomed Blake Zante who will be the new ASI President.

4.) Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the reappointment of Tony Mowrer (Arts & Humanities) and the appointment of Andrea Arndorfer (Sociology) to the Nominating/Election Committee.
- b. Approval of the appointment of Kathryn Biancindo (Kremen School of Education and Human Development), Serhat Asci (Jordan College of Agricultural Science & Technology), Iran Barrera (College of Health and Human Services), James Rocha (College of Arts and Humanities), Jenna Tague (College of Science and Mathematics), Patrick S. DeWalt (Kremen School of Education and Human Development), Dermot Donnelly (College of Science and Mathematics) to the Committee for Faculty Equity and Diversity (CFED).
- c. Approval of the reappointment of Nancy Nisbett (College of Health and Human Services) and Marianne Jackson (College of Science and Mathematics), and the appointment of Todd A. Lone (Jordan College of Agricultural Science and Technology) to the Student Affairs Committee.

The consent calendar was approved by unanimous consent.

5.) Election – Nominations – Nominating/Elections Committee

Chair Holyoke relinquished the floor to Don Austin (Chair Elections Committee)

A. Executive Committee – Three Positions (Nominations from the floor)

Melanie Ram (Universitywide) elected by acclamation to the Senate Executive Committee Universitywide position.

Susan Schlievert (Statewide) elected by acclamation to the Senate Executive Committee Statewide position.

Bradley Hart elected by acclamation to the Senate Executive Committee Member At-large (MCJ) position.

6.) New Business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

7.) APM 110 Policy on Ancillary Units

Vice Provost Nef provided a history of the policy and rationale for the changes.

Senator Mullooly (Anthropology) related the policy was vetted thoroughly in the AP&P committee.

MSC to waive second reading, 1 abstention.

MSC approving APM 110, 1 abstention.

8.) APM 114 Policy on Faculty Consultation and Voting and APM 125 Policy on Department Chairs – Personnel Committee

Brian Tsukimura (Chair Personnel Committee) reviewed the changes in the policy based on arbitration.

Senator Ram (Universitywide) asked for an explanation of section D, as to how consecutive semesters is defined. Brian Tsukimura replied it regards people who only work every other semester.

Senator Ong (Marketing & Logistics) asked whether there is concern for reciprocity with department chairs. Brian Tsukimura replied the changes were based on an arbitration agreement, and this is what came back from the arbitrator.

At 5:16pm – MSC to extend the adjournment time until 5:30.

Senator Ayotte (Communication) said the grievance settlement states if we do not accept the terms, it will be imposed. We can add to it but cannot remove anything. He stated based on the last debate, he did not think we would add to it.

MSC to waive second reading.

MSC called to question.

MSC approving APM 114.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:19pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be in Fall 2017.

Submitted by
Paula Durette
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by
Thomas Holyoke
Chair
Academic Senate