

Academic Senate Minutes

February 25, 2010

3:00 – 5:00, Commons

Abstract

Approval of Agenda. Chair Report. President Report. Provost Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Special Visit: Dean Mark Merickel, Extended Education. Vice President of SAEM Report. Associated Students Report. Chair-Elect Report. Proceeding with Election approved. Statewide Senator Report. CFA Report. EPC Report. FSAC Report. Resolution from SBC: Resolution to Spend 55% of Funding in the Academic Schools - Second Reading – Approved. Resolution in Support of Retention of Santa Rosa City Schools Librarians Approved.

Present: Susan Moulton, John Wingard, Scott Miller, Deb Kindy, Robert McNamara, Sam Brannen, Michael Pinkston, Steve Wilson, John Sullins, Chip McAuley, Terry Lease, Florence Bouvet, Paula Lane, John Kornfeld, Rick Robison, Cora Neal, Nick Giest, Tia Watts, Wanda Boda, Michael Cohen, Noel Byrne, Karin Jaffe, Laura Watt, Maria Hess, Margie Purser, Sandra Shand, Lillian Lee, Ruben Armiñana, Eduardo Ochoa, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Andy Merrifield, Jenny Tice, Morgan Carvajal, Dolores Bainter, Art Warmoth, Richard Senghas, Derek Girman

Absent: Catherine Nelson, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Ed Beebout, Mutombo M’Panya, Matt McCarty, Carmen Works

Proxies: Scott Nickleach for Edie Mendez, Barbara Lesch-McCaffry for Janet Hess

Guests: Isabel Love, Mark Merickel, Barbara Butler, Elaine Leeder, Tim Wandling

Approval of Agenda – approved.

Chair Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton reported on the Statewide Chair’s meeting she had attended the past week. They spoke with the Chancellor and Ben Quillian which was very informative. Issues they discussed included furloughs, faculty and shared governance, budget, GE requirements and graduation requirements. She noted that all the campuses share the same concerns on these topics. They asked about the CLA and were told that it was needed every year for outcomes assessment, but was still under discussion. She noted that a task force regarding enrollment management chaired by the President of San Francisco State would be meeting with them at their next meeting in April. She reminded the Senators that the next day was the last day to do the Diversity Recommendations Survey. She also recommended to the Senators to fill out the International Education survey that just came out. She recognized the Provost for his nomination to be the Assistant Undersecretary for Higher Education in the Obama administration and offered congratulations. She reminded the body that when considering resolutions, the resolved clauses are discussed first and that any rationale needs to be moved to be included and then can

be amended. Further clarification on the way to present resolutions according to Robert's Rules was given. Senators are to stand on one foot, pat their head and rub their tummy to prove capability to present a resolution. Then they must stand on the table and shout at the top of their lungs. She reported that she met with a committee that was creating a Free Speech code and suggested that it come before the Senate and the Associated Students.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana noted that he did not expect any action on the State budget until after the June 8th primary. He noted the campus would have to start the Fall semester not knowing what the budget would be. He was less confident now that money would be restored to the CSU budget as there were a lot of competing issues. He thought the Legislature might not restore any money and give the CSU a flat budget. Any financial changes that happen during the Fall semester would have to be dealt with in the Spring semester. A member asked about a movement to schedule for an entire year, so students would have block scheduling. He wondered how that could happen when the campus doesn't know what the budget will be. The President said it was a good question and it depended on the assumptions that were used to determine scheduling. A member asked for a definition of a "flat" budget. The President said it would include the stimulus money and the 10% fee increase, but not the \$305 million.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa followed up by noting the planning for Fall was based on the assumption of a flat budget. He reported that the WASC report had been received and he and the President met with the WASC accreditation team. He did not foresee any problems with accreditation. A member asked what would happen if some of the \$305 million did come through. The Provost said if that happened, there would be an increase in enrollment target, so there would be more sections and classes. There was further discussion about the potential \$305 million addition to the CSU budget and what enrollment increases would mean. It was noted that the number 305 was a political number, not a target number.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on the recent visit from the District Attorney and FBI on campus delivering the warrant for documents related to twenty grants administered by the California Institute on Human Services (CIHS). He said the agents were on campus most of the day and they took a substantial amount of information. The university cooperated fully with the investigation. He provided some history of the investigation into CIHS since it had begun three years ago. He encouraged the Senators to review the special audit report to understand the investigation.
(http://www.calstate.edu/audit/Audit_Reports/special_investigations/index.shtml) He said the Senate now knew what he did.

Time certain reached.

Special Visit: Dean Mark Merickel, Extended Education

Dean Merickel noted he wanted to begin a dialogue with the Senate about the role of Extended Education at the University and in higher education. He noted that Extended Education's schedule was counter cyclical to the university and more and more they were being asked and looking for opportunities to work with matriculated students. He said he wanted to give periodic reports to the Senate about the status of Extended Education and future trends. He said the goal of Extended Education was to work with the academic Schools and Departments. He voiced his strong belief in hybrid education that, to him, meant the blending of University and Extended Education programs to serve students best. He noted there were lots of challenges ahead. He said there was one curriculum for degrees and that Extended Education did not own the curriculum, the faculty did. He said Extended Ed also collaborated with Schools and Departments with their certificate programs as well. He noted the SSALI program that brings many international students to campus to learn English and about 10% of those students matriculate at SSU. He discussed the other programs Extended Ed also administered. He noted reports were available at: <http://www.sonoma.edu/exed/dean/>. He discussed his views about online education and Extended Education's partnership with the Green Music Center. He noted that summer session was going back to Extended Education. He said that faculty teaching for Extended Education were vetted through the departments.

Questions for the Dean

A member asked if FERP faculty could not teach during summer session. The Dean said that was correct and had to do with the time base that a FERP faculty could teach. M. Bernard noted it was a CALPERS requirement that FERP faculty not teach over 50%. A member asked about faculty pay during the summer session. The Dean responded that faculty would be paid by a calculation based on their last year of pay, whether they were tenured or lecturers. The CFA rep noted CFA's concern about summer session issues regarding entitlements, benefits and Executive Order 802. (<http://www.calstate.edu/EO/>) A member asked about the linkages between graduate programs run through Extended Ed and departments, and specifically wanted to know what processes Extended Ed used to allocate funding in these instances as the Graduate Studies subcommittee saw much variability. The Dean responded that the process has actually been weak and he wanted to improve those linkages. He discussed the new financial models they were putting in place. The Provost noted he has asked his budget officer to work with the business officer in Extended Education to review the financial models and help improve the return to departments from programs run through Extended Education. A student member brought up the issue of remediation and Extended Education. The Dean said Extended Education could only run remediation courses in the summer at this point in time.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth continued his report by talking about the major findings of the recent audit of the SSU Foundation. He said the audit would be available online in about 4 to 5 weeks. He discussed the Conflict of Interest committee and its initial meeting. He noted the Labor Council, except Unit 3, approved moving one of the campus furlough days in June to April 9th, to allow the staff a full week off. He talked about work towards fully funding the campus scholarships for the '10 –'11 year. A member questioned whether the KPMG and Chancellor's Office reports were truly audits. L. Furukawa-Schlereth clarified that the Chancellor's Office reports were special investigations, and the KPMG audit was a traditional financial audit. The Chair asked if L. Furukawa-Schlereth would report at a future time on the financial status of Athletics. He agreed.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips reported on the World of Work Fair that had happened that day. He noted the numbers of employers was down this year and that he saw a steady flow of students into the event. He noted the ending celebration for Black History Month was that evening and encouraged attendance.

Associated Students Report – J. Tice

J. Tice noted that the Associated Students would be participating in the March 4th Day of Action by having letter writing campaigns and phone-ins. She announced the Lobby Day Clinic to train students for Lobby Day in Sacramento. She noted the AS was still asking for a representative from the Academic Senate to serve on their Senate. It was noted that students had been going to the Recreation Center to study on furlough Fridays since the Library was closed.

Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reported on the status of nominations for Senate positions. He noted nominations were extended to the following day. He asked for the Senate's approval to run the election without the requisite number of candidates for each position. **It was moved, seconded and approved to hold the election.**

Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara reported on the standing committee meetings of the Statewide Senate. He noted that Deliverology and the graduation initiative was of intense interest, particularly the GE reform portion of the proposal. He noted there was a lot of concern in the Statewide Senate.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported on the national Day of Action for Public Higher Education. A rally would be held on March 4th beginning at noon. He described the sponsors of

the event and who would be speaking. He said the goal was to receive the \$305 million dollars as a down payment for what the State owed the CSU. He discussed the CFA Lobby Days coming up. He noted that the California Federation of Teachers was starting a walk from Bakersfield to Sacramento to highlight the issues of public education.

EPC Report – J. Tice

C. Works, the Chair of EPC was absent. J. Tice, a member of EPC reported that EPC had approved the Solano program and the Art & Humanities GE Reform proposal.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that FSAC had a conversation with CFA about RTP deadlines and issues they were concerned with. R. Senghas asked that FSAC be asked to look at the Solano program for faculty implications.

Resolution from SBC: Resolution to Spend 50% of Funding in the Academic Schools Second Reading – T. Wandling

T. Wandling presented a replacement resolution that called for 55% of funding in the Academic Units and included the Library. He noted that the resolution was a recommendation to the President and discussed the intention of the resolution. He noted a page had been set up for the Senate Budget Committee to start a conversation. (<http://www.sonoma.edu/Senate/SBC/sbchome.html>) He discussed the rationale of the resolution. L. Furukawa-Schlereth asked about including Athletics. T. Wandling replied that if Athletics was included, perhaps the number should be 60%. He noted the difficulty of obtaining the figures for Athletics. He thought that should be part of the conversation going forward. There was discussion about considering the replacement resolution, particularly using 55% instead of 50%. **It was approved to accept the replacement resolution.**

There was discussion about what the recommendation would mean to student services. T. Wandling noted that the resolution did not recommend taking money from any other aspect of the campus budget. It was attempting to give a positive recommendation to the administration. The Provost lauded the intention of the resolution, but did not think it was the correct mechanism for achieving its goal. L. Furukawa-Schlereth remarked about areas he wanted the Senate to keep in mind, the financial requirements of Financial Aid, restricted funds attached to new spaces, the long range financial plan and instructional technology. There was continued discussion, regarding the important value of student services, support for the intention of the resolution to start a discussion of re-prioritizing the budget, the possible issues arising from the resolution being too simple, the importance of offering classes, that the resolution was a target for the administration to start a discussion, that there was a feeling on campus that money was not going where it needed to go, and 55% was the floor. The EPC rep to the SBC argued for the importance of the symbolic intent of the resolution. It was argued that faculty levels needed to be increased. It was argued that the number 55% did not really mean anything if the resolution was symbolic.

Question called. Second. Approved.

Vote on Resolution – Approved.

Budgeting a minimum of 55% of State Support Budget in Academic Units

Resolved, the Academic Senate recommends to PBAC and the President that, beginning in 2010-11, a minimum of fifty five percent (55%) of the state support budget each year be allocated to the five academic schools and the library for instruction and academic support in keeping with the university's academic mission.

Background information: As of the most recent expenditure plan (2008-09), the university budgets 48.35% of its state support budget in the academic schools and the library. Nine years ago (1999-2000) the university budgeted 55.1% of state support budget in the schools and libraries.

These figures are based on school and library personnel budget of \$31.15M, which is 33.7% of the state support budget. Nine years ago, the academic school and library personnel figure was \$24.2M, which was 41% of the state support budget. (See Senate Budget Website for a study on this matter). To reflect accurately the cost of the personnel, benefits must be added in. An analysis of the situation in 2008-2009 is on the second page of this resolution. The original resolution passed unanimously at the Senate Budget Committee December 8, 2009. On February 23, 2010, the SBC voted to offer this substitute motion to include personnel costs in the library in this resolution.

Motion to extend the meeting by 5 minutes. Second. Approved.

Resolution in Support of Retention of Santa Rosa City Schools Librarians – First Reading – R. Robison

R. Robison introduced the resolution. He noted that an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education encouraged universities to be more involved in K-12 education and this was an opportunity for the Senate to make a statement. He provided some statistics: California now ranks last in the ratio of students to school librarians. The national average is 1 school librarian to 916 students, and in California it was 1 school librarian to 5124 students. He noted that School Librarians were highly credentialed. He pointed out the range of activities School Librarians perform was discussed in the rationale. He noted that a colleague had done a study which found that students already pre-disposed to seeing the Library as valuable would continue to use it in college. He was concerned that school libraries would not be seen as valuable to current students. He noted that the teachers were talking about taking a 3 day furlough to help save these and other positions.

Motion to waive the first reading. Second.

The President thought the School Board may have already made their decision. A guest reported that the Board did vote to cut the positions, but then rescinded that decision and put it off until their next meeting. People had been rallying in support

of the Libraries. She discussed the impact of cuts on her high school and what role the Library was playing currently.

Vote on motion to waive first reading – Approved.

Vote on Resolution - Approved.

Resolution in Support of Santa Rosa City Schools District's Librarians

Whereas Sonoma State University educates many students from the Santa Rosa City (SRC) School District and Sonoma County and values the continued academic readiness of these students, and

Whereas Sonoma State prepares many credential teachers to work as professionals in the SRC School District and Sonoma County, and

Whereas Sonoma State faculty lend their expertise to schools in the SRC School District and understand the key role that school librarians and libraries play in the academic success and lifelong learning of students,

Therefore be it,

Resolved that the Academic Senate of Sonoma State University (ASSSU) recognizes the continued importance that school librarians and libraries play in preparing students for success in higher education and in developing life-long critical thinking and learning skills; and be it further,

Resolved that the ASSSU commends school librarians and K-12 teachers in their collaborative efforts to assure students equitable access to a quality education; and be it further,

Resolved that the ASSSU recommends and supports the retention of all school librarians in the Santa Rosa School District due to their already low staffing levels and the key role they play in assisting with the success of the district's more than 16,500 students and 850 teachers.

Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Santa Rosa City School District Superintendent and the School Board members of Santa Rosa City Schools.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega