

Academic Senate Minutes
October 16, 2008
3:00 – 5:00, The Commons

Abstract

Chair report. Approval of Agenda. Associated Students report. Approval of minutes postponed. Vice President of Administration and Finance report. Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee report. Statewide Senators report. CFA Chapter President report. WASC Discussion of Coalescing Planning Processes.

Present: Susan Moulton, Tim Wandling, Deb Kindy, Robert McNamara, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Edith Mendez, Noel Byrne, Birch Moonwomon, Michael Pinkston, Steve Wilson, Kristen Daley, Ronald Lopez, John Sullins, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Brian Wilson, Terry Lease, Steve Cuellar, Kathy Morris, Rick Robison, Tia Watts, Jim Christmann, Cora Neal, Rick Luttmann, Steve Orlick, Maria Hess, Richard Senghas, John Wingard, James Dean, Lillian Lee, Sandra Shand, Bruce Peterson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Andy Merrifield, Tristan Kelley, Casey Jones, Whitney McClure, Art Warmoth, Carmen Works, Sunil Tiwari, Karen Thompson

Absent: Scott Miller, Wanda Boda, Ruben Armiñana, Eduardo Ochoa

Proxies: Dolores Bainter for Lane Olson and Perry Marker for Karen Grady

Guests: Barbara Lesch-McCaffry, Derek Pierre, Susan McKillop, Rose Bruce, Elaine Sundberg, Mary Gendernalik-Cooper

Chair-Elect Susan Moulton chaired the meeting as Chair Miller was out of town.

Chair Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton noted that a report from Chair Miller was photocopied and given to each Senator to save time at this meeting. She announced that a campus forum on the SSU mission would take place the following Tuesday, from 12-1 in Schulz 3001.

Approval of Agenda – time certain given to AS report at 3:15. *No objection.*

Associated Students Report – D. Pierre and T. Kelley

D. Pierre passed out a resolution on shared governance recently passed by the Student Senate. The resolution asks for voting rights on Senate Standing and Subcommittees, specifically APC, EPC and SAC. They presented their arguments for voting on Standing Committees and offered to answer questions. A Senator noted that if committees have unanimous decisions, then the decisions can come on the consent calendar of the Senate and asked for that to be taken into consideration during deliberations surrounding this

resolution. It was clarified that the students want to vote on Standing and Subcommittees of the Senate only. A Senator noted the role of ex-officio members on the committees are usually non-voting. It was noted that during research on this topic, the students discovered that SSU is the only CSU that does not have students voting at the committee level.

Approval of Minutes – postponed.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth passed out a handout. He said he would discuss budget priorities, how the '08 -'09 budget stands, issues of financial concerns and how to move forward to address this difficult budget time. He began discussing budget priorities – employee benefits, increase of space and uncertainty in the utility market. He provided great detail on these items and noted that these priorities were suggestions from his office in the absence of a university strategic plan. He hoped to develop a consensus for the budget priorities in the various budget committees. He then spoke at length about how the '08 – '09 budget stands currently and described the allocations to the various divisions according to the marginal cost formula. Additionally, he described the mandatory costs for '08 – '09. He noted the costs are allocated to the divisions based on share of budget which helps the Academic Affairs division. He said all student fees from over enrollment will be given to Academic Affairs. He expressed his concern about the utility budget and the possibility of mid-year reductions. He discussed his concerns regarding the short-term bond fund in the University Endowment and noted they are working on moving those funds to a safer harbor. He noted other funds that are challenged on campus – Extended Education and the Student Union. He noted that the financial times were unprecedented. He offered that the faculty, associated students, the unions and his office come together in a series of campus conversations to talk about how to move forward and find solutions together for the campus. He then asked for questions.

Summary of questions:

ACR 73 was mentioned and it was asked if lecturers could be reduced by attrition and not terminated and if more tenure track faculty could be hired. L. Furukawa-Schlereth responded that this was a question for the Academic Affairs division and better answered by the Provost.

A Senator asked how enrollment management is being managed and argued that a 10% error in enrollment management was not very responsible. He asked how much of an SFR increase is planned for the Spring, how many more students are going to be admitted in the Spring and were there plans to admit more students in the Fall to attempt to balance the university budget. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said again he was not really the best one to answer this question. He noted the goal for the Spring was to manage the enrollment to bring it to 7500 FTES. For '09 – '10, they are not anticipating growth. He agreed that enrollment management was key.

Motion to extend by 5 minutes. Second. Discussion. Amendment to extend by 10 minutes. Second. Vote on amendment. Approved. Vote on motion to extend. Approved.

A Senator noted that revenue bonds were issued for the Green Music Center against the wishes of the Senate and asked if the deficit in Extended Education included their debt payment on those bonds and asked for an update on those bonds in general. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that the debt service has not "hit" yet in this year. One worry is that they expected rent revenue from the GMC concert hall which is not yet built. Next year the debt service is over a million dollars and Extended Education is responsible for half of that. He noted that the GMC is a major issue for '09 – '10.

A Senator asked if there was any talk about a student fee increase. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he hadn't heard about it and noted it creates major problems for financial aid.

The CFA rep asked whether the faculty development money was being created by increased workload of the faculty. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that at the end of each year he counts up the money and this year approximately \$225,000 was left over. He thought that belonged to Academic Affairs and clarified that the money for faculty development was a separate item.

A Senator asked why the growth money was set at an 18.9 SFR. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that is the formula he gets from the Department of Finance and did not know why they used that number.

The Chair-Elect asked that it appears the FTEF is going down. She questioned, if the campus is getting growth money at 18.9, why are we down faculty? L. Furukawa-Schlereth said this year we have not had growth. He said he could not answer those kinds of academic questions.

Motion to extend for next three people on speaker's list. Second. Approved.

The first two speakers passed. A Senator asked if the growth money was used to hire faculty for those that have retired. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he allocated the money to Academic Affairs and as far as he knew it had been allocated to hires.

Motion to change time certains to privilege a guest. Second. No objection.

Report from Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee – B. Lesch-McCaffry

B. Lesch-McCaffry reported that the committee met for the first time last week. She announced that they are still in need of a rep from Business and Economics and were delighted to have Derek Pierre and Myron Jordan as the student reps. She then gave background on the formation of the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee. She noted the creation of the President's Diversity

Council and assured the Senate that the two committees will work closely together to not duplicate effort. She reported that she and Elisa Velasquez-Andrade will co-chair the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee. She said that they identified four major areas of work. She said they might not have a full report by the end of the Spring due to beginning late. She noted that there was no professional staff in the Center for Gender, Culture and Sexuality. It was clarified that the Student Union Board had voted to discontinue funding of the position as of May. L. Furukawa-Schlereth and M. Lopez-Phillips spoke to the hiring of an interim person while the campus discusses the best placement of the CCGS and identifies a funding source. There was continued discussion of the CCGS and other diversity issues.

Statewide Senator Reports – R. McNamara and C. Nelson

R. McNamara reported on the Statewide Senate Faculty Affairs committee. They have been discussing the budget and the union re-opener. The committee has also been charged with looking at professional development across the CSU and has found it very uneven, especially in regards to lecturers. He also reported that they are attempting to have exit surveys done throughout the CSU as part of the larger issue of faculty satisfaction. C. Nelson reported on the Statewide Fiscal and Governmental Affairs where they talked primarily about the budget. On the GE advisory committee there was an idea that perhaps major requirements could be double counted as GE requirements to help with the over enrollment and help students graduate sooner. This provoked a feisty conversation and the committee thought there would be a lot of push back from the faculty. She noted The CSU is participating in the American Association of Colleges and Universities' Compass Project, a "multi-state collaborative to re-map educational aims, educational practices and assessment strategies in three public state systems: the California State University, and the public higher education systems in Oregon and Washington." (AACU website, <http://www.aacu.org/compass/index.cfm>). She also said she was a coordinator of the task force on the CLA and would keep the body informed on their progress.

CFA Chapter President Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported on the status of the re-opener with the CSU. There has not been a meet and confer yet. He explained the details of the contract that are subject to the re-opener. He reported that the Post Promotion Increase program is going forward and provided some details of the program. There were a couple of questions.

Motion to extend to allow two more speakers. Second. Approved.

Discussion continued on the PPI program.

WASC Discussion of Coalescing Planning Processes

S. Moulton noted that S. Miller asked the body to consider how we plan to plan. S. Moulton provided background on the formation of APC and noted the flow chart provided by the Provost. She then gave the floor to the Chair of APC who explained the current work of APC and the formation and activity of JCAP (Joint Committee on Academic Planning – APC and the Academic Council). There was discussion. (*The digital recording of this meeting is available in the Senate office for those wishing to hear the discussion - LH.*)

Motion to extend 5 minutes. Second. Approved.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström