

Academic Senate Minutes

September 1, 2005

Commons 3:00 – 5:00

Abstract

Chair Report. Agenda approved. Minutes approved. Faculty eligible for Emeritus Status Fall 2005 approved. End of Year reports for Senate, FSSP, Academic Advising, Student Affairs submitted as information items. Ongoing report: Update on WASC. Presentation: Crash Course on Robert's Rules. Elizabeth Martinez and John Wingard elected to Executive Committee. President report. Provost report. First reading of Periodic Review of University Administrators. Vice President of Administration and Finance report. Executive Vice President of Associated Students report. Chair-Elect report. Statewide Senate report. EPC report. SAC report. Group photo.

Present: Elizabeth Stanny, Catherine Nelson, Perry Marker, Bruce Peterson, John Wingard, Wanda Boda, Carolyn Epple, Melanie Dreisbach, Melinda Milligan, Rick Luttmann, Murali Pillai, Steve Wilson, Elizabeth Martinez, Birch Moonwoman, Edith Mendez, Tia Watts, Marguerite St. Germain, Sam Brannen, Greg Tichava, Liz Thach, Doug Jordan, Carlos Ayala, Raye Lynn Thomas, John Kornfeld, Sandra Shand, Myrna Goodman, Ruben Arminaña, Eduardo Ochoa, Noel Byrne, Robert McNamara, Glenn Brassington, Bob Vieth, Lindsey Simoncic, Richard Whitkus, Theresa Alfaro-Velcamp, Michael Pinkston

Absent: Kristen Daley

Guests: Dan Condron, Elaine Sundberg, Rose Bruce, Carol Blackshire-Belay, Steve (?)

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Elizabeth Stanny

E. Stanny introduced new members to the Senate, noted returning people in new roles and introduced replacement Senators for this year. The Chair said that the WASC draft portfolio is up on the website and asked the committees to review it and submit comments. (http://www.sonoma.edu/aa/portfolio/institutional_draft.html). She also said that the University Strategic Planning committee has a document up on the web now for community feedback. (<http://www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/strategicplan/>). She advised the body that the Senate will have a report on the Green Music Center at the third meeting of the semester.

Correspondences: None

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda – Approved

Approval of Minutes - 5/26/05 emailed – Approved

Faculty eligible for Emeritus Status Fall 2005 – attachment – Approved.

Information Items: End of Year reports from Senate, FSSP, Academic Advising, Student Affairs

Endowed Chair policy and Academic Freedom Statement needed to be added to the End of Year Report for the Senate.

A Senator asked about the statement in the Academic Advising report stating that no one seems to follow the policy. He asked if the committee knows why this is. The item was deferred to the end of the meeting, if there was time.

☛ Ongoing report: Update on WASC

E. Ochoa reiterated that the draft institutional proposal for WASC is on the web and ready for comment. Comments are due by the 15th of September. E. Sundberg passed out a handout regarding the WASC proposal.

BUSINESS

Presentation: Crash Course on Robert's Rules

A PowerPoint presentation was shown on the basics of Roberts Rules – “A Crash Course in Robert’s Rules.”

Discussion followed the presentation:

The Chair noted that various privileges of the Chair she might use for limiting or directing discussion. Comment was requested on “friendly” amendments. The Chair responded that there aren’t “friendly amendments” in Roberts Rules and asked the body if they wish to make an amendment previously considered “friendly” to just make a formal amendment. She also noted that when a member has the floor they cannot yield the floor to another. It was asked if a person needed to be recognized to call the question and the answer was yes. It was asked if a person could call the question after making a comment. The parliamentarian responded no. It was asked if the Senate was now formally using Robert’s Rules of Order since the Senate has other local traditions too. The Chair responded that in our By-Laws it states we will use Robert’s Rules. It was clarified that the rule for two readings is in our by-laws.

Election of Senators to Executive Committee – E. McDonald

The following people were nominated to the Executive Committee for 05-06:

Robert Train, John Wingard, Rick Luttmann, Elizabeth Martinez, and Tia Watts

After secret voting, Elizabeth Martinez and John Wingard were elected. The following reports were given as the vote was counted.

REPORTS

President of the University - (R. Arminaña)

The President reported that on Tuesday the Assembly passed the bill allowing for the Education Joint Doctorate in the CSU. It has gone to the Senate and may be approved in the next few days.

A Senator asked about the faculty housing development.

The President responded that the land has been purchased. There will be a report here sometime. The master plan development is beginning and that will take about a year.

A Senator asked when the procedures / rules for the faculty housing development will be available.

The President responded that the committee has already been working on that and should be available soon.

Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs - (E. Ochoa)

E. Ochoa gave status updates on the University Strategic planning process, the 22 points for Facilitating Graduation project from the Board of Trustees, the Green Music Center, and the nature of the SSU Baccalaureate. Progress has been made in the Grants and Contracts area.

The Provost was asked what the Senate committees' role would be in the 22 points.

The Provost responded that would depend on the specific points. Comments could be brought to the Senate when the status of the 22 points is brought forward.

A Senator asked about the 22 points calling for reduction in the 120 units, asked for clarification about the freshman enrollment this summer, and the implications of the GE reform in terms of cost.

The Provost responded that the B.S. and B.F.A exceed the 120 units on our campus, so it wouldn't be a major issue for our campus. He did not think there were long run implications regarding this year's admission. What was a parameter before is now a variable and we need to do a better job. The yield is sensitive to where we set the bar and we also need to watch what is happening with the UC. He said the GE reform question was hard to answer concretely. The pilot was being further refined and the discussion about the nature of the SSU baccalaureate will have implications on the direction of GE reform.

A Senator reported that the School of Science and Technology re-organized during the summer into clusters and he wondered if this was something that needed to go through the Senate and if there would be Associate Deans for the Clusters, etc.

The Provost said that Dean Rahimi would be best to answer the question, but his take on it was that it appeared to be a way to highlight natural affinities in the school that could provide a theme for interdepartmental cooperation. He didn't see any staffing implications.

A Senator noted that in the admission process in EOP they found that there was a \$3000 gap between financial aid and the actual costs of attending our institution.

The Provost said that the comment was duly noted.

A Senator asked can we take the 22 points and create more quality on this campus or is this just the Chancellor's office way of having larger numbers and just grinding out students.

The Provost noted that the Board of Trustees have embraced the 22 points with open arms. He thought the Senator was correct that it was focusing on throughput and not quality. There is a concern in the CSU Academic Council that the issue of quality needs to be brought on the radar of the Board of Trustees. We have already pressed a resolution on a gap in funding for academic technology and made a proposal for a systemwide technology fee, but it was rejected. But the validity of the analysis of the shortfall was accepted and they are looking for ways to address it.

Return to Business

Periodic Review of Administrators – First Reading – E. McDonald

E. McDonald reviewed the rationale for and changes to the policy.

A Senator asked how the questionnaire form for the administrators equates to the SETE that faculty receive from students. Who would fill out these questionnaires? Also, the SETE's are anonymous and the questionnaire proposed in the policy has to be signed.

E. Stanny responded that the policy does give guidelines about who should minimally fill out questionnaires and it would be up to the committee to decide if a questionnaire would go to more.

E. McDonald responded that the questionnaire is like the SETE in that there are a series of questions answered by checking a box, but there is a space for written comments and if someone writes written comments those have to be signed. It is different than the SETE in that way.

The Senator asked if there was any case law that it shouldn't be that way. E. Stanny responded that that was a good question that was never answered.

A Senator asked if administrators were dropped from the policy.

E. Stanny responded that the decision about who would or not be reviewed was not based on who had been reviewed because no one had been reviewed.

It was clarified that all MPP's are evaluated on a yearly basis. This policy is in addition to that.

It was suggested that the old policy be presented with the new one at the next Senate.

Clarification was offered regarding who administers the reviews.

A Senator noted that there was no enforcement in the policy and asked for assurance that the policy would be followed.

E. Stanny responded that as with all policies on campus, it is assumed they will be followed.

A suggestion was made to make it a condition of employment to be reviewed in this policy. The President noted that the Senate did not have the authority to put that in the policy. He also said that it is a policy that is expected to be followed. He said the policy has been used, but not consistently.

The Provost said that if the policy is passed and signed by the President, then it would be expected to be followed and if not followed would be reflected adversely on the administrator that did not follow it.

First reading completed.

Vice President/Admin. and Finance - (L. Furukawa-Schlereth)

L. Furukawa-Schlereth had three items for the Senate. He reported that he will take the GMC report to the President's Budget Advisory Committee first, before it comes to the Senate to follow normal protocol. He noted that Dining Services is being re-staffed and he asked for people's patience as the new students come up to speed. They are also having trouble filling all their positions. The student employees asked to put contribution cups at the dining venues for the victims of hurricane Katrina and the President has approved it. He said the Environmental Impact Report for Rohnert Park's University District is out and available for public comment. President Arminaña will be responding for the campus as a whole. One of our comments is that there continues to be a lack of affordable housing for our students. The URL is <http://www.ci.rohnert-park.ca.us/cityhall/specifcplans.cfm>.

It was suggested that the University's response be posted on the campus website.

A Senator asked if we made any money on the Eagles concert.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth responded that it was a huge undertaking for Sonoma State. 140 people volunteered. Money was made in the following areas: The Department of Athletics made \$10,000 for leasing of the soccer field, Parking generated \$18-22,000 after expenses; Food and Beverage grossed \$94,000 and after expenses netted approximately \$30,000. The tips collected were over \$1600. The staff were magnificent in how they executed the event.

A Senator asked about the traffic congestion on Rohnert Park Expressway when they build the new University district.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth responded that they were recommending that the President recommend to the city of Rohnert Park to put a traffic light at the intersection of the north entrance of campus and the expressway.

A Senator asked about how much we got out of the endowment this year.

L. Furukawa-Schlereth responded that it was approximately \$900,000. He noted that it was three times the amount last year and elaborated on the reasons.

The Senator asked for the percentage. L. Furukawa-Schlereth responded the payout was about 4.5% and the overall was about 8%.

Executive Vice President of Associated Students – (L. Simoncic)

L. Simoncic reported that the Associated Students had their first Senate meeting and are working to get students on all the committees

Chair-Elect of the Senate - (E. McDonald)

E. McDonald reminded the body that calls have gone out for nominations for various committee service. She reviewed the calls and their deadlines. Send all nominations to E. McDonald. Structure and Functions is close to reporting the Senate Self Study to the Senate and is working on the Faculty Consultation in Budgetary Matter policy. They are also considering passages in the by-laws concerning voting rights of liaisons, etc.

Statewide Senators - (R. McNamara, C. Nelson)

R. McNamara reported that the new Faculty Trustee of the Board of Trustees is Craig Smith from CSU Long Beach. His first report is up on the Statewide website:

http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty_Trustee/index.shtml

EPC report

P. Marker reported that EPC met for the first time. The highlight of the meeting was talking to the new FYE program coordinator, Dr. Von Meier. She will come to EPC to share the progress of the pilot.

FSAC report

No report

SAC report

D. Jordan reported that SAC has met and discussed the advising survey. They will be tabulating the results and bringing a report to the Senate.

Group Photo

Senate Fall 2005



Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmstrom