

## **Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

March 3, 2011

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

### **Abstract**

Agenda approved. Minutes of 2/17/11 approved. Provost Report. PDC Report approved for the Senate. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Academic Calendar Change. Appoint Document Review Committee for URTP. Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship approved for Senate agenda. Revision to the Class Attendance Policy approved for Senate agenda. Two Curriculum changes from Kinesiology approved for Senate consent calendar. Senate agenda approved. Vice President of SAEM Report.

**Present:** John Wingard, Ben Ford, Maria Hess, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Margaret Purser, Jennifer Mahdavi, Sam Brannen, Catherine Nelson, Richard Senghas, Andy Merrifield, Saeid Rahimi, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Elaine Newman, Kelly Estrada

**Absent:** Susan Moulton, Ruben Armiñana

**Guests:** Steve Wilson, Alex Boyar, Elaine Leeder, Elaine Sundberg

**Approval of Agenda – Approved.**

**Minutes of 2/17/11 – Amended and Approved.**

**Provost Report – S. Rahimi**

S. Rahimi said that Academic Affairs was really scrambling with scheduling. He had been looking at alternative spaces for teaching classes and also looking at the revision to the modules. He said both faculty and staff were coming forward to help. He said everyone realized the importance of reaching the target of 7450. He said they were also trying to find ways to increase enrollment as well to generate more revenue. He noted three points have been communicated with as many people as possible to address the budget cuts. 1) immediate cost cutting measures, such as cancelling trips and reviewing assigned time; 2) curricular changes and improvement which were up to the faculty to discuss to help with the budget and 3) revenue generation. He noted that revenue generation was new to Academic Affairs and would be worked on long term. He noted that graduate programs could be instrumental in this area. He said these would frame how to address the parameters facing the campus – the target, the budget cuts and optimizing student success. The Chair asked about mitigation funds he had heard about. The Provost deferred the question to the Vice President of Administration and Finance. The CFA President argued that workload was not being discussed in the budget discussion and wondered if there was consideration of that in the discussion. The Provost responded that he calculated the SSU SFR for the past few years and looked at it against the CSU SFR average. He said the SSU SFR had been going down the past few years and so he thought an increase in SFR would be reasonable under the circumstances. He thought there were ways to improve teaching that would lessen

workload and increase effectiveness. A member asked about assigned times that were not absolutely necessary. The Provost said it may be assigned times in the Schools and that was up to the Deans. A member asked when the CSU would stand up and tell the State that the target will not be met with the money given. The Provost responded that it was important for people to make that argument to the Governor and that it was certain that quality would suffer under the current budget reductions. A member noted that he was concerned about improbably aggregated data about the SFRs. The Provost responded that he was looking at changes in SFR at SSU and that no matter how it was calculated, the SFR was going down.

Time certain reached.

### **PDC Report to the Senate – E. Leeder**

E. Leeder discussed the report the President's Diversity Council wanted to present to the Senate at its next meeting. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

### **Questions for the Provost**

A member asked about the push back from CSUs to the Chancellor's office about their top down approach to resource allocation and asked for elaboration. The Provost responded that this had to do with revenue generation. He noted that Extended Education was the only part of Academic Affairs that could generate funds and there were numerous EO orders about what could and could not be done in that area. He said without a relaxation of some of those orders, the campus would be driven into a context that was untenable. He then spoke about how a sustainability focus could be used for revenue generation and said he had other ideas.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth spoke about a proposal to create a GMC Board, anticipating the opening of the GMC in 2012. He asked for a faculty member to sit on that Board. He described the Board in more detail. He then spoke about the Provost search and that the position description was completed. He said they wanted to identify the semi-finalists by April 26<sup>th</sup> and described the rest of the schedule. He said a town hall for the budget was scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> in the Cooperage. He thought there would be a series of town halls on this topic. L. Furukawa-Schlereth thought that the traditional ways of allocation cuts were not practical and there needed to be a re-thinking of how the campus was organized. He noted that some of the ideas were about people's work and that brought in collective bargaining, which made it harder to consult. He noted that it was just not possible to give up all the lecturers and be able to teach the target FTES. The Chair asked about some extra money possibly coming to Schools. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that all the stimulus money from the Federal Government had not been given out, so a bit more had trickled down to the campus. He said most of it was in Academic Affairs. He noted he was getting no direction at all from the Chancellor's office about the size of the budget cut.

### **Academic Calendar Change – E. Sundberg**

E. Sundberg said she was asked to come to the Executive Committee to talk about changing the academic calendar to be more in line with what other semester

campuses do. She had mapped out what Spring 2012 might look like following the President's request that the campus begin instruction January 17<sup>th</sup>. She described the process for creating calendars. She said she was not bringing forward calendars into the future, but just for Spring 2012. She described how the proposed calendar met the guidelines and requirements. She asked for committee approval and for it to be forwarded to the Senate. There was discussion. **The Chair asked that the change to the calendar be referred to the Standing Committees for feedback and that it would be on the next agenda.**

### **Appoint Document Review Committee for URTF**

The University Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion subcommittee had requested a document review committee. The Senate Analyst presented the committee with the names of faculty eligible that year to serve on the document review committee and asked the committee to appoint members. **Motion to appoint the three people who had indicated their willingness to serve on the committee. Second.** There was discussion. **Failed. Motion that the Executive Committee approve all eligible faculty and ask that the Chair appoint three, excluding the married pair on the list both being on the committee. Second. Approved.**

### **Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas introduced the item and praised the Sponsored Programs subcommittee for their hard work on the report. He noted the report contained priorities derived from a faculty survey so that when money becomes available, the priorities would already be available too. He highlighted major themes in the report. He asked for the Senate to endorse it and that it be forwarded to administrators. A member brought up a concern about one of the findings. It was suggested that a member from FSSP be present at the Senate. **Approved for the Senate agenda for endorsement.**

### **Revision to the Class Attendance Policy – J. Mahdavi**

J. Mahdavi introduced the item noting that the Dispute Resolution Board brought the policy to SAC noting issues about during a grade appeal. She said SAC had consulted widely on the changes. She reviewed the changes to the policy. There was discussion. **It was approved for the Senate agenda with a request to have the revised policy become university policy as well.**

### **Two Curriculum changes from Kinesiology – E. Newman**

E. Newman introduced the items. There was one change to all the concentrations and one change to the Kinesiology interdisciplinary concentration field experience. Both had been approved at all levels so far. **It was approved for the Senate's Consent Calendar.**

### **Senate Agenda**

#### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – John Wingard

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Two Kinesiology curriculum revisions - emailed

**Special Presentation:** New Student Center, Bridgette Dussan,  
Associated Students President TC 3:15

**Special Report:** President's Diversity Council Strategic Plan – E. Leeder, J. Suzuki, M. C. Su,  
A. Boyar, P. Neville TC 4:00

**Special Guest:** Gina Belforte, Mayor of Rohnert Park T.C. 4:30

## **BUSINESS**

1. Request for endorsement of Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship – R. Senghas – First Reading - emailed
2. From SAC: Proposal for revised Class Attendance Policy to be university policy – First Reading – J. Mahdavi – attached

**Approved.**

### **Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips**

M. Lopez-Phillips handed out a proposed budget for the Counseling Center, which would run now more like the Health Center. He reviewed it briefly and expressed his concern about more fees for students while still maintaining appropriate mental health services for students. He asked the members to review it and give him feedback.

**Motion to extend by 5 minutes. Second. Approved.**

A member clarified with M. Lopez-Phillips that the student fees would cover the expenses. M. Lopez-Phillips responded that the fees would cover the costs and amount to approximately \$100 per year per student. M. Lopez-Phillips asked the faculty to look at the EO order and the accreditation standards. The CFA President said there were problems with the EO order and encouraged the faculty to look closely at it. M. Lopez-Phillips offered to bring the Director of the Counseling Center to the next Executive Committee.

**Adjourned.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*