

THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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February 5, 2018

Members excused: N. Akhavan, A. Alexandrou, Q. Chen, B.
DerMugrdechian, P. Ho, M. Jenkins, M. Raheem, B.
Singh, K. Sun, A. M. Tawfik, G. Thatcher

Members absent: P. Adams, M. Golden, R. Maldonado, B. Ong, J.
Wenger, B. Zante (ASI)

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:03pm in HML 2206.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of January 29, 2018

Friendly amendment from Senator Jones (Communication). Accepted.

Friendly amendment from Senator Sanchez (Chicano and Latin American Studies). Accepted.

MSC approving the Minutes as amended of January 29, 2018.

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Provost Zelezny

Announced that President Castro hopes to share updates from Board of Trustees regarding the budget soon. Reiterated that the upcoming year is likely to be challenging and the CSU will be stretched if no revision takes place to the budget in May.

Announced the following upcoming events:

First Amendment Forum (co-sponsored with ASI)– March 15, 10-11:30 a.m., Theme/speaker TBA

April 19: Student Success Summit (Theme: Intersections of Social Justice and Student Success)

b. Dave Tyckoson and Monica Fusich (Henry Madden Library)

Asked the Senate's assistance getting faculty to attend focus groups to gather opinions about the Library build upon previous survey results. Signup sheets were distributed in the Senate.

Chair Holyoke added that a call for wider faculty participation in the focus groups could be sent to the faculty listserv if desired.

c. Senator Mullooly (Anthropology) announced that the library subcommittee had been reconstituted and a call for service would shortly be distributed.

4.) Consent Calendar

a. APMs 502, 504, 507, 510, 526, and 540

Approved without objection.

5.) New business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

6.) Student Ratings

Chair Holyoke reminded senators that the creation of a task force to support the campus RFP process had been approved during the Senate's last meeting. However, this was part of a divided motion and the Senate would now be considering additional aspects of the previous motion, and the specific charge for the task force that had already been approved.

The proposed charge for a task force to support was shown. Chair Holyoke clarified aspects of the charge and its intention.

Senator Ram (University-wide) proposed two amendments:
First, that the task force will present its draft criteria to the Senate before issuing the RFP. The amendment was seconded. There was no discussion.

The amendment passed unanimously.

Senator Ram then proposed a second amendment adding that the task force may request a proposal from OIE for an in-house option.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) provided a Point of Information that OIE representatives had previously told the Senate that their office does not want to be in charge of the instrument itself. The task force might request OIE develop such an instrument, but the request might be declined.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) spoke against the amendment and told senators that Dean Fu had previously emphasized that OIE is not in charge of the evaluations and is only interested in helping with technical implementation. The senate task force itself must develop the instrument.

Senator Karr (Music) expressed concern over "mission creep" in the task force charge and spoke against the amendment. Senator Karr stated that the task force could work to develop the in-house instrument while the campus went through go through the 3 years of a new contract and test it during that time.

Senator Ram (University-wide) amended her own amendment to clarify its intent and "request input from" OIE so that a separate task force would not be created to explore the in-house option alone.

Senator Karr (Music) observed out that the director of OIE would be a member of the task force and would therefore be aware of its discussions.

Senator Gillewicz moved to change "may" to "will" in Senator Ram's amendment.

The motion was seconded.

The motion failed (13 ayes, 21 noes, 6 abstentions).

The Senate returned to the motion to add Senator Ram's proposed sentence to the task force charge.

The motion failed to pass in a voice vote (3 abstentions)

The Senate returned to consider the charge as a whole.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) asked to strike "Interim" from the Director of OIE's title.

The motion was seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) proposed an amendment specifying that the task force would have diverse representation from across the campus.

The motion was seconded.

The motion passed (1 abstention)

The Senate returned to again consider the charge as a whole.

The Senate approved the task force charge (1 nay, no abstentions).

The Senate returned to the second half of Senator Kensinger's original motion: "To create another task force to guide OIE on developing an internal option"

Senator Karr (Music) made a friendly amendment to the motion. Senator Hensen (English) made a series amendments to the proposed charge, all of which were considered friendly.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) amended the proposed charge to add a timeline for the task force to complete its work. Senator Ram (University-wide) changed removed Interim from the Director of OIE's title. The amendment was considered friendly.

All amendments made to the charge thus far were called to a vote.

The amendments passed (1 nay, no abstentions).

Senator Karr (Music) argued that the proposed task force should not start until general guidelines are developed by previous task force.

A series of additional amendments were offered and unanimously approved.

Senator Ram (University-wide) reminded senators that getting sufficient faculty to serve on the previously approved committee and the committee being proposed now would be difficult. Asking for specialists in student ratings to serve on both could present workload issues.

Senator Gillewicz (English) asked whether release time would be granted to faculty serving on the task force. Chair Holyoke replied that this would be up to the provost.

Senator Karr (Music) stated that this would be a difficult task force to serve on and suggested delaying its start until the previous task force had reported its findings.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) proposed making both tenured and tenure track faculty eligible to serve on the task force and proposed an amendment to that end.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) argued that lecturers should also be eligible to serve on the task force.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) stated that the amendment limited the task force's composition to tenured and tenure track only was for consistency with the previous document.

Senator Ram moved to strike "tenured/tenure track faculty" from the second bullet point of the motion.

Senator Karr (Music) stated the specialists could also represent their colleges so there might be overlap. Committee could also add ad hoc members.

Senator Waldman (Theatre) spoke in favor of striking the language in light of the concern over finding the right number of faculty members.

Senator Cady (History) argued that allowing adjuncts on the task force might open the door to a conflict of interest and argued against bringing in part-timers.

The previous motion to add tenured/tenure track to the task force composition passed (no abstentions).

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) proposed an amendment to add a full-time lecturer to the committee.

The motion was seconded.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) asked whether the lecturer would need to be paid for their time if they joined the committee.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) asked the Provost for clarification on the pay issue.

The Provost stated that this would have to be taken back to Academic Affairs.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked whether payment would be required, or whether the lecturer could volunteer their time for the committee.

The Provost stated that a lecturer could potentially volunteer for the task force if they signed a volunteer form.

Senator Karr (Music) asked whether the task force could be empowered if no lecturer volunteered to serve. Chair Holyoke stated that this would be left to the Executive Committee.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) stated that she would prefer people with specific student ratings expertise to serve on the task force, and spoke against the motion.

Senator Delich (Social Work Education) asked whether it would be possible to ask whether the person had any expertise in student evaluations. Chair Holyoke stated that this would have to be written in to the Call for Service.

Senator Ram (University-wide) stated that both lecturers and tenure track faculty would be affected in similar ways and questioned whether it was necessary to add the lecturer to the committee.

The motion to add a full-time lecturer to the task force was called to a vote.

The motion tied in a hand vote and therefore failed (16 ays, 16 nays, 4 abstentions).

Senator Gillewicz (English) amended the first bullet point to read “online delivery of student evaluations”.

The motion was seconded.

Senator Bryant (University-wide) stated that there were wider concerns about taking things in house, not just the introduction of online student ratings.

The amendment to bullet one was called to a vote.
The motion failed in a voice vote (1 abstention).

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) added “and online evaluations” to the first bullet point and struck “the concerns of”. Senator Delich (Social Work Education) made a friendly amendment to change the bullet point to specify “student evaluations”

The motion was seconded.
The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Ram (University-wide) made an amendment to add language about the task force only meeting after the RFP process had been developed.

Senator Hensen (English) spoke against the amendment and said that the task force would have a great deal of work ahead of it. The senator argued there would be work to be done before the RFP process had completed.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) agreed with Senator Hensen and stated that the contract for IDEA has already been extended for a year, and therefore waiting for the RFP to complete would be too late.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) agreed and stated that waiting for the RFP process to conclude would be an unnecessary delay to the task force's work.

Senator Karr (Music) expressed concern about two committees working along such similar lines simultaneously.

Senator Kensinger spoke against the motion again and stated that there was much work for the committee to do, even before the RFP process was fully completed.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) asked whether there was other language related to the APM that should be added to the charge.

Time was called and further discussion postponed to the next Senate meeting.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:21pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, February 26, 2018.

Submitted by
Bradley Hart
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by
Thomas Holyoke
Chair
Academic Senate