

Senate Executive Committee Minutes
May 5, 2016
3:45 – 5:10, Academic Affairs Conference Room

Abstract

Agenda – Approved. Minutes of 4/21/16 – Approved. Chair Report. President Report. Provost Report. SAC Report. Request to endorse GMC vision statement approved for Senate agenda. Resolution for Senate Chambers approved for Senate agenda. Statewide Senator Report. Vice Chair Report. Vice President of Student Affairs Report. Open Educational Resources Plan – Blessed. Resolution: Calling for Respect for Faculty Authority over Curricular Matters approved for Senate agenda. HSI Report for Senate approved for Senate agenda. Revision to Enrollment in Thesis Courses Policy approved for the Senate agenda. EPC Report. FSAC Report. CFA Report. Senate agenda approved. Appreciation from Chair.

Present: Ron Lopez, Elaine Newman, Richard J. Senghas, Tom Targett, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Michaela Grobbel, Andrew Rogerson, Sam Brannen, Deborah Roberts, Carmen Works, Ed Beebout, Kate Chavez, Ruben Armiñana

Guests: Melinda Milligan for EPC, Rachel McCloskey, Noelia Franzen, Margaret Purser, Catherine Nelson, Richard Whitkus

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Approval of Minutes of 4/21/16 – Approved.

Chair Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported on the changes to the Ex Com next year. Ben Ford was incoming Chair, Carmen Works remains as Vice Chair, Tom Targett remains as Secretary, Richard Senghas will be Past Chair, Catherine Nelson will attend as Statewide Senator, the new Chair of APARC will join us, Melinda Milligan will attend as EPC Chair for Fall, Steven Winter will join as FSAC Chair, Ron Lopez will remain as SAC Chair. Sam Brannen returns as at-large Senator, joined by Jennifer Mahdavi. Rachel McCloskey will be the student rep. And, of course, our new President.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana said that this was his last meeting of the Ex Com. He thanked the faculty for an interesting, and fulfilling twenty-four years. He thought this was one of the few campuses where the President sat on the Senate and Executive Committee. He had found it helpful and, most of the time, quite collegial. He was impressed by the enormous amount of good work produced by faculty governance. He wished everyone good luck. The Chair thanked the President and noted that he knew from the Statewide Chairs Council that SSU was high in the participation of administrators in faculty governance.

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

No report. A member asked about the status of the Director of the Faculty Center search. She heard there was some issue. A. Rogerson said there was a budget issue in the Library and he didn't know all the details yet. There were three searches in the Library currently and a short fall in the Library budget. One of the positions might go away. The member said she hoped they would find a solution to bring back a Faculty Center Director.

SAC Report – R. Lopez

He reported that SAC was looking at a preferred name policy. This was to help transgender students navigate college easier. They would bring this back in the fall. A member suggested that SAC consider gender neutral bathrooms on campus.

Request to endorse GMC vision statement – R. Senghas

R. Senghas said this vision statement was the result of the working committee tasked with this project. He asked if it was ready for the Senate. L. Furukawa – Schlereth noted that the Arts Integration projects were not in the statement. R. Senghas said they had not specifically included that, but could. A member noted that his department, CALS, had an integration grant and over half of their performers were treated rudely by the GMC staff and CALS would not do it again. He offered to give a written report to L. Furukawa-Schlereth. R. Senghas argued that this would update the Senate's position on the GMC. A member asked for a cover sheet about the members of the working group. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

Resolution for Senate Chambers – C. Works

R. Senghas noted this resolution should have been on the last Ex Com agenda. C. Works introduced the item. A member asked if the second paragraph correctly stated that the Senate "must" meet in the Student Center. There was discussion about the difficulty of finding spaces for the Senate to meet and how that should be worded. L. Furukawa-Schlereth suggested that the resolution also go to the Provost. A member suggested that the first sentence of the second paragraph of the rationale read: Currently, the Senate meets in the Student Center for its plenary sessions *due to the lack of availability of other space on campus*. There was discussion about whether there was another space for the Senate to use. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

Statewide Senator Report – D. Roberts

D. Roberts reported that she was on a conference call the other day for the Doctoral Incentive program application review. She said the CSU will sponsor over 40 candidates in graduate school that will come back to the CSU to teach. She praised the President's letter describing the candidate's qualifications. She was always proud of work coming from Sonoma State University when working with statewide

matters. She said it was a very exciting committee. The Chair noted this was D. Roberts' last Ex Com meeting and thanked her for her service.

Vice Chair Report – C. Works

C. Works reported that S&F discussed a proposal from AFS for at-large members to that committee. They decided to declare the Library position on AFS as at-large for this year, since the Library had not been able to send anyone. They worked on the policy for budgetary matters. They also crafted a statement about remote attendance in faculty governance committees and came to this position: It is the position of the Structure and Functions Subcommittee that remote participation (videoconferencing or otherwise) at faculty governance meetings is less than a perfect substitute for in-person attendance, and should only be used if absolutely necessary. We find in-person meetings to be much more effective and beneficial to their public nature. We understand, however, that in some cases, remote attendance may be preferable to empty seats or proxies. The chair of the committee should determine on a case-by-case basis whether remote participation should be used, and report any excessive use to the Chair of Structure and Functions. If the committee chair determines that remote participation will be permitted for a given meeting, that participation will count as attendance for determining quorum and business actions, and will not count as an absence as used for determining vacancies according to Senate Bylaws. She said this would be formalized next year.

Vice President of Student Affairs Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips offered more information about the preferred name policy. There are nuances between what legal name a person has and what name they prefer. The legal name is required on some documents and not on others, so the campus was working on implementing this policy in the fall in whatever ways were possible to help transgender students not have to “out” themselves in classes. He said Sexual Assault Awareness month was ending and they had a bit of a problem with Take Back the Night. Someone sent their class to the event for extra credit and that was not appropriate for such an event. He discussed suggestions for future events. He thanked the faculty for all their hard work. A member asked if other CSUs had preferred name policies. M. Lopez-Phillips said yes and they used those as templates.

Open Educational Resources Plan – N. Franzen

R. Senghas reminded the members about the resolution for this item: <http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/resolutions/resOERSp16.html>. The Executive Committee was charged with approving that the plan go forward. The ultimate goal of this grant was to reduce the cost of class materials for students. N. Franzen noted that they had until 2018 to show that 50 sections had reduced costs. The spreadsheet portion of the plan showed an example of those sections. Any course could participate. The plan was due in June and she knew other campuses were also scrambling to meet the deadline. She only needed a one sentence email of approval. She said changes could still be made. Individuals and departments could participate. A member asked about the definition of open educational resources. N. Franzen said there are many open educational resources, such as the Creative Commons that could be used. R. Senghas provided an example with the University Library. N.

Franzen said there was also a line item in the plan for making materials accessible.
Motion to bless. Second. Blessed.

Resolution: Calling for Respect for Faculty Authority over Curricular Matters – M. Purser C. Nelson

M. Purser provided background to the resolution. The School of Social Sciences curriculum committee had been hearing about the new internship policy and endorsed the letter sent to the Provost regarding the new internship policy going through faculty governance. An issue came to light in Sociology about the purview of a department level curriculum committee and its ability to make decisions about the mode of delivery of courses in its program based on department policy about developing service learning courses. A lecturer asked to teach a course as a service learning course, that was not typically taught as service learning and the proposal was denied by the department because it could not be approved in the time remaining and that they would consider it in the fall. The matter ended up in Academic Affairs and Richard Whitkus decided the course could go forward for two reasons – 1) Balancing the academic freedom of the individual faculty member and the department and 2) this was a matter of pedagogy, not curriculum. The Sociology department took this to FSAC and it was referred to AFS. AFS came back with a strongly worded statement disagreeing with R. Whitkus on this issue. The Social Sciences curriculum committee started to see this as part of the same fabric as the issues with the internship policy. It was a matter of respect and the need for appropriate consultation for items under faculty purview. The resolution calls for an acknowledgment that faculty control the curriculum and that shared governance and consultation should err on the side of inclusiveness and reasonable time. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

HSI Report for Senate – R. Senghas

R. Senghas asked the members to agenize a report from M. Benny and S. Johnson for the Senate. They had made a report to the PDC about the campus becoming a Hispanic serving institution. They reported that they had discovered that the rate of Pell Grant awardees was also part of the criteria. He wanted the faculty to understand this. Faculty could help eligible students to apply for Pell Grants and also this understanding would help target recruiting. It was clarified that 25% of students needed to be Hispanic and 50% of students needed to be receiving Pell Grants. Eligibility provides the opportunity for many grants. A member asked what the rate of Pell Grants was currently for SSU. The Provost thought it was about 1/3 of students. The Chair noted that the PDC discussed why more SRJC students did not come to SSU. Perhaps with more work, this could be shifted. A member noted the work he did in the community to recruit and suggested this kind of activity be alright for RTP files. **It was approved for the Senate agenda.**

Revision to Enrollment in Thesis Courses Policy – M. Milligan, R. Whitkus

M. Milligan introduced the item. She said EPC requested that this policy be sent to the last Senate meeting. R. Whitkus said the policy came from the Graduate Studies Subcommittee and was approved unanimously there. A member asked what questions came up in EPC about the policy. M. Milligan said it would affect the

English MA degree process and they would have to reflect on how their students move through advancement to candidacy. **It was approved for the Senate agenda with a cover memo from EPC.**

EPC Report – M. Milligan for L. Watt

M. Milligan reported that EPC unanimously endorsed the memo R. Senghas wrote about the new internship policy needing to go through faculty governance. EPC heard the proposal for a new MA in Film Studies and while they supported the idea of the program, they had many questions. They heard a report on the A&H pilot program of writing intensives that replace the WEPT. They had a wide ranging discussion about theses course and the professional development funds required. EPC was alerted that a discrepancy had been found between the narrative and side by side comparison of the CALS revision to their teacher track in 2012. EPC had a discussion about whether the revision needed to go to the Senate. EPC decided that it was just a technical change and did not need to go through to the Senate. The Chair asked if the proposal for Film Studies helped EPC find the kinks in the system for a new MA program in SEIE. M. Milligan said there were two main issues: the content of the program and the logistics of the SEIE curriculum review process. There were a lot of questions about the funding of the program and how the SEIE curriculum review process would articulate with EPC. They asked the proposers to pin down the funding process more. EPC also had content questions and had philosophical issues with approving a new degree program in one reading. A member asked how the faculty were chosen for the writing intensive courses. M. Milligan said, with the first pilot, all the classes were in A&H, so faculty were chosen in the School. Faculty were given stipends for the professional development portion. She noted that next year, some of the faculty would be from SST and EPC questioned when the program would be open to all faculty. The member asked why the professional development portion was not going through the Faculty Center. M. Milligan said she would have to look back at her notes to see exactly how that happened. Originally, when A&H had presented this idea, EPC had asked them to bring the four courses forward to EPC and they had not done that. So EPC asked them this time to bring a report of all 9 courses to EPC for next year. EPC had asked them why the program was not more broad. A&H had said that they were concerned about the funding and that was why it was not more broad at this time.

FSAC Report – E. Beebout

FSAC unanimously approved moving RTP files to be completely digital. They heard from the current URTP Chair that using digital files has reduced the workload in the RTP process and she highly supported the move. FSAC questioned if the Senate wanted to discuss this. Various members voiced their support. The Chair thought it should be discussed at the Senate. Next week they would do a “post mortem” on the office hours policy and next year’s FSAC would continue the discussion next Fall. They would also work their WASC questions.

CFA Report – E. Newman

E. Newman reported that 97% of faculty approved the tentative agreement. Next it goes to the Board of Trustees. Next Thursday, CFA will host a party in LOBOs to thank everyone for their organizing efforts from 5 -7pm.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Richard J. Senghas

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes - emailed

Consent Items:

Special Reports: SSU status - Hispanic Serving Institution – M. Benny and S. Johnson
TC 3:10

BUSINESS

1. Faculty Consultation on Budgetary Matters – Second Reading – R. Senghas – attached (*bring your 4/28 agenda*) TC 3:30
2. Revision to Enrollment in Thesis Courses policy – First Reading – attached – L. Watt TC 3:45
3. Request to endorse GMC vision statement – First Reading – attached - R. Senghas TC 4:00
4. Resolution: Call for Respect for Faculty Authority over Curricular Matters – First Reading – attached – C. Nelson TC 4:15
5. Resolution regarding Senate Chambers – First Reading – attached – C. Works TC 4:30
6. Changing of the Guard – TC 4:50

Also, SBS was on the agenda for their end of year report.

It was decided to hear the information about moving to Drupal for websites in the Fall. The Chair will mention this in his report.

The Chair said it had been really great working with everyone and felt a lot of work had been done in the last two years. He thanked the members very much and they thanked him.

Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by L. Holmstrom-Keyes