

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
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July 28, 2016

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large), Tim Ryan (ASI), and Lynnette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members Excused: Otto Benavides (Statewide Senate), Joseph I. Castro (Ex-officio), and Loretta Kensinger (At-large)

Guests: Deborah Adishian-Astone (Vice President for Administration), Venita Baker

The Senate Executive Committee was convened by Chair Ayotte at 2:00pm in the Haak Boardroom.

Provost Zelezny and Vice President Astone presented the university's plan to open and operate an expanded campus in Visalia in partnership with the College of the Sequoias (COS). It will be called Fresno State Visalia.

Fresno State has had a physical presence on the COS campus for about 15 years, but consistent with the university's new strategic plan we are trying to expand our partnership with COS. As part of that, COS refurbished a building with new classrooms, office space, and teaching technology and transferred it to Fresno State. More classes and degree programs will now be offered there, both through CGE and regular state-funded programs, with all new programs requiring the normal approval of the Academic Senate. This expansion was modeled after a similar arrangement operated by CSU San Bernardino in Palm Springs. It has also been approved by WASC.

To help facilitate the movement of students and staff between Fresno and Visalia, Vice President Astone is setting up a shuttle service.

At this point the plan is to have the new facility overseen by one full-time staff person with some part-time help. Since this is a major new initiative requiring a lot of outreach to communities in Tulare County, Provost Zelezny is hoping to assign COSS Dean Luz Gonzalez to run the new program. This arrangement has not been finalized. Several committee members asked questions about the potential re-assignment of Dean Gonzalez. Provost Zelezny noted that this is not a new MPP position so her authority to make the offer comes from APM 320, Section I.

Chair Ayotte asked if all programs operating at Fresno State Visalia would still be controlled by the relevant departments on the main campus. Yes, they will. Vice Chair Holyoke asked how the college deans will interact with the Fresno State Visalia dean and who would have final authority. The provost explained that academic programs will be overseen by the relevant college deans, not the Fresno State Visalia dean (who is primarily responsible for outreach and management of the facility). The provost also said that she has the ultimate authority over the deans and would referee if necessary.

Senator Raya-Fernandez (At-large) asked whether the Fresno State Visalia dean would have significant outreach responsibilities to local high schools and the community college. Yes, the dean will be expected to do this.

President Ryan (ASI) asked if the costs to Fresno State Visalia students would be the same as students on the main campus. Yes, it will.

Senator Raya-Fernandez asked if Fresno State Visalia students would have access to the same support services as students on the main campus. Yes, though it may have to be through the services offered by COS.

MSC endorsing the plan for Fresno State Visalia.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 2:47pm.