

**Academic Senate Minutes**  
September 11, 2014  
3:00 – 5:00, Student Center Ballroom A

**Abstract**

Agenda – Approved. Minutes of 8/28 – delayed. Chair Report. Charge to Senate Budget Subcommittee approved. Report: Classroom renovations – J. Wenrick. President Report. Request for endorsement for Sustainability Executive Committee Vision, Mission and Goals statement – First Reading. Provost Report. Vice Chair Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Associated Students Report. Statewide Senators Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. CFA Report. Good of the Order.

**Present:** Richard J. Senghas, Terry Lease, Margaret Purser, Maria Hess, Catherin Nelson, Deborah Roberts, Sam Brannen, Matthew James, Birch Moonwomon, Kathleen Rockett, Jess Hazelwood, Joshua Glasgow, John Palmer, Ed Beebout, Karen Thompson, Florence Bouvet, Jennifer Mahdavi, Laura Krier, Murali Pillai, Mary Ellen Wilkosz, Matty Mookerjee, Tia Watts, Laura Watt, Michelle Goman, Rheyna Laney, Melissa Garvin, Michael Pinkston, Ruben Armiñana, Andrew Rogerson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Elaine Newman, Christian George, Cynthia Figueroa, Katie Musick, Melinda Milligan, Richard Whitkus, Julie Shulman

**Absent:** Michaela Grobbel, Parissa Tadrissi, Jennifer Roberson, Viki Montera, Lauren Morimoto, Donna Garbesi, Edie Brown, Matthew Lopez-Phillips

**Proxy:** Sandra Shand for Marisa Thigpen

**Guests:** Elaine Sundberg, Paul Draper, Jason Wenrick

**Approval of Agenda – Approved.**

**Minutes of 8/28 – delayed.**

**Chair Report – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas reported that the Mayor of Rohnert Park would be visiting the Senate on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Mayor of Cotati was in the process of being invited and scheduled. He spoke about conferences he would be attending. He noted that a discussion was going on now among the Senate Chairs about using clickers in Senate meetings. He would be attending a Graduation Initiative meeting and offered to take any feedback about that to the meeting. He reported the GMC Board of Advisors University Affairs committee would be meeting for the first time next week. They would finalize the call for proposals for GMC integration grants and send that out quickly. They want all the proposals in and awards made by December. He said the hold the date for the new event honoring newly tenured and promoted faculty on October 8<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the Annual Non-Profit Boot Camp would be held on campus and would be focused on sustainability, social justice and health and wellness. In the afternoon, there would be many activities for students. The

President had agreed to fund faculty participation, but there was limited space. He asked for continued feedback on the Strategic Plan revision and reminded the Senate that the information was on the Senate website as well as a space for commenting. (<http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/>). He noted that Sustainability Day would be held on October 21<sup>st</sup>. A lot of activities would be happening there.

### **Charge to Senate Budget Subcommittee – Second Reading – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas said he had re-ordered the charge and put in a date for the next report.  
**Motion to approve. Second. Vote – Approved.**

### **Report: Classroom renovations – J. Wenrick**

J. Wenrick said they had been charged with looking at all the general purpose classrooms that did not have technology built into them and recommending what they should have. He said they had identified 32 classrooms that have no technology built in. He was working with the APC task force to prioritize the list of classrooms. The funding had been identified, and the plan was to install technology in these classrooms over the next two summers. The task force was helping with what kind of technology would go in the rooms and where it would go. They would make sure wireless was available in each room. They were working on all those fine details. So by the end of two years, all classrooms would have technology built in. A member asked if they could provide feedback on specific classrooms and what would be wanted in those rooms. J. Wenrick responded to send that information to D. Roberts who was the point person for the APC task force. A member recommended that an email go out to all faculty and list the rooms and ask for input as different instructors would want different things. J. Wenrick said they would bring that back to the task force.

J. Wenrick said the second part of this process they would be looking at smart classrooms that were no longer smart. He was asking the CFO for refresh money for the current smart classrooms too. He said the task force was also seeing routine maintenance issues in the classrooms that had not been reported. They were reporting them and he asked the Senator to please open a ticket in broken items in their classrooms. This was a nice outcome of the walk-throughs. A member asked about blackboards in Ives with music lines on them that needed to be changed out. J. Wenrick said those were on order. A member asked about classrooms that are not general purpose classrooms. J. Wenrick said they were also looking at department specific classrooms and hoped to stretch the money to cover those classrooms as well.

### **President Report – R. Armiñana**

R. Armiñana reported on the recent Board of Trustees meeting. He said the most controversial items were how the CSU funds and manages its capital program. Previously, capital projects were the responsibility of the State via bond issues. The State increased the base budget of the CSU by \$293 million, which was the actual present day payment on previous bond issues. He said in some years that amount would cover the debt payment and some years it would not. There was a side

agreement with the Department of Finance to increase the budget by \$20 million in the years that it was higher. But that would still not cover the total amount needed. The Governor's reasoning was that the CSU could refinance it easier than the State. So, by refinancing, there might be extra money for capital projects. The President said there were \$130 million in urgent repairs in the system. He discussed the electrical system at Fresno State as an example. He said there was an item on the budget to use \$10 million of the current operating budget to buy bonds that would net \$130 million. However, system wide deferred maintenance was \$1.2 billion, so the \$130 million was only 10% of what was needed. He said some of the Board members wanted the Governor to reconsider his decision. The President said that was very unlikely. The system will have to grapple with how to fund all the deferred maintenance. He noted that SSU had a seismic review and did not have a single seismic problem.

Time certain reached.

### **Request for endorsement for Sustainability Executive Committee Vision, Mission and Goals statement – First Reading - P. Draper**

P. Draper introduced the item and provided a history of how the document came together. He said that language would be used for a variety of purposes: to guide the activities of the Sustainability Executive Committee; to be include in part or total in Long Range Plan currently being worked on and to help with development activities to raise money for the Sustainability Executive Committee and larger sustainability efforts in the University. He recognized the people who made recommendations to the SEC and at the first SEC meeting, the approved it. He asked for the Senate's endorsement. The Chair noted that the SEC was unusual since it was co-chartered by the Senate, the Administration and the Associated Students, so endorsement seemed the most appropriate action of the Senate. P. Draper reviewed the major ideas of document. A member appreciated the work of the SEC and questioned the use of "the" in the defining statement at the beginning of the document: "Sonoma State University recognizes sustainability as **the** critical global and ethical challenge of our time and for future generations." The member offered that President Obama had recently said inequality was the defining issue of our time or others may think violence against women is that issue. He asked if that was an intentional ranking or whether it could be a defining issue. P. Draper responded that he understood the concern and offered that if global warming was not addressed, we would not be able to address any of the other issues. He also stressed that this was statement about SSU, not the whole world. He was not focused on definitions, but on actions, so if the word "the" got in the way of the goals of the document, he was ok changing it. A member argued that global warming was an unparalleled challenge to life on the planet and hoped to see more of the kinds of activities such the Water project. P. Draper said he thought the campus would see many disciplines represented at the Sustainability Day on October 21<sup>st</sup>. A member noted that the goal listing student engagement in out in the field, required faculty access to the vans to take students out into the field. P. Draper said they were fundraising around that issue and appreciated knowing about that issue. A point of order was raised about giving this document two readings. The Chair responded that the Senate could move to waive the first reading. The Vice Chair thought in the next two weeks an

endorsement statement could be drafted. A member praised the document as a plan, and asked for a definition of sustainability to be in the document.

**Motion to waive the first reading. Second.** There was some discussion. **Vote: Failed.**

P. Draper noted that this morning that he heard that scientists that measure the ozone layer had found more of it and that this was due to human action.

### **President Report continued and questions**

R. Armiñana reported on a call from the Chancellor for a forum on a Student Success fee system wide. The Board had created a task force to determine how such fees were instituted, what functions do they serve, what processes are utilized, etc. They are holding public hearings at various campuses and Sonoma will be one, but he stressed that SSU was not considering a Student Success Fee. A member noted that the forum would be held on Sept 26 from 12- 1:30 in the Cooperage. A member asked what the dollar amount was for SSU's deferred maintenance. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he did not know it off the top of his head, but would bring it next time. The Chair noted that information was on the Senate website for last year: <http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/useful/reports.html>. A member asked about the seismic reports. The President said there was a system wide seismic review board that comprised of outside engineers, etc. They do a periodic evaluation of all the buildings in the CSU.

### **Provost Report – A. Rogerson**

A. Rogerson reported that the campus had settled down to 9300 students with an average unit load of 13.8. This put the campus at 110% over target that was good as the campus was trying to get more growth money from the Chancellor's office. The Chair of EPC said she had been hearing that was still some confusion on campus for the approval process for non-academic credit certificates. She asked that everyone in Academic Affairs and SEIE understands that until the SEIE curriculum committee was constituted, those certificates were being approved by EPC and that those certificates that were temporarily approved in SEIE over the summer still need to come to EPC for permanent approval. The Provost said that was his understanding as well and he had already cleared up any confusion. A member asked if the Provost had any indication that the request for additional growth money would be successful and what would happen if it didn't happen. The Provost said the campus would be very lucky to get 700 FTES especially since the President has said that there will only be 1% growth throughout the system next year. That does not mean each campus gets 1%. However, they have sent a consistent message to the Chancellor's office that we need 700 FTES. Whether that comes in one year or two is irrelevant. Last year they asked for growth money and actually got more than other campuses even though not what was asked for. He thought SSU was on the Chancellor's radar and thought they would get more than 1%. If we don't get it, we would be not worse off than right now.

## **Vice Chair Report – T. Lease**

T. Lease reported on S&F appointments in governance and for university committees. Kathleen Rockett was appointed to serve as a one semester replacement for a Lecturer Senator. Emily Acosta Lewis was appointed to serve as a one semester replacement for an At-Large position on the Senate Diversity Subcommittee. Two appointments needed Senate approval – Emily Acosta Lewis and Andy Wallace for the Campus Planning Committee – No objection. Rocky Rohwedder for the Copeland Creek Committee – no objection. He said S&F was talking about the Strategic Plan and the moving the MasterCard series to an auxiliary. They had a request from SEIE for representation on various committees in faculty governance. The Honorary Doctorate policy needed to be edited to reflect changes in the chair structure. A smaller task force will need to look at possible re-organization of faculty governance. He noted that a call had come out for a one semester replacement for the Vice Chair. He said a good opportunity had come up for him after the semester started, but he was not ready to talk about it at this point. That opportunity would keep him from serving as Vice Chair.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on some policy changes. He noted that he had brought up the idea that SSU become a smoke free campus and he was meeting and conferring about that and it looked to be on target to be approved by January 1, 2015. He reported on the task force that was looking at the cost of doing business on campus. He said he would be bringing a proposal forward to CRC for campus entities to use all the facilities free of charge. He reported on a financial matter that came from the Board meeting. It was about having the university through the system wide revenue bond program to borrow \$6 million to finish the Weill Hall Commons. A road would be constructed, a lawn and trees to help buffer noise from Petaluma Hill road. He asked J. Wenrick to give an update on the computer refresh program. J. Wenrick said IT was permanently funded for computer refresh for all tenure-track and tenured faculty and all permanent staff every four years. The list of computers eligible for refresh was being compiled and they will send it to the AMs in the Schools. They will also be asking the faculty what kind of computers they want. He said they had a short time frame. He said if faculty were not heard from, they would move on to next person on the list. A member said he thought every four years everyone would get refreshed, but he was not seeing that. J. Wenrick said that doing everyone in one year was too much. What they wanted the refresh cycle to be was 1/4 per year. A member asked about the shift in the phone system. J. Wenrick said over two years ago they started to move the phones to VOIP, but the provider went out of business, so they would return to AT&T and start the process over. A member asked a specific question about under what circumstances a department would not be charged for using space. A member asked about a flyer she received from a construction union associated with Sundt construction. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that they were perplexed about it because Sundt has not worked on campus for nine months. A member asked about the changes to the smoking policy. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they were banning smoking, chewing tobacco, and e-cigarettes. They were not banning nicotine patches. A member noted that many things could be vapped in e-cigarettes, so it was not just tobacco. A

member asked about the new Commons being built at the GMC and if people can sit there. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said yes, but people would not be able to see the performance. He talked about a seasonal stage that could be used for performances that were too loud for the concert hall that would likely be built in the north corner of this Commons area. They would be able to hold shows that appeal to a younger demographic. A member asked for more information about use of spaces being free. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said all aspects of space use would be free except food. A different pricing structure was coming along to help with food prices for on campus entities. L. Furukawa-Schlereth also said that the students who own the buildings are concerned that they will lose the revenue, but he would be asking at the PBAC for a university wide funding source to help out the students. A member asked what L. Furukawa-Schlereth hoped to receive from the Senate in terms of feedback about the MasterCard series becoming an auxiliary. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said there had been some new developments; so to answer would be a bit premature. He did think it would be good to have sense of how the Senate does think about it. The Chair said there would be a second report to help the Senate weigh in.

### **Associated Students Report – C. George**

C. George reported on the new hires they did over the summer. Asha Nettles has been hired as Student Government coordinator, Amanda Hanson for JUMP and Cayce LaBarbara for the Associated Students Production Coordinator. On the AS agenda they have a discussion items, in conjunction with the Faculty Center. about TAP program which is a textbook alternative pilot. The would have task force that would be looking at everything from using last year's textbook to using completely open source materials. He described the resolution about this. He noted that textbooks had gone up 40%, which was very hard on students. Besides saving money, this program could also help faculty think about new ways to teach their courses. The AS had been reaching out to professors with large classes to get more students involved in student government. He asked faculty to refer good students also. A member asked about AS efforts to encourage voter registration. C. George said that during the CSA training, handed out 2500 voter registration cards to give out to their residents. They would have more going on and noted that the Student Center would be a polling place. A member noted that she had tried to order back issues of books through the bookstore, but was unable to. C. George said they would definitely be talking to the bookstore.

### **Statewide Senators Report – C. Nelson, D. Roberts**

C. Nelson reported that they meet all week last week. She said the Statewide Senate passed a couple of resolutions she thought the Senate would be interested in. They passed a resolution in Appreciation for the [S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation's Support of the California State University Efforts to Implement the California Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards](#) and they passed a resolution [withdrawing support of AB 46](#) over concerns about reporting requirements, the costs, the workload for faculty and student privacy. She noted there was vigorous debate on this one and it passed on voice vote. It was not unanimous. She noted a first reading resolution about improving campus response to sexual assault/violence and one on protecting the academic freedom of faculty

from pressure from outside political groups. Chancellor White did affirm what the Provost said that campuses under 8000 FTES would not be penalized. The Chancellor thought that a punitive approach to enrollment management was an “interesting” practice and questioned the wisdom of it. She said there was a search going on for a new Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. She noted the faculty on that committee. They were told about the Student Success Fee task force and there were no faculty on that committee. The Chair of the Statewide Senate did request that a faculty member be appointed to that committee. She noted she was sitting on the Statewide Senate Academic Affairs Committee and they hear reports from the administration. They had a request from a Board member about how the Board could help with programs that were in abeyance or under-enrolled to get the right review. They were told last week that the Chancellor’s office was considering a process for programs that were under an unspecified benchmark, and would be asked what the situation was and what was being done to address the problem. She thought this needed to have an eye kept on it. D. Roberts said they heard reports about e-advisor, a smart planner where students would plan out their entire college coursework, and there was interest in a consistent review of GE at each campus. All campuses appear to have different GE patterns and they want to find a way to assess them better. She said she was serving on the Faculty Affairs Committee and they were looking at academic freedom. The original policy on this had come out in 1940 and it was revamped in 1971. So Faculty Affairs thought perhaps they might look at it again. She noted she was on the sexual assault prevention group, the commission for online education and the student health services statewide group. She noted that communication was a big issue. If anyone had any feedback or input on anything, she wanted to hear it and bring SSU voices to the Statewide Senate, not just her own.

### **EPC Report – M. Milligan**

M. Milligan thanked the Provost to clarifying the current non-credit academic certificate process. She asked that if any departments had curricular changes in planning, they should get on the EPC agenda as soon as possible. EPC talked about their seven working groups charges and their status to access how to move forward with them. She said the University Studies task force is moving along and acting as the University Studies curriculum committee as well as drafting a recommendation for a permanent curriculum committee for University Studies. EPC continued to discuss with GE the forms for experimental GE courses. GE gave EPC a heads up that they would be doing an overview of the process for proposing experimental and permanent GE courses that would be more efficient and rigorous. EPC discussed the Strategic Plan. They also started an interesting discussion about programs that want to be inactive or on hiatus or some other liminal state. Most of these were driven by budgetary concerns, and the programs did not want to go through the discontinuance process, even though they could not mount their program. She said those kinds of designations were not present in policy or procedure, so EPC would have an interesting time working through this issue. A member asked for the titles of all of EPC’s working groups. A member asked if the University Studies working group would be working on the roles of the Department Chairs and Deans? M. Milligan said she could bring that question to them.

### **FSAC Report – R. Whitkus**

R. Whitkus reported that FSAC finalized their end of year report. They finished their response to the Strategic Plan. They also worked on their final version of the SETE policy, but since they did not have quorum, they could not vote on it. A member said she was interested to see the Standing Committees reports about the Strategic Plan.

### **SAC Report – J. Shulman**

J. Shulman reported that SAC finalized their responses to the Strategic Plan and sent them along. The topic of responses to disasters came up and they had M. Brunetta from Police Services come talk to them about how the campus coordinated for disasters. That would be an on-going conversation. They heard from N. Markley about new hires and shifts in Student Affairs areas. One of their priorities for the year was ensuring the campus was complying with Title IV. She announced that the HUB was having a welcome reception that night at 6:30pm.

### **CFA Report – E. Newman**

E. Newman said CFA would be bargaining the next week. She said four CFA members spoke at the Board of Trustees meeting. She encouraged Senators to see the comments online. After they spoke, there were no questions.

### **Good of the Order**

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported that the campus deferred maintenance amount was \$32,959,500. C. George thanked Ann Steckel for her help with the TAP pilot.

### **Adjourned.**

*Minutes prepared by Laurel Holmström-Keyes*