

Academic Senate Minutes

May 24, 2007

3:00 – 5:00, Commons

(in all places which state- there was discussion - interested parties are directed to the digital archives to hear the complete discussion)

Abstract

Chair's Report. Candidates for Graduation approved. Survey about the Vice President for Administration and Finance. Chair-Elect report. Statewide Senators report. Vice President for Administration and Finance report. Revision to Advising Policy approved. Formal Dispute Resolution Procedures approved. By-Laws Revision: Standing Committees and Liaisons (including revisions to APC membership and EPC subcommittees) approved. APC Resolution on Changing Schools to Colleges tabled. Revision of Student Academic Probation, Disqualification and Progress policy approved. APC report. FSAC report. SAC report. Changing of the Guard.

Present: Elaine McDonald, Tim Wandling, Elizabeth Stanny, Edith Mendez, Robert McNamara, Catherine Nelson, Sam Brannen, Carolyn Epple, Noel Byrne, Birch Moonwomon, Michael Pinkston, Steve Wilson, Kristen Daley, Elizabeth Martinez, Thaine Stearns, Robert Train, Ada Jaarsma, Liz Thach, Virginia Lea, John Kornfeld, Raye Lynn Thomas, Tia Watts, Murali Pillai, Cora Neal, Rick Luttmann, Michelle Moosebrugger, Steve Orlick, Glenn Brassington, Melinda Milligan, John Wingard, Scott Miller, Sandra Shand, Eduardo Ochoa, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Whitney McClure, Lane Olson, Art Warmoth, Mary Halavais, Carlos Ayala, Doug Jordan

Absent: Marguerite St. Germain, Ruben Armiñana, Eric Halstrom, Rachel Sagapolu

Proxies: Victor Garlin for Steve Cuellar

Guests: Jim Robertson, Barbara Butler, Rose Bruce, Ian Hannah, Neil Markley, Susan Moulton, Jenifer Crist, Carol Blackshire-Belay, Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, Elaine Leeder, Katharyn Crabbe

Chair's Report – E. McDonald-Newman

E. McDonald-Newman thanked the faculty for participating in the vote on the no confidence referendum. She noted that the results had been announced (73.4% of faculty voting in the referendum voted no confidence in President Arminana's leadership. *The turn out was 68% of eligible faculty. This means that at least 50% of eligible faculty at SSU expressed no confidence – from Senate website*). She said she had met with the President and he was not interested in mediation which the faculty leadership had suggested. She thought that the faculty and larger community deserved a response from the President. She reported that the Statewide Senators and incoming Chair T. Wandling had spoken to the CSU Statewide Senate leadership recently and there would be more on that later. The Chair said even though there was a lot of negativity this year on the campus, some of which she expected and some of which

she did not, she enjoyed being the Chair of this Senate and told the body they were “awesome.” (Applause) She then announced the New Student Convocation on Monday, August 20th at 11:30am. Faculty were asked to meet at the Stevenson loading dock and to wear regalia, if they had it. She said, this is part of a larger all day event for the new freshman. She reported about the web standards policy and how there had been complaints from faculty about a link on the Athletics page to the Army. She said the President has decided that all commercial links, including the Army, will be removed from University websites. Sam Scalise and Dan Condrón will be updating the policy and the Senate should see it next Fall. She noted that the Interim Policy regarding timely adoption of textbooks for students with disability had been passed out as an information item. She said this is information about what’s coming out of the Accessible Technology Initiative. Since it will have a great impact on the curriculum and teaching, she had recommend to the Executive Committee to devote a whole Senate meeting in the early Fall to this topic. Under the information items she also noted the Senate Budget Committee report for this year; a report from APC on the Access to Excellence Summit and a preliminary proposal for a program in Singapore. She then announced changes to the Senate membership for the upcoming year.

She turned the floor over to N. Byrne for a handout he passed out regarding Resource Realignment Proposals. He said that the specifics in the handout would be brought to the Senate in the Fall for referral to specific Senate committees.

She recognized the Senate Analyst, Laurel Holmström, for her contributions to the Senate and faculty governance.

Consent items:

Candidates for Graduation – approved.

Minutes of 5/10/07 – delayed.

She also noted Victor Garlin’s presence as proxy for S. Cuellar and that it would be his last Senate meeting before he retired.

Survey about the Vice President for Administration and Finance – C. Nelson

C. Nelson explained that the survey for the Senate was part of the implementation of the policy of Periodic Review of Administrators policy. The review committee for L. Furukawa-Schlereth created this survey and asked the Senate to participate. She asked folks who had already filled out the survey not to do it again.

Chair-Elect report – T. Wandling

T. Wandling reported on the meeting he had with the Statewide Senate leadership. He thought it was a good conversation and that the Statewide leadership wanted to know how best to support us here after the no confidence vote. Concern was raised on both ends of the conversation about public statements that disregarded the resolution. Statewide, they are working on a pro-active approach to help the Board of Trustees and Chancellor be responsive to our concerns here. R. McNamara added

that they asked the Executive Committee to meet with the Chancellor this summer and with the Faculty Trustee about this matter. He also spoke with C. Smith, the Faculty Trustee, who said he is very willing to come to the campus to discuss it with us.

Statewide Senators report – C. Nelson

C. Nelson noted the written report in the Senate packet. She highlighted the information about the CLA testing, the Business Accreditation and fees for post-baccalaureates in Business. She also noted that the Statewide Executive Committee did something at the last meeting that both she, and R. McNamara, had issues with. The Executive Committee gave Chancellor Reed an informal commendation for working through our issues this year. She said that Chancellor Reed's behavior at the Senate was very dismissive of the faculty and that she spoke to the Executive Committee about how she thought they had wrongly commended him.

Vice President for Administration and Finance report – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on the PBAC meeting that morning. He noted a set of concepts and proposals in a number of areas that the committee will reflect upon over the next eight weeks while they wait for the final Governor's budget. These are related to specific advice that might be given to the President in a number of areas that include supporting the instructional costs associated with the enrollment growth of 344 new students which is mandate by the Trustees; the issue of how to fund the compensation increases for all bargaining units which comes in a little higher than the funding from the State; issues related to progress in academic technology; what is the feeling about Dr. Arminana's role in beginning to address faculty development; and there are a number of unknown items associated with the California Institute on Human Services. Contributor relations is now missing from the budget due to the compensation issues.

A Senator asked the L. Furukawa-Schlereth to share some of the specific advice now. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said the PBAC felt strongly that supporting the instructional cost of the new students was of highest importance. There was a high priority on funding the compensation increases and faculty development. They were not as supportive of academic technology as they found out that the CSU plans to spend \$90 million on academic technology in the coming years. They also want to address the shortfall in CIHS (California Institute on Human Services) without impacting the other areas of campus too dramatically. They are also recommending that all self-support activities help out. The President wishes to remain with his policy of no layoffs of permanent employees. They feel confident that the Outreach portion of the Governor's budget will be restored.

Advising Policy revision – D. Jordan

D. Jordan provided background to the reason for revision to the advising policy. He reviewed the changes. He addressed the concerns that were brought up in the Senate previously. He argued that SAC's position was that this policy was a goal. If the policy were followed, students would have good advising. A Senator asked

about student involvement in the changes to the policy. D. Jordan said that the student on SAC was involved in the revision process in SAC. The Chair-Elect noted that at a previous meeting the Associated Students President, W. Diver remarked that they were satisfied with the policy.

A Senator argued that SAC should set procedures for the policy since they don't want to include them in the policy. **He moved that the document be sent back to SAC and be charged to include procedures in the policy. Second.**

There was discussion. **Vote on motion to refer. Failed.**

A Senator asked how the Provost would calculate resources to implement his portion of the policy. The Provost said since the policy was not passed yet nor had implementation procedures, he could not say how it would be calculated. But he would definitely take it seriously. There was a discussion about what the term "adequate resources" meant in this policy.

There was a motion that SAC provide a status report on advising in their end of year report. Second. Motion ruled out of order.

Question called on policy. Second. Approved.

Vote on Advising Policy. Approved.

Motion for Senate to charge SAC to develop implementation procedures for the Advising policy in consultation with the Provost and any relevant staff. Second. Vote on motion. Approved.

Formal Dispute Resolution Procedures – D. Jordan

D. Jordan gave background on the item. He described that Grade Appeals, Student Grievances and Cheating and Plagiarism cases require the creation of juries. The creation of juries is problematic. The Senate Analyst came to SAC with an idea for a Fairness Board to hear cases instead of juries. SAC looked at this idea and concurred. The Fairness Board itself would be a subcommittee of SAC and members would be elected. He then described the Formal Dispute Resolution Procedures that the Fairness Board would follow. He noted that previously the Senate was concerned about due process standards and argued that due process in higher education has a lower standard than Western legal conceptions. In higher education, we are not putting people in jail or taking away their civil rights. He also noted wording changes noted at the first reading that were changed as recommended and that "student counseling" was struck from the administration membership of the Fairness Board.

Motion made to strike the sentence in III. D. "These verbal presentations to the Fairness Board will be made without the opposing party being present." Second. There was a fair amount of discussion, primarily in support of the motion.

Question called. Second. Approved.

Vote on above motion. *Approved.*

Motion to extend item for 5 minutes. *Second. Approved.*

A Senator asked how juries were created in the past, if faculty or students had input and if someone could represent them at the hearing. The Senate Analyst described the current procedures for jury selection and representation at hearings. Support was expressed for the new procedures.

Question called. *Second. Vote = 23, No = 9. Approved.*

Vote on Formal Dispute Resolution Procedures – *Approved.*

By-Laws Revision: Standing Committees and Liaisons – T. Wandling

T. Wandling introduced the item and asked the Senate to pass it.

A Senator noted technical issues with the by-law passages presented. He argued that “should” should be “shall” in the document. He also said that the use of the term ex-officio was misused in this section of the by-laws. **He moved both of these observations – change all “shoulds” to shall and strike all “ex-officio” when it appears. *Second. Approved.***

The Senator continued arguing for liaisons to be fully functioning members of the committee so that there wouldn’t be second-class people on the committees. **He moved to remove the entire sentence as follows:**

3.5 COMMITTEE LIAISONS

In addition to formal Committee liaisons required above, Senate Committees may negotiate and establish appropriate liaison relationships as needed. ~~Faculty and staff who sit on Senate Committees/Subcommittees as liaisons from another Senate Committee/Subcommittee shall serve in a non-voting capacity.~~

Second.

There was discussion.

Question called. *Second. Approved.*

Vote on above motion. *Failed.*

The Chair of APC introduced two amendments to the membership of APC in this section of the by-laws that were provided in writing in the Senate packet.

Amendment #1

3.4 Academic Planning Committee

The Academic Planning Committee ~~will~~ *may* assign members as liaisons to the following bodies: President's Budget Advisory Council (PBAC), Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Committee (AABAC), ~~Campus Planning Committee (CPC)~~ *University Planning Steering Committee (UPSC)*, the Campus ~~Reorganization~~ *Re-engineering* Committee (CRC), ~~the Extended Cabinet~~ and others as appropriate.

Amendment #2

3.4.1 Membership

One student, ~~ex-officio~~, non-voting, selected in accordance with the procedures established by the Associated Students, shall be a member of the Academic Planning Committee.

Second. Vote on amendments. *Approved.*

Motion to strike Program Review subcommittee under EPC membership. Second. Vote on motion. *Approved.*

A Senator asked about the status of the proposal for CFA to have a seat on FSAC and the Senate. The Chair-Elect noted that the proposals were on the Senate agenda and had received positive support up to this point, however, he did not think the Senate would waive the first reading on the item and he recommended bringing it back to the Senate in the Fall.

Question called on main motion to amend by-laws. Second. *Approved.*

Vote on by-laws amendment. *Approved.*

APC Resolution on Changing Schools to Colleges – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth introduced the item and described what information was included with the resolution. He asked the Senate to vote on the resolutions. There was discussion.

There was a motion to table the item. *Approved.*

Revision of Student Academic Probation, Disqualification and Progress policy – M. Halavais

M. Halavais introduced the item and noted it was on the second reading. She noted previous Senate concerns had been addressed.

Question called. Second. *Approved.*

Vote on revision to policy. *Approved.*

APC report – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth reported that APC is working on three items. (

FSAC report – C. Ayala

C. Ayala reported that the revised RTP policy would be put on the web this summer to get comments and feedback before they bring it to the Executive Committee. He also reported that there has been a lot of consultation between the Provost and Vice President of Administration and Finance and FSSP about the IDC problem. FSSP has brought forward a set of recommendations that will come to the Senate in the Fall.

SAC report – D. Jordan

D. Jordan reported that the faculty member who was going to be Chair of SAC next year is now leaving the university for another position. Karen Thompson can be Chair in the Spring, but for now SAC has no Chair for the Fall. He noted that the Grade Appeal, Student Grievance and Cheating and Plagiarism have already been updated to reflect the passage of the Formal Dispute Resolution Procedure and they will come before the Senate early in the Fall.

Changing of the Guard

The Chair presented the Past Chair, E. Stanny, with a special chair in thanks for her service.

The Chair passed the gavel to the Chair-Elect, Tim Wandling.

The new Chair noted that a resolution for the now Past Chair E. McDonald-Newman was being passed around and he read the resolution.

Resolution

Honoring the Estimable Service and Leadership of Dr. Elaine McDonald-Newman Chair of the Faculty 2006-2007

Whereas Elaine McDonald-Newman demonstrated a universally admired combination of steely resolve and intelligent cheer as she guided the Senate through one of the most challenging years in its history; and

Whereas she has redefined the word straightforward, issuing clarion calls of passionate yet reasoned alerts to portentous events, early in the year establishing that her voice would respond quickly and clearly to assert the primacy of our academic mission and the importance of shared governance; and

Whereas she provided endless support and mentoring to others in faculty leadership, and established strong relations and effective communication between committee leaders and the Senate office; and

Whereas she exemplified tireless dedication to collegial governance, providing the entire faculty with key information, and representing them courageously and thoughtfully in all her doings with a thoroughness, preparation and perseverance that inspire us all; and

Whereas she has beyond a doubt kept her promise to “push limits and defy expectations” with her outstanding leadership; and

Whereas Elaine McDonald-Newman proved what we all already knew: that no mountain would prove unclimbable to this experienced and fearless leader who leaps bureaucratic hurdles gracefully and rappels expertly into the uncharted depths of the perpetual “next crisis.” In short, she rocks; therefore be it

Resolved that the Academic Senate and faculty of Sonoma State express their deep admiration for and great appreciation of her service and outstanding leadership as Faculty Chair during this most tumultuous year.

(Applause)

Approved.

The Chair recognized the campus President of CFA, Andy Merrifield who read a commendation of the E. McDonald-Newman and E. Stanny from CFA.

Resolved, the Executive Board of the California Faculty Association, Sonoma State University Chapter commends the outstanding leadership of Elizabeth Stanny, Immediate Past Chair of the Academic Senate of Sonoma State University and Professor Elaine McDonald-Newman, Chair of the Academic Senate of Sonoma State University. Both of our colleagues understand the importance of collaboration in working for the faculty and for quality education and were not persuaded by those who argue faculty governance and faculty representation by the union are somehow discrete – rather than complementary – functions.

Adopted May 16, 2007

Adjourned

Reception immediately followed meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström