

## **Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

March 4, 2010

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

### **Abstract**

Approval of Agenda. Approval of Minutes of 2/18/10. Statewide Senator Report. Provost Report. Arts and Humanities GE Reform approved for Senate agenda. Solano Liberal Arts Program approved for consent calendar. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. MCSES addendum and full curriculum revision approved for consent calendar. Resolution endorsing plan to utilize SSU faculty expertise local government & Resolution endorsing campus fiscal transparency deemed not ready for the Senate. Resolution opposing expansion of WalMart approved for Senate agenda. CFA Report. Senate Agenda approved. Announcement from CFA.

**Present:** Susan Moulton, John Wingard, Carmen Works, Sam Brannen, Robert McNamara, Margie Purser, Richard Senghas, Scott Miller, Deb Kindy, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Eduardo Ochoa, Andy Merrifield

**Absent:** Art Warmoth, Derek Girman, Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

**Guests:** Tim Wandling, Elaine Leeder

**Approval of Agenda – approved.**

**Approval of Minutes 2/18/10 – approved.**

The Chair noted the L. Furukawa-Schlereth was at Salazar Hall talking to Students for a Quality Education about their demands during their non-violent civil disobedience demonstration that day. March 4<sup>th</sup> was a day of action for Public Higher Education nation wide.

### **Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara**

R. McNamara discussed the latest letter received regarding the faculty trustee issue. He said the two candidates were interviewed, but the appointment secretary was still asking for additional candidates. He said they were hoping for a resolution to the matter in the coming weeks. He noted that the Executive Vice Chancellor had resigned and that a search committee would be convened for that position. He then discussed the debate going on at the Statewide level about the graduation initiative. He noted the Executive Vice Chancellor would be meeting with the Statewide Faculty Affairs committee about the graduation initiative.

The Chair noted that she heard at the rally that many students were just taking any classes they could in order to keep their financial aid and she questioned how this would affect them if such decisions made them go over the 120-unit limit for a degree.

R. McNamara noted that across the board, faculty wanted to do all they could to help students graduate. He said the graduation initiative was so poorly rolled out that many faculty were turned off by it, but there were some folks who wanted to see where the agreements were and move on.

### **Provost Report – E. Ochoa**

E. Ochoa discussed the process for the graduation initiative at SSU currently. He reported on the President's Diversity Council. The Council had contracted with Rona Halualani to do the campus diversity mapping project. He expected a report on that by the end of the semester. Dean Leeder and E. Velasquez reported to the PDC on their multicultural competency workshops in the Schools. The Provost noted that from the signals he was getting from the US Department of Education, he thought he would remain at SSU until the end of the year. He talked about the two interim positions in the administration and that the President was amenable to moving those to permanent positions without a search, however, they also wanted faculty input from the Executive Committee about the advisability of this mechanism. Not doing a search was thought to be more economical. It was suggested that a series of confirmatory hearings might be a good compromise. A member noted that departments only got \$3000 for a search and thought the administration could do the same. The Provost thought the cost of a search was actually higher. A member brought up concerns and asked for more time to think through the request. The Provost thought this informal process could be put in the Faculty Representation on Administrative Search Committees policy and if a consultation with faculty resulted in a "no" to the process, on a case-by-case basis, then it could default to a formal search. There was discussion about how to go about the procedure now and whether to bring the issue to the Senate.

### **Arts and Humanities GE Reform – C. Works**

C. Works introduced the proposal. She noted the three main issues. 1) to waive the requirement for 3 unit courses in Arts and Humanities; 2) to combine the seven areas in A & C and reduce those to five total which would result in 3) reducing the total number of GE units to 50. She noted what work would be needed if the Senate passed the proposal. T. Wandling provided a rationale for the proposal in general. C. Works noted there was one opposition at the GE subcommittee, but it was approved at EPC. She asked the Executive Committee whether the item should go to the Senate as a consent item or as a business item. There was a question about how the proposal would affect lecturers. C. Works asked if one-unit courses would be offered in A&H. T. Wandling responded that A&H was talking about a variety of ways one-unit courses might be offered. There was further discussion about articulation issues.

**Motion to move the item to the consent calendar. Second. Motion withdrawn.**

**Motion to move the item to the Senate agenda as a business item. Second. No objection.**

### **Solano Liberal Arts Program – C. Works**

C. Works introduced the item. She noted that this was duplication of the Liberal Arts curriculum currently being taught at Napa. She noted two amendments that were made at EPC. The first was a budget revision. EPC wanted all the profits from the program to go the Schools that participate, not just Social Sciences. They also wanted the curriculum committee to have members from all Schools, plus the Library. After these amendments, EPC passed it unanimously and C. Works requested the program be on the Senate consent calendar. **It was approved to be on the consent calendar.**

### **Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard**

J. Wingard reported that S&F was working on the Senate Diversity Committee referral.

### **Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips**

M. Lopez-Phillips reported that the students protesting were very clear about their rights and responsibilities and said he was continually impressed by SSU students. He noted it was Women's History Month and a few of the events. He reported on activities in the multicultural clubs and in the Jump program. He discussed the possible changes to Seawolf day that were under consideration to help increase diversity and help under-enrolled majors. He noted M. Olson was resigning at the end of the month. A member asked if freshman could be asked to declare a major before they come in to help with graduation. There was discussion about the value of students declaring a major and students being put in a structured advising environment. M. Lopez-Phillips noted he had talked to the Academic Advising subcommittee in more detail, about how students could have more advising and the issues around those that have 120 or more units.

### **EPC Report – C. Works**

C. Works noted that GE did a workshop to generate learning objectives for the Science Lab and Ethnic Studies. She noted a couple more GE changes. She noted that Dean Rahimi asked her as Chair of EPC to have a discussion with him about the graduation initiative. She also noted that GE wanted to implement the A&H proposal in the Fall. There was substantial discussion about such implementation. C. Works suggested that people on the Senate might move that the A&H proposal be implemented in the Fall of 2011. She noted membership changes upcoming to EPC.

### **FSAC Report – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas noted his time certain requests for FSAC items on the Senate agenda. He said FSAC would be meeting with B. Butler and B. Christie to discuss the transition to Moodle from a faculty support perspective. FSAC was also looking at the ATI policy and R. Senghas noted it was the open comment period. FSAC was also working with the RTP deadlines issue.

A member asked the Chair to report back on the upcoming Campus Expression policy. The Chair agreed and gave a short report on what had happened so far. She had attended a meeting with the creators of the policy. She said that many campuses have such a policy and SSU does not. She said it seems to be a policy that will coordinate event overlap. She had asked the committee to send out their first draft to the campus committee. It was suggested to have a member of the Academic Freedom subcommittee on the committee. The Chair agreed.

### **MCSSES addendum**

The Executive Committee had asked J. Agrawal to prepare an addendum to the curriculum proposal brought at the last meeting to show that the changes in the curriculum of the MCSSES program would not lengthen time to graduation. The addendum was passed out at the meeting. S. Brannen spoke about the item. **It was moved that the full proposal be on the Senate's consent calendar. Second. Approved.**

### **Resolution endorsing plan to utilize SSU faculty expertise local government & Resolution endorsing campus fiscal transparency – S. Moulton**

These resolutions were developed from the recent faculty retreat. There was discussion. It was agreed that the plans were not well developed enough for resolutions at this time.

### **Resolution opposing expansion of WalMart – N. Byrne**

The Chair noted that CFA unanimously approved the resolution. **It was moved to put the resolution on the Senate agenda. Second.** There was a short discussion. **Approved.**

### **CFA Report – A. Merrifield**

A. Merrifield reported on the rally and student action that happened that day. He said there had been a long meeting between the Students for Quality Education and the Vice President of Administration and Finance where they discussed changing the name of Customer Services and other demands. He said a campus wide email had gone out letting the campus know that SQE students were invited to the next CRC meeting to discuss the name change and also that financial information located on the web would be more accessible to students. He said the students would be responding. He noted he thought around 1000 people attended throughout the rally and good turnouts were being reported all across the state. He thought SSU had done a very good job. He noted CNN was covering the story all day. He thought it was the most universal action SSU had participated in. He thought the message got out and they hoped that the Governor would retain his commitment to Higher Education.

### **Senate Agenda**

## AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Susan Moulton

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Revision to MSCES program - emailed

Solano Liberal Arts Program - emailed

## BUSINESS

1. Update of FSAC portion of By-Laws – First Reading - R. Senghas – (*bring your 2/25 agenda!*) T. C. 3:30
2. Periodic Review of Temporary Faculty Policy – First Reading – R. Senghas – new form attached (*2/25 agenda!*) T. C. 3:45
3. Resolution opposing expansion of WalMart in Rohnert Park – First Reading - N. Byrne – attached T. C. 4:00
4. Arts and Humanities GE Reform proposal – First Reading – C. Works – attached T. C. 4:15

Approved.

The CFA representative reminded the body about the survey that had gone out about bargaining and encouraged the members to alert lecturer faculty to the survey as well.

Adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega*