

THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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(AS-8)

January 30, 2017

Members excused: I. Basurto, N. Delich, P. Sanmartin, J. Smith-Warshaw, A.M. Tawfik

Members absent: A. Canton, L. Cornelio, S. Fulop, J. Giglio, M. Golden, R. Hall, A. Hammons, M. Raheem, B. Singh, J. Therkelsen, L. Toren-Immerman

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 4:06pm in HML 2206.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of December 5, 2016

MSC approving the Minutes of December 5, 2016

3.) Communications and announcements

a. President Castro

Announced that he has signed a letter opposing the recent executive order from President Trump regarding immigration and travel restrictions. The letter was also signed by Chancellor White and the other twenty-two CSU presidents. President Castro noted that we have 15 students who come from the seven countries where travel to the U.S. has been banned, as well as some faculty and staff. Interim AVP for International Affairs Lam is working with them. We also have 21 students studying abroad right now and Dean Moore (CGE) is working to make sure they can get back

into the country. The Academic Senate applauded President Castro for his efforts.

President Castro noted that so far there has been no executive order from the White House regarding DACA students, but there have been lots of rumors of new orders that might come out in the near future. Governor relations executive director, Larry Salinas, has been in contact with the local congressional delegation, especially Congressman Costa, expressing our concerns about this. President Castro has signed a letter with university presidents all around the country to President Trump opposing any effort to deport DACA students. He also had a long phone call with Congressman Nunes about it, noting that Nunes was surprised to hear that Fresno State has about 1,000 students protected by the DACA program.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) thanked President Castro. She then asked about providing housing for students unable to travel home over break. She also noted that we need to think about how travel restrictions might impact university research. President Castro responded that these matters are being looked at. Senator Kensinger also noted the recent resolution from the College of Social Sciences (copies of which were handed out to the Academic Senate) which called on President Castro to declare Fresno State a sanctuary campus. She also urged the other colleges to pass similar resolutions. President Castro indicated that a response from himself and Chancellor White to the COSS resolution will be coming very soon.

Chair Ayotte thanked the president and the cabinet for all of the hard work they have done recently on the campus to protect students, staff, and faculty.

b. Provost Zelezny

Emphasized that no faculty search should be changed in any way, or any candidate given more or less consideration, because of President Trump's executive orders. She noted that if candidates cannot come to the United States for interviews, using Skype will be acceptable. Senator Forgacs (Mathematics) asked if it would be fine to use Skype in a situation where a candidate was not on the

banned nations list, but new delays in getting a visa were creating problems. The Provost supported that idea.

The Provost announced that the reorganization of the Education Testing Center is underway and is being led by Associate Dean Bernadette Muscat (COSS). By the end of the semester there should be a new policy regarding use of the Center.

Noted that Fresno State is finalizing its response to the Statewide Senate's report on possible changes to quantitative reasoning standards. If anybody has any final concerns, they need to send them to the Provost ASAP because the deadline is this Friday.

The Provost noted that changes in the classification of graduate teaching assistants is underway and is being handled by Associate Dean Mitzi Lowe (CHHS).

Reminded the Academic Senate that on February 27 staff from the California Department of Finance will be on campus asking us about our four-year graduation rate. We should tell them good stories about our work.

On February 28 will be our Student Success Summit. Dr. Laura Rendon from the University of Texas, San Antonio, will be the keynote speaker, talking about cultural competency in our curriculum.

c. Senator Benavides and Senator Schlievert - Statewide Senate Report

Noted a few resolutions that were recently adopted by the Statewide Academic Senate:

- Support for a new policy on academic freedom modeled after the policy of the American Association of University Professors.
- Opposition to the proposed student tuition increase.
- Support for the recent letter sent by the leaders of California's three higher education systems to President Trump regarding the protection of DACA.

- Opposition to the nomination of Betsy DeVos to be the U.S. Secretary of Education
- In support of greater tenure density and the hiring of more tenure track professors
- Support of DACA students in the CSU and for resources to be made available to them if the program is eliminated.
- For each campus to adopt and implement a lactation resource policy.

Senator Benavides noted that he will be retiring from the Statewide Senate at the end of this semester and strongly encouraged somebody else to run for the position. Senator Schlievert asked for anybody with fun stories about Senator Benavides to send them to her for his farewell meeting.

d. Larry Salinas – Executive Director of Government Relations

Discussed recent comments by Assemblyman Arambula in the *Fresno Bee* that he will be trying to have a medical school established at Fresno State. While UC Merced has apparently stopped trying to open one, Fresno State is still not legally permitted to establish a medical school. He and President Castro explained this to the assemblyman, but he is going forward with his bill anyway. While the assemblyman has introduced a bill to establish the school, Mr. Salinas noted that very few bills make it all of the way through the state legislative process.

He also noted that many Republican Party members in Congress are very upset with President Trump at the moment regarding the recent executive orders on immigration because he never consulted them.

Senator Kensinger (Women's Studies) asked about the possibility of greater funding in the state budget for the CSU. Mr. Salinas answered that it depends on whether revenue collected by the state exceeds the governor's forecast, which we will know in April.

e. CIO Leon and Brad Barker (Technology Services)

The target date for Zimbra to be replaced by Google Gmail is March 27, though there will be an opportunity for faculty to be early adopters and make the switch on February 27.

So far work on the transition is going well. The consultants are very helpful. There will be training for faculty and staff on how to use Gmail. Email extensions will not change, though faculty can choose between the @csufresno.edu and @mail.fresnostate.edu extensions.

Senator Müller (Biology) asked what faculty could do to prepare themselves for an easy transmission. Mr. Barker noted that it is true that Zimbra and Gmail are not entirely compatible, especially when it comes to folders (Gmail uses labels instead). However, there will be no limits on the number of emails that will be transferred over, though older email may not transfer on March 27.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) asked if Box.com will also be going away since Google has a similar feature. Currently there is no plan to get rid of Box, but it could be discussed in the future.

Senator Benavides (Statewide Senate) asked how much of the Zimbra calendar will transfer. All future calendar entries will transfer, but past entries will only be saved back to January of 2016.

Chair Ayotte asked that CIO Leon work closely with AVP Sanchez (Faculty Affairs) to make sure that calendar dates and emails related to probationary faculty and their review process be preserved.

4.) Installation of new senators

Christopher Sullivan – Department of Sociology

Sara Shinn – Department of Food Science and Nutrition

5.) Consent calendar

a. APM 241 Policy on Course Syllabi and Grading

The consent calendar was passed without objection.

6.) New business

Senator Henson (English) introduced a resolution opposing the recent Executive Order of President Trump banning travel from select countries by refugees, immigrants, and visa holders.

MSC adding the resolution to the agenda as new item #7 and re-ordering the rest of the agenda accordingly.

7.) Resolution opposing President Trump's Executive Order regarding travel

Senator Garcia (Nursing) asked if it was necessary for us to do this since President Castro had already signed a public letter opposing it. Senator Henson (English) responded that it was because it shows students and the community that we the faculty also oppose the new executive order and support President Castro.

MSC an amendment expanding the second Resolved in the resolution.

MSC expanding the distribution list for the resolution to local U.S. elected officials and the *Fresno Bee*.

MSC further expanding the distribution list to include the President of the United States.

MSC waiving second reading.

MSC adopting the resolution. The vote to adopt passed unanimously.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:22pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, February 13, 2017.

Submitted by
Thomas Holyoke
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by
Kevin Ayotte
Chair
Academic Senate