

Academic Senate Minutes

November 10, 2011

3:00 – 4:30, Commons

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda amended and approved. Minutes of 10/3 and 10/27 approved. Revision to the Priority Registration Policy – First Reading completed. President Report. Provost Report. Chair-Elect Report. Resolution Regarding Endorsement of the CSU, San Bernardino Resolution Calling for Suspension of the CSU Online Initiative – First Reading completed. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. Associated Students Report. Statewide Senators Report. APC Report. FSAC Report. CFA Report. Staff Report.

Present: Ben Ford, Margaret Purser, John Wingard, Terry Lease, Catherine Nelson, Brian Wilson, Rick Luttmann, Sam Brannen, Deborah Roberts, Steve Wilson, Helmut Wautischer, Jim Robison, Marco Calavita, Janet Hess, Chip McAuley, Mutombo M’Panya, John Urbanski, Florence Bouvet, Karen Brodsky, Tom Buckley, Jean Chan, Sharon Cabaniss, Matty Mookerjee, Michael Cohen, Noel Byrne, Laura Watt, Don Romesburg, Phil Brownell, Sandra Shand, Marisa Thigpen, Ruben Armiñana, Andrew Rogerson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Andy Merrifield, Paul Ramey, Emily Hurd, Amanda Burke, Dolores Bainter, Kelly Estrada, Armand Gilinsky, Richard Senghas, Jennifer Mahdavi

Absent: Parissa Tadrissi, Ed Beebout, Edie Brown

Guests: Melinda Barnard, Elaine Sundberg

Chair Report – B. Ford

B. Ford reminded the Senate that classes would be held on Monday and Tuesday the week of Thanksgiving and not to believe their students if they said other faculty were cancelling their classes that week. He updated the Senate on the “academic story” conversations. He reported on the alternative consultation process from his perspective as one of the faculty members of the Fee Advisory Committee. He noted that the alternative consultation process was initiated by a request from the President and the Fee Advisory Committee had spent all of October gathering information. There were structure conversations in three open dialogues, three representative random focus groups and three student leadership groups (Associated Students, the Student Union Corp and the Residential Student Association). He discussed the process and the amount of participants, with specific detail about the focus groups as he had been more involved in those. He noted that the notes from the focus groups, dialogues and student organizations had been sent out on Senate-Talk. His impression of the focus groups was that approximately 70% were opposed to the new fee. He discussed the possible bias in the focus groups due to the low numbers participating. A member questioned how valid the focus groups were given the low numbers. A member responded that the focus groups were qualitative and not statistical in any way. A member said she’d heard that the Fee

Advisory Committee had not made a recommendation. B. Ford said that the FAC had decided to give the President all the information they had gathered without a recommendation. He noted that the Executive Order did not explicitly state that the Fee Advisory Committee had to make a recommendation to the President in an alternative consultation process.

Approval of Agenda – item added: Resolution Regarding Endorsement of the CSU, San Bernardino Resolution Calling for Suspension of the CSU Online Initiative. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of 10/13 – amended and approved.

Approval of Minutes of 10/27 – approved.

The Chair noted that on the agenda the Senate meeting of 12/15 should have appeared. He introduced the new lecturer Senator – Jim Robison from Business.

Revision to the Priority Registration Policy – First Reading – J. Mahdavi

J. Mahdavi said that changes to the Priority Registration Policy were due to changes in the Education Code. While they were looking at the policy, they updated the name of Disability Services for Students and then added the two new categories of students for priority registration – members of the Armed Services within two years of leaving the service and foster youth and former foster youth. **Motion to waive first reading. Second.** A member brought up a concern about the reading of the law that brought about the changes. **Vote on waiving first reading - Failed.** A member suggested adding in category E – Armed Services, a reference to the Education Code for definitions and noted that recently the two years had been extended to four years. There were other general suggestions. **First Reading completed.**

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported on his decision regarding the alternative consultation process about the fee for the new Student Center and said he thought the process corroborated the election outcome of 59% in favor of the fee. He had recommended to the Chancellor to go ahead and increase the fee to support the new Student Center. He said that the State was looking at a 9 billion dollar deficit in the State budget. He thought they would know about the “trigger” in mid-December and whether it was permanent or temporary. A member expressed concern about the debt taken on by the campus for the new Student Center. R. Armiñana said the campus was not over its debt limit, particularly because a revenue source was identified. A member asked about the lawsuit against the CSU about raising fees and wondered if the CSU had set aside monies in case the ruling was against the CSU. The President said he did not think the CSU has set aside monies for this purpose. A member asked how the President came to his decision about the new fee when the focus groups were 70% negative. The President said there were other groups that did not have the same opinion. She asked about the fees gathered for the Counseling Center and where all the money was going. The Vice President of SAEM said he would be happy to share with anyone where those dollars were going. A member noted that the student leadership groups consulted were partners in the

new Student Center and thus would already be positive about it and should not have the same weight as the focus groups or open dialogues. She also asked about a form she had seen recently for “notification of free speech” and wondered if that had had faculty consultation. The President said the student leadership groups officially represented the students and had to be consulted. He noted that even in those groups, they were not unanimous in their opinions. He did not know about the free speech notification form.

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson announced two searches going forward in the Spring – the Dean of Science and Technology and the Vice President of SAEM. He noted that the Dean of Education search would go forward in the fall. A member asked about the 16 unit cap in the Spring. The Provost noted that the registration plan was designed to evenly distribute the unit load among the students, for students to prioritize their units and to hold down unit load due to budget considerations. He said the campus would be penalized if it went over 103% annualized. The first pass in registration would be 9 units, pass 2A would be 12, pass 2B would be 16, and in open registration it would remain at 16 except for seniors who would be able to go up to 20 units. He noted that this process would be open to petitions. He said he hoped students would really make good choices about their classes and be ok with 16 units. A member commented that with more departments going to 4 units, having the first pass at 10 units would make a big difference. The Provost noted there was “wiggle” room in the plan, but stressed that the campus would have to give back money if it was over target. A member asked if campus would be addressing the issue of full time lecturers teaching 16 units and only being paid for 15. The Provost said he did not know of any plan. The CFA rep said that the issues were not contractual, but with the State Controller who says that no one can work over a 1.0 time base and a 1.0 time base is 15 units.

Chair-Elect Report – M. Purser

M. Purser reported that Structure and Functions had looked at a proposal for a permanent structure for Sustainability at SSU.

Resolution Regarding Endorsement of the CSU, San Bernardino Resolution Calling for Suspension of the CSU Online Initiative – First Reading – K. Estrada

K. Estrada brought forward a request for endorsement of the CSU, San Bernardino Resolution Calling for Suspension of the CSU Online Initiative that was approved unanimously by APC earlier that day. She thought it was a well crafted resolution and that it laid out very clearly what the issues were with the CSU Online initiative. There was discussion that focused on the issues delineated in the resolution and suggestions that APC develop an SSU resolution rather than endorsing the CSU, San Bernardino resolution. It was also suggested that the money each campus put forward for the CSU online effort be returned to the campuses while the issues were being worked out. **First reading completed.**

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported that he had two searches beginning in the Spring – the Chief Information Officer and the Chief of Police.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips reported that he had hired a career counselor and noted it had been hard to choose from the four finalists. He appreciated everyone's help. A member asked about the Director of the Multi-Cultural Center search. M. Lopez-Phillips said they had over 20 applications for that search.

Associated Students Report – P. Ramey

P. Ramey reported that the 16 unit cap for registration was reported to the Associated Students late last week and he asked for the Senators help to get the word out to students. He said the cap was a huge change and impacted a lot of student academic career plans. He said that if any students had concerns about it to send them to the Associated Students. He noted a lot of students were upset about the change and about the tardiness of the information. He reported that JUMP would have three alternative spring break opportunities this year – one to Alabama for tornado relief, one to Tennessee for environmental and social justice, and one to Oregon for hunger and homelessness. He noted these alternative spring breaks were very successful. A member noted that the alternative spring breaks were great additions to the curriculum too. She asked P. Ramey to discuss with students that 16 units was enough to graduate in four years and that the cap would help with the unit distribution. A member argued that a lot of students would not reach 16 units during registration. P. Ramey discussed the challenges in talking to students about the change.

Statewide Senators Report – B. Wilson, C. Nelson

B. Wilson highlighted on-going topics at the Statewide Senate included in the report that was sent out over email – the progress of SB 1440 and the issue of campus impaction; the Early Start program and the English Council's refusal to participate in the program; the CSU Online initiative, CSU San Bernardino's "cease and desist" resolution and the hiring of a director for CSU Online; the upcoming webinar on the CSU Online initiative and activities on this issue statewide; the five presidential searches current in the CSU; budget concerns; resolutions passed by the Statewide Senate and resolutions at a first reading. C. Nelson reported that the Chancellor had said they would ask for another fee increase and ask the State to buy it out. The Statewide Senate did not know if it had enough money to provide assigned time for Senators. She noted that if assigned time was not available, she would not continue to serve. She reported on CFA's take on the CSU Online initiative, which included concerns about the privatization of education. She discussed the Statewide Faculty Affairs committee resolution regarding concern about academic/curricular initiatives coming from the Chancellor's office without faculty consultation. It was

clarified that the president search policy had been changed to include consultation with the campus search committee about campus visits.

APC Report – K. Estrada

K. Estrada reported on three major issues APC was discussing. Besides the resolution that had completed a first reading that day, they were working on revising the MOU with Extended Education and they would be developing an SSU online course policy in consultation with EPC first, and then broadly. It was noted that Dean Merickel was assigned to work with APC on the online course policy.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that FSAC met with members of URTP to discuss the revision to the Sabbatical policy. He discussed the progress of the SETE issue and asked for help regarding the conversations held around the creation of the original SETEs and wanted anyone who had information about that to contact him. He also commented about the Free Speech permits and said that the Academic Freedom Subcommittee had responded to that last year and he would check to make sure nothing had changed.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported that it had come to CFA's attention that there was some question about who would pay for travel insurance for international travel. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that was paid centrally at SSU. A. Merrifield then provided bargaining updates.

Staff Report – D. Bainter

D. Bainter reported on visiting other areas of campus to see what staff were doing "behind the scenes." She had recently visited Facilities and shared information about what she learned there. She discussed the water source for the university and its recycling and reuse efforts which were considerable.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström