

Academic Senate Meeting

February 10, 2011

3:00 – 5:00, Commons

Abstract

Chair Report. Approval of Agenda – approved. Faculty member eligible for emeritus status – Tracey Prince, Athletics – approved. Minutes of 11/18 and 12/9 – approved. President Report. Provost Report. From SDS: Resolution on Creating a Diversity Stakeholder’s Exploratory Committee – First Reading completed. Revisions to the RPT policy – First Reading completed. By-Laws Revision: Change to Article III, Section 2 – Representative Proxies – First Reading completed. Statewide Senator Report. FSAC Report. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. Associated Students Report. EPC Report. Senate Budget Subcommittee Report. SAC Report. Staff Representative Report. Good of the Order.

Present: John Wingard, Ben Ford, Susan Moulton, Maria Hess, Catherine Nelson, Brian Wilson, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Deborah Roberts, Steve Wilson, Helmut Wautischer, Sarah Baker, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Janet Hess, Ed Beebout, Chip McAuley, Mutombo M’Panya, Terry Lease, Tom Buckley, Nick Geist, Sharon Cabaniss, Matty Mookerjee, Michael Cohen, Karin Jaffe, Noel Byrne, Laura Watt, Margaret Purser, Sandra Shand, Marisa Thigpen, Edie Brown, Ruben Armiñana, Saeid Rahimi, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Alex Boyar, Collin Ballard, Nicolas Carjuzza, Dolores Bainter, Kelly Estrada, Elaine Newman, Richard Senghas, Jennifer Mahdavi

Absent: John Sullins, Rick Robison, Don Romesburg, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth,

Proxies: Barbara Lesch McCaffry for Janet Hess (second half of meeting)

Guests: Elaine Sundberg, Melinda Barnard, Michael Santos

Chair Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard welcomed everyone back and announced semester replacements: Collin Yballa for Paul Ramey and Deborah Roberts for Edith Mendez. He reported on the University Retreat. He thought it had gone very well and that the poster session was very well attended. One of the comments made was to have the posters out in the community for Rohnert Park to see what the university is doing and the Mayor of Rohnert Park, Gina Belforte invited the posters to be displayed. They were currently on display at the Community Center. One of the panelists had commented how impressed they were with the posters and were unaware of all the university was doing. He asked that anyone who had attended the retreat to please submit their evaluations to the Senate office. He announced that he would be attending the CSU Senate Chairs meeting the next week. He said he was working with University Affairs and the President’s office to set up a Town Hall meeting on the budget.

Approval of Agenda – approved.

Faculty member eligible for emeritus status – Tracey Prince, Athletics – approved.

Minutes of 11/18 and 12/9 – approved.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported that this year the CSU was close to meeting target. He noted that the current semester may prove to be a rich environment compared to the Fall. He said that next year would be the most challenging year he that he had seen in his 23 years in the CSU. He noted that the CSU system would be cut by \$400 million net. SSU's share of that budget cut would be \$8 million. The enrollment target will be 7400 and thus SSU would be asked to provide services, etc. to the same amount of students with \$8 million less. This reflected what was happening to the entire CSU. He noted the funding level was back to the 1999 level, but with more students. How the campus will handle this was not clear. There would be no additional fee increase. He discussed the various options and directions of thinking. He said it would be a very rough ride and would affect every person on campus and the students coming in. He said there was no plan yet, just broad views. Planning would continue. He noted that the Chancellor's office was talking about the collapsing programs. He said he thought the academic programs at SSU were the right size for the institution. He noted some campuses were thinking of consolidating Schools. He didn't see that happening at SSU. He reiterated that it was an extremely difficult time and that the campus would "muddle through." A member asked about reduction of programs and consolidation and asked if there was a model for such kind of curricular change. The President responded that any change in curriculum would have to come from the faculty. He noted that the processes for that kind of change were not quick and would not reduce the budget within the time frame needed. He said there was no direction from the system. They were given an amount of money and a target to meet. Campuses were free to choose how they would meet those demands of the system. He discussed the rumors of faculty layoffs and said he hoped to never have to use such a brutal weapon.

Provost Report - S. Rahimi

S. Rahimi noted that the magnitude of the cuts required cooperation of the entire university. He provided an update on enrollment saying that the campus was close to target. He updated the body about the faculty workstation refresh program. He offered the floor to Vice Provost Barnard to talk about the Moodle transition. M. Barnard said the transition to Moodle had gone very well. She praised Barbara Butler, Barbara Moore, Martha Ezell and Brett Christie for their work on the transition. She noted that all sections had been pushed to Moodle and provided other statistics about Moodle usage. She noted that J. Wenrick would be back in two weeks to talk about the email migration coming up Feb. 28th. She offered some information about the migration and said that anyone using unique email programs had special steps to take. A member said a CFA report recently reported on management raises in the system and that SSU was among the highest in the CSU. She asked what management might do about the cuts given this information. The President said he was not familiar with the report and would not comment on it. A member said he had done some research on salaries at SSU and searched on those earning more than \$100,000 a year. He noted that only four faculty members earned over \$100,000 a year. He asked if there was any thought or strategy that a reduction in academic activities would be balanced with other activities. The President

responded that the budget cuts would affect everyone in very different ways. The budget reductions would be allocated and adjusted as had been done in the past.

From SDS: Resolution on Creating a Diversity Stakeholder's Exploratory Committee – First Reading – S. Cabaniss and B. Lesch McCaffry

S. Cabaniss gave the floor to B. Lesch McCaffry. B. Lesch McCaffry noted that the resolution was presented at the last Senate meeting of the Fall and reminded the body about the intent of the resolution to deal with gender issues – programming and support for students as well as how to create a sustainable structure for such programming and support. She noted the groups that had been consulted about the resolution. SAC had offered them the feedback that they did not see the reason to create another committee. B. Lesch McCaffry said they wanted to change the name to a workgroup to identify it as having a specific focus and time line. She provided statistics about how many women were on campus, the rate of date rape, the rate of body image issues and self-harm (cutting). Comments were offered about the name of the committee, the membership of the committee, the use of statistics and where they came from, recommendations about other members for the committee, to use numbers of students rather than percentages, that race and cultural differences matter and need to be considered. There was a question about the Office of Civil Rights complaint in the 1990's. B. Lesch McCaffry provided background about that complaint and how it affected the campus procedures for sexual harassment and sexual assault. First Reading completed.

Revisions to the RPT policy – First Reading – R. Senghas

R. Senghas introduced the item and emphasized that the revision was clean up language only, bringing the language into line with the CBA and clarifying ambiguous language. A member brought up a specific point about the criteria for using quantitative and qualitative evaluations. R. Senghas noted how FSAC was thinking of changing the language in that specific section. Other issues were brought up about the RTP policy, but were not germane to the current language change. First Reading completed.

By-Laws Revision: Change to Article III, Section 2 – Representative Proxies – First Reading – B. Ford

B. Ford introduced the item from Structure and Functions and noted it was an attempt to clarify the question of whether representative Senators may ask any faculty member to be their proxy or whether their proxy should come from the body they represent. The by-law change clarified that Senators from Schools, the Library and Student Affairs would need to have a proxy from the body they represent. There was a question about the Senator Lecturer positions. B. Ford responded that Lecturer Senators had a separate section in the by-laws and since [the faculty at-large, not just the lecturers, elected them](#) they could ask anyone to be their proxy. A member noted that "Student Affairs" should say "Student Service Professionals." B. Ford asked for that to come as a separate issue to Structure and Functions. There was a question about the definition of standing proxies. First Reading completed.

Statewide Senator Report – C. Nelson

C. Nelson reported on the recent Statewide Senate meeting and that she had sent out a written report on Senate-Talk. They had various presentations at their meeting and she highlighted a couple that she thought would be of interest. Jim Postma, who was a member of the systemwide task force on Early Start, announced that “bridge” programs would be considered under Early Start if they accomplished the stated goals of Early Start. This provided the faculty with more flexibility than was presented at the beginning of the Early Start initiative. The Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees also spoke at the meeting. She said what stood out from what he said was that he was concerned about students who were under significant financial pressure and how to help them. He also spoke about helping students learn the skills for jobs that don’t even exist yet. He suggested, for example, running competitions for computer science students with a significant prize to help get their ideas to market. B. Wilson noted that the Vice Chair equated creativity with making money. A member asked for C. Nelson’s perspective on the Vice Chair becoming Chair of the Board. She said he did not seem out of the mainstream of BOT thought, but she’d wait and see. A member asked if the Early Start program might end due to the budget cuts. C. Nelson said it was part of the Graduation Initiative, so she doubted it would go away. The Statewide Senate had voiced its objection. There was further discussion of the flexibility of the “bridge” programs in the Early Start initiative.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas announced the award recipients of the Goldstein Scholarship Award – Kathy Charmaz and Anne Goldman. He also announced a workshop that would be put on by the Academic Freedom subcommittee on March 11, from 1-3pm in Schulz 3001.

Chair-Elect Report – B. Ford

B. Ford said that the election for faculty to serve on the Vice Provost Search Committee was concluded prior to the winter break and the faculty elected were: Mike Ezra, Maria Hess, Jennifer Whiles Lillig and Richard Senghas. He announced that nominations were open for faculty governance positions and the Provost Search Committee. He noted some positions did not have any nominations yet and encouraged the members to enlist good candidates.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips welcomed everyone back. He reported that the ACE office now has a career counselor who was deep into organizing the World of Work career fair which would take place on Feb. 24th. He was curious about what the recruiter looked like for the jobs that didn’t exist yet. He noted the success of Black History Month and ASP programming. He said the students were highly engaged in co-curricular activities. A member asked about the status of the Time, Place, Manner policy. M. Lopez-Phillips responded that his understanding that it died in committee. The FSAC chair said there was some follow up going on too.

Associated Students Report – A. Boyar

A. Boyar reported that the ASI had recently partnered with Athletics for an event called “pack the den” with the goal of getting 1000 students to attend the basketball game between SSU and Chico. They reached 1207 students, which was highest turnout for a game so far this season. He discussed the changes to the Student Government structure. He noted that ASI had appointed an Ad Hoc committee on Registration to be an active partner in solving registration issues. A member asked if there was a graduate student senator position. A. Boyar said there was a graduate student senator, but discussed the various issues with filling that position.

EPC Report – E. Newman

E. Newman provided a brief report on the status of the GE reform for areas A & C. She noted that the GE subcommittee had been busy reviewing courses for GE credit and had not finished all of them. She had been signing off on some courses as experimental for the Fall, so that students could take them and get GE credit, but they would still need to be permanently approved as GE courses by the GE subcommittee. She said the Fall catalog would include the old GE pattern, since most students would still be on that pattern, with a note for new freshman to go to a website for their new GE pattern. A member asked if the faculty have been prepared for the change. E. Sundberg discussed an upcoming meeting focused on how to assist advisors and others in making the transition. The member argued that it would be a confusing transition. E. Sundberg noted that because the GE courses were not approved, a list of courses could not go to advisors, so the upcoming meeting would put together the materials needed. There were specific questions about the new GE pattern. A member suggested that the new catalog should be directed to freshman rather than continuing students. It was noted that the catalog deadline had passed and some GE courses had not been approved. So the website link in the catalog was the best solution for the time being. A member noted issues with students who drop FYE mid term and students who were taking GE courses concurrently at the Junior College. A member wondered why the GE change had to be implemented in Fall 2011 and expressed dismay that those GE courses were getting special vetting via experimental status. E. Sundberg responded that the experimental courses would still need to go through the process of approval for GE and would not go in the catalog at this time. She noted there was some overlap, so the meeting she alluded to previously was set up to clarify those issues and get accurate information out the advisors. E. Newman said she had advised A&H to not try to implement in the Fall of 2011, but they were determined to do so. She stated she believed that the Senate had approved that starting date last Spring.

Time certain reached.

Senate Budget Subcommittee Report – M. Santos

M. Santos reported that the SBS decided to report to the Senate more often than in the past. They were planning to invite other committee representatives to the SBS to discuss the current budget situation. He noted his experience getting many emails from students who wanted a course that he teaches and thought that one or more sections could have been opened for that one course. He noted there were similar

concerns in other departments and that SBS argued that dollars spent on classes had a greater return and [was](#) more aligned with the SSU mission.

SAC Report – J. Mahdavi

J. Mahdavi said SAC was circulating a revision to the Class Attendance policy. She was consulting widely about it and eventually the Senate would see it.

Staff Representative Report – D. Bainter

D. Bainter said she had asked for items to bring via the Stafflink listserv, but had no response. She thought staff were too busy to respond.

Return to questions for EPC Report

A member asked if there was a mechanism to delay the implementation of the GE Reform to areas A and C until 2012. E. Newman responded that at this point she did not think the implementation date could be changed and thought that those in the thick of the process should be consulted. A member argued that the project needed more time and more support and asked if the Senate could make a statement asking for administrative and full time faculty support and a change to the time line. The EPC Chair asked for thorough consultation with the A&H Dean, the A&H Director of Curriculum, the Chair of the GE subcommittee and E. Sundberg. E. Sundberg said she thought that freshman would not be that confused and that a GE pattern will be able to be developed. She noted that courses for Area A had been approved. She said the new Area C1 was almost complete. She said Area C3 and C4 were where there were experimental courses and that freshmen usually did not take those courses. She thought the meeting of the various people who have been involved from the beginning would be helpful and if that group saw more issues, then they would go back to the GE Subcommittee and EPC.

Good of the Order

J. Wingard announce the annual Art From the Heart event. A member noted that the La Raza Tour was coming to SSU on March 28th which was a response to the harassment of Hispanics in Arizona. The Associated Students noted the upcoming deadline for applications for AS funding.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega