

Senate Executive Committee Minutes
February 16, 2012
3:00 – 5:00, Academic Affairs Conference room

Abstract

Agenda Approved. Minutes of 2/2/12 approved. Chair Report. Revision to the Philosophy Curriculum approved for consent calendar. Revision to the Anthropology Major approved for consent calendar. Revision to the Sociology Major approved for consent calendar. EPC Report. Revision to the Excellence in Teaching Award policy approved for Senate agenda. Sustainability Structure Recommendation discussed. Provost Report. Vice President of Administration and Finance Report. Senate Agenda approved. Vice President of SAEM Report. CFA Report. FSAC Report. APC Report.

Present: Ben Ford, Margaret Purser, Maria Hess, Brian Wilson, Armand Gilinsky, Kelly Estrada, Richard Senghas, Jennifer Mahdavi, Sam Brannen, Terry Lease, Andrew Rogerson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Andy Merrifield

Absent: John Wingard, Ruben Armiñana

Guests: Paul Ramey, Steve Wilson

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Minutes of 2/2/12 – amended and approved.

Chair Report – B. Ford

B. Ford reported on the Statewide Chairs meeting via conference call. They heard from the Chancellor about the budget situation. The Chancellor gave more information about the tax measures that would be on the ballot and noted that the Governor did not seem to be campaigning for his tax measures. The Chancellor was clearly frustrated with the Governor's office. He commented to the Chairs on past decisions that he had made that were unwise, including the furlough decision, which made the likelihood of furloughs being brought up again slim. The Chancellor was very explicit that he would not try to close campuses. J. Postma reported to the Chairs about the Statewide Senate budget situation and they heard about the Cal State Online initiative as it was to that date. They received an update on SB1440 and noted no campus had requested the American Institution waiver. He reported that there were several campus Presidential searches going on, some appointments without searches and some searches without campus visits. A member asked if Cal State Online would be including programs from other institutions. The Chair said no, he had not heard that. A member asked what the Chancellor thought was unwise about furloughs. The Chair responded that all the Chancellor said was that he would not go down that road again.

Revision to the Philosophy Curriculum – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky introduced the item. He noted that Philosophy had approached EPC in September, but EPC had asked them to re-do their proposal, which resulted in three separate proposals. He discussed the rationale for the changes, which focused on changing from three to four units and reducing the units in the major. **Approved as consent item for the Senate agenda.**

Revision to the Anthropology Major – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky noted that the Anthropology proposal was exemplary. He reviewed the changes to the structure of the major core courses and two new courses. There was some discussion and clarification. The Chair and the Chair of EPC agreed to talk to Academic Programs about whether the proposal could be started in the Fall instead of having to wait a year. **Approved as consent item for the Senate agenda.**

Revision to the Sociology Major – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky introduced the item. There was a change in the required courses and a new course. There were some questions. **Approved as consent item for the Senate agenda.**

EPC Report – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky reported on the upcoming curricular items to EPC. He reported that L. Morimoto was returning with a policy about off campus test proctoring. He said that the Provost would be coming to give EPC an update on Spring 2012 and what was upcoming in the Fall.

Revision to the Excellence in Teaching Award policy – R. Senghas

R. Senghas noted that the calendar dates in the policy needed to be changed due to the change in the Spring calendar. Calendar dates were removed and language was added about when the dates would be set each year. He noted that the two-year pool had been changed back to having the nominations be only for one year. The two -year pool idea had been proposed to save work, but was actually making more work and confusion. **Approved for the Senate agenda.**

Sustainability Structure Recommendation – M. Purser

M. Purser introduced the item. She noted that there had been a Sustainability Workgroup on campus for quite some time and they brought forward the proposal to Structure and Functions. She discussed the two components to the proposal. One was for a Sustainability Director and another for an Executive Board. There was discussion that primarily focused on whether the Director position could be created in light of the current budget constraints. It was noted that this was one of the first requests for a Director to come from faculty governance and some of the questions would be answered in the process. B. Ford provided some background thinking from the Sustainability Workgroup on the proposal. M. Purser offered to raise the

idea in the Senate via the Structure and Functions report to receive feedback from the Senate. B. Ford noted donors were interested in funding sustainability projects on campus.

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson reported that the Deans had volunteered to teach a trial course in the Green Music Center for 1200 students. The subject area might be exponential changes in the last 50 years in education, technology, and social reform. Each Dean would showcase areas from their school. It would be for upper division GE transfer students. The benefits would be that it would do wonders for the student/faculty ratio on campus, it would give the Deans a chance to showcase their schools and connect with the transfer students and there would be dollar savings. He said that he and the Deans have been talking about this since he arrived. He asked how it could move forward. The CFA representative noted that doing this would eliminate 30 sections and that there were pedagogical reasons for upper division GE to not be a 1200 student to 5 faculty ratio. It was suggested that the discussion start in the GE Subcommittee and EPC and that they ask about feasibility and about how it would work as a proposal. The Provost said he heard the concerns and stressed that it would be an experimental course. The Chair offered that if the Provost could convince the faculty that this proposed course would allow other courses to remain at lower enrollment levels and was pedagogically defensible, it would be more accepted. A member asked what the faculty was offering to do in these budget times and what access faculty had to the GMC. The Provost said the scheduling for the GMC was beginning and there would be times for faculty to use it. He discussed his idea for keeping the budget priorities focused on teaching students and offering enough classes so they can graduate and asked for faculty help with that. The Chair reported on the Senate Budget Subcommittee's work towards coming up with faculty generated priorities for the budget reductions. He noted there was a lot of resistance in the faculty about choosing who would be cut among their colleagues and that was how the request for priorities was coming across. He noted that Sacramento State had a faculty committee that was ranking programs across the campus. Humboldt had already done it and it had not gone well for that campus. The Chair offered that on the one hand, faculty could participate in the priority exercises and possibly wield some power or on the other hand, participation could be seen as a collusion with the administration that would do what it wants anyway and then "hang" it on the faculty. The Senate Budget Subcommittee was grappling with these issues and the Chair asked for any suggestions for help. The CFA rep said that the Humboldt experience was devastating and noted that the faculty themselves were "reforming" the curriculum constantly. The Chair said he was frustrated by the "sky is falling" scenario that comes around most years now and that this affected morale in the Spring and made it hard for faculty to focus on why they do what they do. A member argued that whatever happened, lecturers would be let go. The Provost said there were other good reasons for the course besides the saving of money. A member suggested that the course in the GMC should be looked with an eye toward what pedagogical opportunities exist in that space that can't be replicated anywhere or anyway else on campus.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on how he was seeing the campus dealing with the first CSU \$100 million dollar reduction and the SSU deficit that was coming forward from the prior year. He said his plan included a significant amount of managerial reduction and the consolidation of non-academic departments and divisions. The plan was also built on the target being 105% over to take advantage of the increase in tuition, and managed correctly, could be of benefit to the campus. He said this would not be able to be met by July 1 and so one time money would need to be found to bridge that time period. He said the second part of the budget reductions, a possible \$2 million trigger in November, were a much more significant challenge. He didn't think anyone would lose their jobs, but as people retire, managers would want to move people around and that does not work well with human resource practices. In the CRC, he would ask the faculty members to meet with him in a closed session to talk about working through the HR issues in a consultative fashion. He said these would be all managerial changes, not staff changes. He wanted to give a report to the full Senate once that conversation happened. He noted that the opening season for the Green Music Center would be announced on March 9th and that it was a very exciting season. He offered that Jeff Langley or Robert Cole could talk to the Senate about the season and he suggested that the Senate could meet on the GMC stage. He noted the challenge of opening the GMC without having it be a huge financial drain. He said that was tricky. He thought he had most of the season covered, but there were a few holes he needed to fill through donations. A member asked what the difference was in the total of student fees collected from last year to the next year with the fee increase in place and where would that extra money go. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he did not know the figure, but would find out. He said one-third would go to financial aid, another portion would go to mandatory costs, such as health care, and the rest would be applied to the reductions. The Provost noted that the CSU had been cut in the last two years \$650 million and the fee increase over those years only covered half of that and the campus was now faced with another possible \$300 million in reductions to the budget.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Ben Ford
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes – 2/9/12 emailed
Correspondences

Consent Items:

Revision to Philosophy Curriculum – emailed
Revision to Anthropology major – emailed
Revision to Sociology major – emailed

Special Guest: Faculty Trustee Bernadette Cheyne

Information Item: The “Bucks Start Here” campaign

BUSINESS

1. Resolution Regarding the Subsidization of Category II (Local) Student Fees for Low Income Students – Second Reading – S. Cabaniss – attached
2. Academic Calendar Guidelines revision – Second Reading – A. Gilinsky – attached
3. Revision to the Excellence in Teaching Award policy – First Reading – R. Senghas - attached

Approved.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips noted that there was some misinformation going out about the Counseling Center issue. He asked that if there were any questions, people should talk to himself or Lisa Wyatt, the Director of the Counseling Center. He gave an update on the progress of the hiring of the Director of the Multi-Cultural Center.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported on the mediation sessions between the CFA and the CSU. He said the process was going slowly.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that the sabbatical and DIP policies were coming forward and wanted people to understand that they were just bringing these policies into alignment with the CBA, not looking at the criteria for sabbatical. Their next big project was looking at the textbook adoption/instructional materials policy. He noted he had been re-elected as Chair of FSAC for next year.

APC Report – K. Estrada

K. Estrada said that a member of APC had brought forward a resolution that APC did not want to endorse. She asked how the person could still bring the resolution forward. The Chair said that person would have to find someone on the Senate to introduce it, if APC voted it down.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström