

## Executive Committee Minutes

November 2, 2006

3:00 – 5:00 Sue Jameson Room

**Present:** Edith Mendez, Art Warmoth, Elaine McDonald-Newman, Elizabeth Stanny, Mary Halavais, John Wingard, Doug Jordan, Tim Wandling, Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Eduardo Ochoa

**Absent:** Elizabeth Martínez, Catherine Nelson, Carlos Ayala

**Guests:** Steve Wilson, Kathryn Crabbe

### Chair's Report – E. McDonald-Newman

The Chair reported on the CSU Chairs meeting she recently attended. She said it was discouraging to hear that the same issues are present on each campus. She listed the common issues. Everyone is revising their RTP policies, which surprised her. She wondered where it was coming from. Some campus revisions are primarily coming from administrators and some from faculty. Faculty salaries were another issue. She said some campuses just gave faculty money to correct the inversion. Some campuses seem to have extra money to give faculty. People all over are worried about distance learning and the digital marketplace. "Structural deficits" is the buzz word going around from administrators. Everyone is worried about finding housing for faculty. Also, everyone is worried about the ratio of tenure-track faculty to lecturers. Everyone has communication issues on campus, many with issues around shared governance. Many campuses have a large number of new administrators. Everybody's class sizes and SFRs are going up. After that, the Provosts and Chairs met together. Mostly they were told what the big initiatives are statewide. They looked at a draft of the strategic planning "domains" – called Access to Excellence. However, in the document itself there was only one place where excellence was mentioned. They worked in small groups to give feedback on the domains. At some point SSU will be asked to bring a draft of that strategy to the entire campus for feedback. They were also told that all campuses would be required to do an assessment of the baccalaureate in conjunction with the Collegiate Learning Assessment. Then they had a brief discussion of the coded memo about access. She has not heard any feedback from the conference, but noted deadlines and thought that EPC would probably be engaged in writing policy for book ordering and that sort of thing.

**Approval of Agenda** – There was a discussion about adding the item of mandatory advising or that each department have a written advising policy. D. Jordan said that the Academic Advising subcommittee is going to talk about it and SAC will be talking about it as well. There are issues with mandatory advising. The committee discussed balancing student needs and faculty workload along with strategies that might work.

Agenda approved.

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**Minutes of 10/19/06 – Approved.**

### President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana said he has not heard anything about the assessment of the baccalaureate so he could not comment on it. He said that he knows everyone thinks that they are not compensated enough and they are all right. However, most of the money from the State goes to compensation and benefits. The benefits area keeps growing. The news from CALPERS is that health benefits will increase next year between \$8-10 million for the system. It is not up for discussion. The CSU will have to ask the budget to increase by that amount. It used to be that benefits were added to the budget, but that has not always happened. He also reported that the CSUEU has come to a tentative agreement with the CSU. That leaves two bargaining units who have not come to an agreement with the CSU: the UAW and the CFA.

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### Chair-Elect Report – T. Wandling

T. Wandling made a comment about the CALPERS flyer he recently received.

### EPC report – M. Halavais

M. Halavais reported on EPC's action concerning the YRO calendar. She said they tabled it indefinitely with a question – why weren't faculty consulted about how we were going to do YRO as there are educational ramifications to running a full semester and or just summer school? Who had made the decision and where did the money go in the Schools? The President responded that the Legislature mandated YRO. There was some consultation on this campus and it was pretty unanimous that we wait until the last minute to go to YRO. YRO makes more sense for the urban campuses. T. Wandling said that Extended Education did go to the Schools with questions about what would work, etc, so extensive consultation has gone on in the Schools, but whether it had come to the Senate is a good question. There was more discussion about where consultation had occurred. M. Halavais said that someone from Fullerton had told them that they had decided to go to a full extra semester and hired 80 new faculty. EPC's question was who made the decision to do our summer school as we have with Extended Education? It was noted that faculty hiring would be linked to growth and not to the decision about YRO. The Chair said she thought the reason SSU has not been able to hire more faculty is due to how it spends its growth money and not how we will do summer school. M. Halavais said she would take that back to EPC.

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**Motion to bring the academic calendar(s) to the Executive Committee for approval along with attention to any constituencies that need to be consulted. Second.**  
**Approved.**

There was a request to have this item discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

### **FSAC report – E. McDonald-Newman**

E. McDonald-Newman said that C. Ayala was at a conference, but has requested that the Executive Committee give the Cost Sharing policy a time certain as late as possible.

### **SAC report – D. Jordan**

D. Jordan reported SAC had an advising workshop last Friday and about a dozen people attended. It went fairly well. They have completed the charge for the Fairness Board; this will be sent to Structure and Functions.

### **Faculty Retreat - E. McDonald-Newman**

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E. McDonald-Newman reviewed her understanding of what the committee discussed last time. She wanted the Retreat to be focused on what we mean by words in our mission, what it means to be a student-centered liberal arts and sciences college, to have active learning, etc. It was mentioned that at the last meeting it seemed the topic was fine, but the date and format were discussed. There were arguments made for not having the Retreat in the evening due to newer faculty who might have child care issues. It was then suggested that the Retreat provide child-care. It was also pointed out that other newer faculty do not live close to campus. The Chair asked for what format would give the greatest outcome. The discussion continued regarding the content of the Convocation and the Faculty Retreat. The consensus appeared to be to have both the Convocation and Faculty Retreat on the same day, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Concern was expressed about having the retreat conflict with School meetings, however, the sentiment was also expressed that School meetings were not useful.

### **Provost Report – E. Ochoa**

E. Ochoa reported that he had been gone for two weeks and could talk about what he had been doing. He attended the first meeting of the CSU Strategic Planning effort called Access to Excellence. There are several domains that have been identified. Some brief statements about the issues in the domains have been drafted. A website is available for public comments until Friday to post feedback.

([http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/System\\_Strategic\\_Planning/AccessToExcellence.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/System_Strategic_Planning/AccessToExcellence.shtml)). The Chair asked if an email had gone out about the website. The Provost said no, he said it was a requirement of the Brown Act. They are not pushing it at this point. There will be a much more formal and explicit campus consultation process. Probably at least one day there will be a campus wide conversation that might include a Trustee to observe the process. This draft was put up on the web for a follow up meeting of the committee. They couldn't meet through email. It had to be public, so they used the web. Most of the comments have come from students. The Chair asked if the Provost would send out the website via Senate-Talk and eventually he agreed.

It was asked if any additional resources were associated with Cornerstones. The answer was no. It was asked if Cornerstones had ever been assessed and if it was

another unfunded mandate. The Provost said yes, Cornerstones has been assessed and the findings are that seven of the ten principles have had progress.

([http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/System\\_Strategic\\_Planning/resources.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/System_Strategic_Planning/resources.shtml) - *Evaluation of Achievements under Cornerstones pdf file available here.*) The three remaining issues require the most resources. They are faculty / staff compensation, faculty development, and he couldn't remember the third. (*It is infrastructure support for faculty teaching.*) He hoped that the effort would result in some additional funding.

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The President said he thought this effort would help the Legislature understand the needs of the CSU. He said that unless more resources are added, the next four years of resources are spent and we cannot do minimally what we want to do with those resources. That is the grim reality of where we are. Unless more resources are put in, the CSU will not be able to close the pay gap or improve the quality of the CSU. This new effort is to put a path clearly before the Legislature and the Governor which says if you want the CSU to be "this," then you have to pay.

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It was suggested that a statement at Convocation about the reality of the financial situation might be good as we consider our own strategic plan.

It was asked that if there is no money and will be no money, then should we only pursue strategic initiatives that don't cost money? The President said with the resources available, yes. He said the biggest donor to the CSU is the State of California. The Chair asked what the purpose of SSU's strategic planning was. The Provost said that it was good practice and required by WASC that the university be more purposeful, intentional and focused about what we do. We do have resources on campus in different units where there is choice about how they deploy those resources, even if new resources do not materialize, so if we make a thorough comprehensive statement about what the priorities of the campus are that flow from our mission, it can actually make us work better with the resources we have. If we get more money, we would also know which areas we would want to pursue. This can also become the case statement for fundraising.

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The President pointed out that 80% of the budget goes into compensation and benefits. That is not negotiated locally. There are also utilities. The discretionary money is very small. The Chair said she needed to be convinced that her part in the process was not only for her name to go forward so that it could be said faculty were consulted. The CFO said that it is the environmental factors that drive the budget for the next five years. He has recognized that if he wants to do something new administratively, he has to work very carefully with the growth dollars or he has to give up something else. He gave an example. He spoke about other revenue streams and how they might help improve quality.

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Time certain reached.

#### **K. Crabbe response to Senate resolution re: Center for Gender and Cultures**

The Chair noted the letter in the packet from K. Crabbe in response to the Senate Resolution on the new Center for Gender and Cultures.

(<http://www.sonoma.edu/Senate/Resolutions/ResGenderCulture.html>) K. Crabbe said she had seriously considered the Senate's request and agreed with the spirit of the resolution, but just could not do it. The pieces are not there for her area to do as the resolution requested. She said she appreciated the Senate's concern for this group of students and shares that with the Senate. She asked that the Senate look at the programming, their work with students and the way the Division is working to more intentionally make the links between the curriculum and the co-curriculum and value that above structure. The Chair thanked K. Crabbe very much for her response to the Senate's resolution. The discussion then focused on how to present the response to the Senate. It was suggested that the letter be an information item. There was discussion also about the Division's perspective on how their work supports student retention.

**Motion for the item to go to the Senate as an information item. Second. Approved.**

#### **Return to the Provost's Report**

It was suggested to the Provost that he articulate and evaluate the workload that is being put into the 3 WTU's of indirect. It was argued that excessive workload is responsible for low faculty morale and that this issue was more important than strategic planning.

It was argued that instruction and student services become more visible as priorities for the campus.

The Provost reported that he attended the Accessible Technology Workshop. We are getting support from the system. There are three areas that have to be addressed: access to webpages, access to instructional materials and procurement of instructional technology resources that are accessible. He reviewed the timelines and outlined the work coming up. He discussed how it appears the work will be organized. He noted the participation of Information Technology is higher than anticipated.

#### **Appointments to Review Committees – T. Wandling**

| **T. Wandling reported Structure and Functions<sup>✓</sup> recommendation of faculty for the Periodic Review of the Provost: Tia Watts, Sam Brannen and Bob Girling.**

*No objection.*

T. Wandling asked for the Committee to elicit possible faculty to serve on the Search Committee for the CMS Director.

#### **Executive Committee Social**

L. Holmström noted that several people could not attend the date proposed for the social and she asked if the committee wanted to postpone it to another date. The committee agreed to postpone the social and a new date will be proposed via email.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth encouraged everyone to get the new Seawolf card. He gave two reasons. It is handy because money can be put on it. It is also helpful for traveling when the state or corporate rate is desired. It does not cost anything and is not required. He also reported on the bookstore review group discussion at the Campus Reengineering Committee. They have come to the conclusion that the real issue is not Barnes and Noble, but what is the impact on our campus family / culture / mission on the concept of outsourcing. Perhaps the focus of the group should change to the question of outsourcing. The students are engaged in that question. He said that it is already planned that Barnes and Noble's performance at SSU would be assessed. So he thought that the scope of the group could be expanded and the membership could be reduced to 12 instead of 16. There was discussion about the proposal to change the charge and membership of the study group. It was decided that the Chair would put the information in her report to the Senate.

It was asked if ballot initiative 1D was linked to any of our projects and the member also asked if the rumor was true that the Schools were being assessed for an organ for the Green Music Center.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth said 1D has about \$4.8 million of instructional equipment for the Green Music Center in it. In regards to the organ, there was an anonymous gift for the purchase of an organ from a Baptist Church in Toledo, Ohio. It is a very beautiful instrument that came to the attention of Jeff Langley. The cost of the organ is \$300,000. The donor paid for the cost of the organ and the university has to pay for transporting the organ from Ohio and for modifications to the recital hall to house the organ. The organ will be used for instruction and performances of the Bach Choir and other ensembles that can make use of such an instrument. He said they will be using money from the Instructionally Related Activities fund. It will be a budget item for the Center for Performing Arts. The organ currently resides in a Catholic Church in Rochester, NY for the next couple of years. It costs money to store it and this way it can be used for a while instead of being stored.

It was asked how much it costs to move the organ and if there is any organ maintenance cost.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth said the Catholic diocese is paying for the maintenance for the next couple of years. There was a cost to move it to Rochester and then eventually to SSU. The estimated cost is \$300,000. Most of the cost is for the structural modification of the recital hall. He didn't think it would cost more to maintain than a grand piano.

It was asked if the IRA fund would be borrowed against to fund the moving. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they borrowed the fund balance in the IRA and will be paying it back over 5 years or so. He thought perhaps a donor might come along that would fund this piece. He gave more detail about how the IRA fund works and how this particular project fits with its mission.

The Chair asked if there were any logistical reason why there could not be bike racks at the main entrance to Darwin in the Darwin/Stevenson quad.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that he didn't know exactly, but he did know that the CRC has lost patience with this issue and they have sent it to the Alternative Transportation Committee. They will be looking at the question.

## **Senate Agenda**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Elaine McDonald-Newman

Correspondences:

Consent Items:

    Approval of the Agenda

    Approval of Minutes

**Information Item:** Response to Senate Resolution from K. Crabbe - attached

    ● Ongoing report: Update on WASC

**SPECIAL REPORT:** Budget 101 continued – L. Furukawa-Schlereth T. C. 3:15

## **BUSINESS**

1. Cost Sharing Policy – Second Reading – C. Ayala – attachment T.C. 4:40

2. Capping Size of the Senate – Second Reading – T. Wandling

## **Adjourned.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*