

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2013

1. Sharon McComb has joined the health center for one year, funded by a student mental health grant.

- a. Goal of grant is to develop a peer education program, in which students will be trained to do outreach and education. She has data from 2011 survey on what issues are pertinent.

She is recruiting students through Feb. 15; she'd like faculty help recommending students. The program is a "positive peer" model.

- b. Another objective of her position is to train faculty and staff on suicide prevention and awareness. How does one intervene? What resources are available? This is not about teaching faculty to be a mental health professional; it's about getting more people on campus paying attention to warning signs.

- c. Sharon can give presentations during class time, if time is available.

Question: Any special efforts being made for vets coming back from combat? Answer: Vets are very high risk group. She will be making a special presentation to the vets club.

2. Dean Aly took questions on the summer session/federal funding issue.

Q: What will it look like?

A: We are proposing a state funded summer session (cruise, commercial cruise, international experience). Students are registering right now for these classes this summer.

Q: What else will be on summer session schedule?

A: Our recommendation will be to phase in in 2015 a summer session with other classes.

Q: Students are now paying for a new semester? Will total cost change?

A: We attempted to make this cost neutral and FTF neutral for students and the campus, and we succeeded, based on our current estimates. Cruise, int'l experience cost will not change. Co-op and commercial cruise cost will increase; previous cost hadn't changed in 20 years. New policy requires they pay \$1800.

Q: Does this affect FTF (Full-Time Equivalent Faculty)?

A: No. You get paid extra in summer, so this does not affect work load during academic year.

Q: In the future, if we offer classes like Calculus, History, etc., who will administer those courses?

A: Because we are proposing this as a state supported program, so this will not be handled by SPEL.

The Senate Executive Committee will initiate a discussion forum on Moodle on this topic, for any faculty who would like to comment further.

3. Senate Chair gave a short overview of President Cropper's leadership retreat in January.

13 campus members attended, including 3 faculty. It was a brainstorming meeting that was very fruitful. See the notes posted in President's Conference Room.

Another retreat is planned for later this semester.

4. Cynthia Trevisan updated us on the student evaluation front.

The sub-committee has devised 19 questions to be used with a Scantron, based on discussion at the faculty retreat in January. Two student representatives on the Senate Executive Committee reviewed the questions and had no proposed changes.

IT says installation of the system is a breeze.

Comment: I like having this in-house, which gives flexibility in delivery.

Comment: There has been a lot of discussion about the ability to compare ourselves to other institutions. We cannot do that, unless we use the entire bank of Scantron questions. But we can compare internally in many ways. In exchange, we gain a cheaper, more flexible system.

Provost: Whatever faculty want, we're going to support. It sounds like everyone is excited about this system, so I think it's a great step forward.

Comment: I am very excited to be able to assess "odd ball" classes like cruise classes.

Chair: Customizing additional questions will require foresight by individual departments.

Congratulations, the SUMMA is dead!

5. Steve Browne discussed a proposed change of the ASCSU constitution which gives more emphasis to academic freedom. Steve introduced the online copy of the statewide

Senate's constitution, on www.calstate.edu, and noted where the proposed amendment would be inserted (see attachment).

Rationale is to elevate this purpose of the Senate and remind all members of this purpose.

Question: How would this effect development of CSU Online?

A: This amendment would strengthen the Senate's role in addressing academic freedom in that program.

The Senate Executive Committee will post an election on Moodle, to be open for one week. Please vote.

7. Senate Executive Committee election

We must elect a new committee to begin 2-year term in fall 2013.

One "fully open" seat, and four up for re-election (Holden, Strange, Trevisan, Van Hoeck). Look for ballot on Moodle soon.

Meeting adjourned 11:45. Minutes respectfully submitted by Michele Van Hoeck.