

Executive Committee Minutes

February 1, 2007

3:00 – 5:00 Sue Jameson Room

Present: Art Warmoth, Carlos Ayala, Doug Jordan, Catherine Nelson, John Wingard, Eduardo Ochoa, Elaine McDonald, Edie Mendez, Mary Halavais, Elizabeth Stanny, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

Absent: Ruben Armiñana, Elizabeth Martínez, Tim Wandling

Guests: Steve Wilson, Julie Greathouse, Lorna Catford, LeiLani Nishime

Chair Report – E. McDonald-Newman

The Chair asked the Standing Committees to discuss the Access to Excellence draft and report on it at the Senate meeting of February 22.

Minutes of 11/16 & 12/7 – *Approved*.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa passed out a copy of the domains included in the Access to Excellence draft plan that the campus will be discussing on February 22. He said the plan is located at http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/System_Strategic_Planning/AccessToExcellence.shtml. He noted that the lead person on this effort is Gary Reichard, Chief Academic Officer of the CSU. In consultation with the Faculty Chair, the Provost drafted a schedule for the day and he **also** passed a copy of that out. It was suggested that the format of the Spring Convocation might be used during the discussion groups. He said the domains would be the focus of the discussion groups, however, he was underwhelmed by the domains. In talking with other Provosts in the CSU, he found they are exercising plenty of discretion in how to take off on this. It is the first part of a two-year process to develop a strategic plan. The material is not a plan as such. It is just to jumpstart the process. There is plenty of opportunity to change the subject. A first plan will not be developed until all input comes in from the campuses. He encouraged the body to take this opportunity to provide substantial and meaningful input into the process. He stated that he would bring to the CSU planning committee the perspective of the Academic Council, which does not see the issues most campuses **are** dealing with reflected in the current document. He emphasized that the document was developed by staff in the Chancellor's office and reflects interests of the Board of Trustees. A question that has not been asked yet, is what is the linkage between the CSU Strategic plan and campus strategic plans.

Time certain reached.

EMT Hiring – J. Greathouse and L. Catford

J. Greathouse introduced herself as the Coordinator for Student Academic Services and L. Catford introduced herself as a psychology instructor and an instructor in University 102. J. Greathouse said they wanted to address the Senate at some point. The freshman class is growing and next year they will offer 43 freshman seminar sections. It has been difficult to have enough faculty and staff to teach these sections in the past and now

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will be even more difficult. She wanted to get the word out to the faculty about the program and the benefits it offers. It was noted that Freshman Seminar was the cornerstone of the Freshman Interest Groups (FIG), but she was recruiting for the general freshman seminar. The Chair of EPC asked who was teaching these sections now. J. Greathouse replied that some faculty were teaching multiple sections and some sections were taught by professional staff in Student Academic Services. The Chair of EPC asked if non-faculty were teaching courses for academic credit at SSU. J. Greathouse said yes, and explained the qualifications of the professional staff. She explained that previously the freshman seminar was taught by a faculty member and a student services professional, but this was the first year it has been taught by one faculty or one student services professional. Concern was raised about how faculty were being hired, what criteria was being used to hire faculty and what was the status of the steering committee of the freshman seminar.

It was moved that the issue be referred to EPC since the model of the program previously approved by EPC has changed. Second. *Approved.*

L. Catford offered her historical perspective on teaching in the freshman seminar and how the content of the program had changed. She also shared what she has learned from teaching in the program.

Provost Report continued

A member asked if the CSU strategic plan would be pushed on the campuses by the Board of Trustees. The Provost responded that the initiative was started to re-focus on academic quality, but the document as presented does not show that. The Chair said she was disappointed that the entire steering committee was not involved in drafting the document. The Provost said the entire steering committee was too large to draft a document. He noted again that it was useful to see what the other campuses were planning as the message is coming through about quality. Logistical issues about the February 22nd campus event were discussed.

Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status

Manuel Hidalgo from CALS was the only faculty member eligible for emeritus status this Spring. **His name was approved to go on the Senate consent calendar.**

Recommendation for composition for Excellence in Teaching Award committee

L. Holmström requested suggestions for the appropriate faculty to serve on the Excellence in Teaching Award committee. **Maria Hess and Jean Bee Chan were recommended.**

Statewide Senator report – C. Nelson

C. Nelson noted that a written report was attached to the agenda packet and she highlighted various items. First she spoke about two resolutions – 1) Recognition and Support of Faculty Service in Governance and 2) Importance of Settling the Contract between CSU and CFA. She noted that #1 urges campus Senates to review RTP documents to ensure that they encourage participation in shared governance in all stages of academic careers, urges the establishment of awards recognizing

exceptional contributions to academic governance, and urges campus administrators to provide sufficient assigned time to fairly compensate faculty for governance activities. Number 2, she pointed out, calls attention to matters of faculty compensation, workload, and professional growth and urges negotiators for both faculty and administration to use the fact-finding process to reach a reasonable solution without resorting to imposition or job actions. She said that CFA President John Travis helped clarify the situation for some people. If fact finding fails, the administration can impose its last best offer, the current contract or a combination of both. In other matters, Gary Reichard mentioned that the Chancellor has committed the CSU to participate in voluntary system accountability, a process recommended by the American Association of Colleges and Universities. This involves two assessment instruments – the National Survey of Student Engagement and the College Learning Assessment Tool. All campuses are asked to pilot the CLA next year with funding provided for administering it, but no funding for incentives to students to take it. Discussions are on-going about embedding the exam in freshman orientation or capstone courses. C. Nelson said she has some concerns about this without the involvement of the academic folks in the process.

Another matter concerning the budget that she thought the body would want to know about is that the Community College League has qualified an initiative for the first state ballot of 2008, which would be a constitutional amendment, that would reduce Community College Fees from \$21 per unit to \$15 per unit, and require a 2/3 vote of the state legislature to change the fees. The initiative would also guarantee the Community Colleges 10.67% of Proposition 98 funding. The consequence is that the discretionary portion of the state budget would be reduced from 14% to 11% and that is where our money comes from. This would have a huge impact on the CSU. She then spoke about Trustee Actenberg's comments about ACR 78. Trustee Actenberg asked how seriously faculty were taking the planning process. Some Senators reported that their campuses were taking the process very seriously. About seven or eight of the Senators indicated that faculty may not respond in the way Chair Actenberg would like, as low morale, a sense of being disrespected, and heavy workload were leading to cynicism about Board of Trustee initiatives. There were very powerful comments made to Trustee Actenberg. Also, on the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs committee, Karen Yelverton-Zamarripa, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and Institutional Relations, (a lobbyist in Sacramento) reported that there were things with a bigger priority for the CSU than a fee-buyout for students, referring to the Governor's request to raise student fees by 10%. She said what was most important was keeping the Compact whole, the restoration of \$7 million for outreach deleted by the Governor from the CSU's budget request, funds for an additional 1% compensation above Compact levels, and \$25 million above Compact funding to fund student services. As an aside, she thought that the Legislature would make a lot of noise about the fees, but would then turn their heads as the Board of Trustees moved ahead to increase the fees. **C. Nelson asked for her report to be included in the Senate packet. No objection.**

The Provost thought the voluntary system accountability was being recommend by the Association of State Colleges and Universities. C. Nelson said she would correct that.

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Vice President for Administration and Finance report – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

L. Furukawa-Schlereth did not have a report, but asked about giving a report to the Senate on the Foundation. He asked for a date. The Chair said it would be scheduled. The Chair asked about the cost of food on campus going up at Toast. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they have a little task force called Improving Student Satisfaction that Nadir asked them to put together. There had been a lot of complaints about the sandwiches at Toast and so they have changed the ratio of filling to bread, which created a cost increase. A member asked about what was happening with IDC and the benefits that are being charged to grants. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said there is a new cost imposed on self-support functions this year. It is called a pro-rata share of post retirement health care benefits. Everyone around the table is funded by a general fund appropriation for this benefit, which is that if you work five years and retire at 50, you and your significant other are eligible for lifetime medical benefits. It's an extraordinary benefit and probably one of the best we enjoy. But if you are funded from a non-state source, you are still entitled to the benefit, but are not funded by the state. For years many self-support functions paid this post-retirement health care benefit as part of their charge back from the State, and starting in '06-'07 it is being assessed to Grants and Contracts as well. That increased the cost to Grants and Contracts by over \$800,000, which is significant to them. It came at a time when it could not be built into the grants as a cost. They are working with the Chancellor's office to obtain the authority to charge this in grants as a direct cost. He didn't think the outcome of the discussions would be available until later in the semester and so we will have some issues with grants. It works out ok if the IDC is 20%, but if it's lower it's very hard. The Provost said that the post-retirement health benefit would not apply for someone working on the grant that is already covered and working part time. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that was correct and gave an example. He said there are about 400 employees in grants that fall into the unfunded category. A member noted that one of the consequences in the departments is that they cannot count on the IDC money and they are being asked to write in more for grants they are working on now. Why is the IDC money being taken from grants already received? L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that in addition to the pro-rata charges, there are also very substantial disallowances that have been uncovered. The Provost noted that the pro-rata was retroactive to July 1. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said they are in negotiation with the Chancellor's office that this came too late and should be forgiven for this year. It's a complicated issue. However, he is not hopeful. A member noted there is no direct benefit now for faculty to write the grants except for the specific grant program. Faculty write these grants to get the IDC for their Departments and Schools as well. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he thought it will make SSU less competitive. The Provost said we are getting hit harder by this because we have so many people working just on grants. So they are going to shrink the size of CIHS. There are a lot of nuances to this. Eventually, the problem will become smaller.

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APC report – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth said APC reviewed their agenda for the coming semester, such as continuing to support the Strategic Planning process, working with the GE subcommittee on planning and working with the workload study group the Senate set up last semester. Also, he received communication that the data for funding for FYE would come through APC for a recommendation to the Senate. The other issue

that came up was the assessments to the Schools for the Business School accreditation. One concern was the impact on other Schools. Another was the process of how the decision was made, given that other programs undergoing accreditation are under-funded as well. APC wants to invite Dean Robertson to the committee and get information from other Schools on the impacts. So far they only had information from Arts & Humanities, and their assessment is around \$80 – \$90, 000. A member noted the School of Social Science was assessed \$85,000. A. Warmoth also asked for direction from the Executive Committee on how to proceed with this issue. It was suggested that other business faculty be invited to APC. The Provost said that with the School of Business was visited and told in no uncertain terms that they needed to hire more faculty or they wouldn't get accredited. A member suggested APC get the documentation, if it exists, that shows a mandate from the Chancellor's office that all Business Schools will get accredited. The Chair of EPC said that another professional program was also told they needed to have more faculty to retain their accreditation. A. Warmoth asked at what point does accreditation become a priority that sucks up the flexibility of other programs. The Chair noted that she had brought this up previously – how did this become a priority for the campus. A member said there was a bigger issue here about priorities on the campus as a whole. The Business School can't even hire faculty at the salaries they are offering.

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EPC report – M. Halavais

M. Halavais said EPC has not met yet. They have scheduled people from both FYE and EMT to visit them. They have also been talking about the Program Review process, how it is funded and how Program Reviews flow through the university.

FSAC report – C. Ayala

C. Ayala said they will be working on writing the new RTP policy when they meet next week. They have also approved a new charge for the Professional Development Subcommittee that he will send to Structure and Functions.

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SAC report – D. Jordan

D. Jordan said SAC has also not met, but he hopes to finish the Advising policy and the proposed Hearing procedures for student grievances, cheating and plagiarism, and grade appeals this semester.

AMCS curriculum changes – M. Halavais, L. Nishime

M. Halavais said that the lack of a signature sheet was the sole reason this program change did not go forward at the last meeting. She gave an overview of the changes to the program. A suggestion was made in the wording of major and minor requirements. **It was approved to go on the Senate's consent calendar.**

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Resolution endorsing the Statewide Resolution on the Importance of Settling the Contract between CFA and the CSU – C. Nelson

C. Nelson introduced the resolution from the Statewide Senate. She also received a resolution from Monterey Bay on this topic that she liked better. She drafted a new

resolution based on Monterey Bay's resolution. She asked the Executive Committee if it wanted to forward the new resolution to the Senate, or if they preferred to send the Statewide resolution, then she would introduce the new resolution as a substitute at the Senate meeting. She argued for her new resolution. There was considerable discussion about which resolution to put forward from the Executive Committee and whether to include other versions of the resolution in the Senate packet. There was also discussion about the role of Senates in an environment of collective bargaining. **It was moved to send the new resolution to the Senate and include the Statewide resolution attached to the Statewide Senator's report in the packet. Second. Approved.**

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Elaine McDonald-Newman

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes 11/9; 11/30; 12/14 - emailed

AMCS curriculum revision - attachment

Faculty Eligible for Emeritus Status Spring '07:

Manuel Hidalgo, CALS

End of Year Report: Professional Development

☛ Ongoing report: Update on WASC

BUSINESS

1. Sabbatical Policy Revision – Second Reading – C. Ayala – attachment T. C. 3:20
2. Recommendation from EPC re: Unclassified Grad admits – Second Reading – M. Halavais – attachment T.C. 3:45
3. Discussion of impactation and related admissions issues – T. C. 4:05
4. Resolution in Support of the California Faculty Association with the CSU – First Reading – C. Nelson – attachment T. C. 4:30

Approved.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström