

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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(EC-18)

May 2, 2016

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Abigail Hudson (ASI), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (Statewide Senate), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large), and Lynnette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Joseph I. Castro (Ex-officio) and Madhu Katti (At-large)

Guests: Deborah Astone, Venita Baker, Paula Castadio, Gregory Kriehn, Kathleen Scott, James Sewell, and Ellen Shimakawa

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:07pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of April 18, 2016

A friendly amendment was offered

MSC approving the Minutes of April 18, 2016, as amended

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Provost Zelezny

Thanked President Hudson (ASI) for working out a compromise on APM 231 (drop / add deadlines).

Noted that this Friday at 3:00pm in the North Gym is the reception for the Provost's Awards winners, including Thomas Lowenheim (Music) who is receiving the teaching award.

b. President Hudson (ASI)

Noted that the survey of student participation on senate committees is finished and she will be working with her chief of staff on interpreting the data.

c. Chair Ayotte

Reported that AP&P Chair Mullooly is pushing his subcommittee chairs to meet and post their meeting notes. He is having a particular problem with the Academic Standards and Grading (ASG) Subcommittee. The Executive Committee sent an item to ASG regarding the uses of pluses and minuses in grading in May of 2015 and have heard nothing since. The subcommittee chair apparently does not want to convene his subcommittee to place the item on the agenda, so he is going to be replaced.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked if we could write some language into the university constitution to compel committees and subcommittees to meet. Vice Chair Holyoke suggested that every committee / subcommittee should be required to meet at least once an academic year.

The Senate Executive Committee entered executive session at 3:16pm

The Senate Executive Committee returned from executive session at 3:17pm

Provost Zelezny noted that she will send Chair Ayotte some information from other CSUs on the pros and cons of using pluses and minuses in grades.

d. Action items

- 1.) Email from Gyanesh Lama, IDEA Faculty Evaluation Liaison to Dr. Kevin Ayotte, Academic Senate Chair re: IDEA Update. Email has been received.

The university has negotiated with IDEA for one more year of paper evaluations. Since we need to have a campus discussion next year about what to do, including finding another vendor, Dr. Lama is recommending the creation of a working group including himself, the senate chair, the AVP for Faculty Affairs, and representatives from the Senate Personnel Committee, students, and technology.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) recommended adding three faculty members from three different colleges who will be elected after a call for service. She also recommended that two students be on the task force appointed by ASI.

Vice Chair Holyoke will send a call for service at the beginning of the next semester.

- 2.) Memo dated April 21, 2016, from James Mullooly, Chair of AP&P to Kevin Ayotte, Chair of Academic Senate re: New APM on Preferred Names. Memo has been received.

This item will be placed on the next agenda of the Senate Executive Committee.

- 3.) Memo dated April 29, 2016, from Robert Maldonado, Chair of University Budget Committee to: Kevin Ayotte, Chair of Academic Senate re: Proposed City and Regional Planning Degree Proposal. Memo has been received.

MSC approving this for the consent calendar of the May 9 meeting of the Academic Senate.

- 4.) Request to form an ad hoc task force to draft a policy governing the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for research purposes.

Chair Ayotte summarized the discussion from the previous meeting.

A newly revised document laying out the charge of the task force and additions to the composition of the task force was handed out. Chair Ayotte asked Ellen Shimakawa if it would be okay to start the task force in the fall so faculty would not have to work over the summer. She said it would be, but she would want to start immediately. Vice Chair

Holyoke will send a call for service for faculty to serve on the task force as soon as the fall semester starts.

- 5.) Senate support for requesting the CSU Board of Trustees approve the naming of a refurbished running track and field for former Coach Gene "Red" Estes.

The Senate Executive Committee entered executive session at 3:25pm. The Executive Committee returned from executive session at 3:31pm.

MSC approving endorsement of the track naming opportunity.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) reminded VP Castadio (Advancement) that Coach Estes coached both women and men and they should always mention that when discussing him.

- 6.) Interim Policy on Administrative Policies

VP Astone (Administration) and Kathleen Scott (Administration) presented the new interim policy governing administrative policies.

Vice Chair Holyoke asked several questions regarding the jurisdiction of administrative policies visa vie the Academic Policy Manual, confirming that administrative policies do not govern the APM.

Chair Ayotte noted that he had worked quite a bit with VP Astone on this policy.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) asked several clarifying questions and asked for a little additional language making it clear that this policy does not apply to the APM. Also recommended that Academic Senate consultation on proposed administrative policies do not need to be completed within six months before the president could act on them. It is sufficient that the senate or its committees show that it is working on the policy. VP Astone agreed.

Senator Jenkins (At-large) asked about the numbering style used by the administrative policies.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 4:05pm.

Executive Committee Meeting
May 2, 2016
Page 5

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 3:00pm on Monday, May 9, 2016.

Submitted by:
Thomas Holyoke
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Kevin Ayotte
Chair
Academic Senate