

Academic Senate Executive Committee
November 3, 2011
3:00- 5:00, Academic Affairs Conference Room

Abstract

Agenda amended and approved. Minutes of 10/20/11 approved. Correspondence received by the Chair. Report on Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative. Chair Report. CFA Report. Online Learning Policy referred to APC. Provost Report. MOU with Extended Education referred to APC. Disruptive Student Behavior Policy referred back to SAC. Priority Registration Policy revision approved for Senate agenda. Structure and Functions Report. Vice-President of SAEM Report. FSAC Report. EPC Report. Associated Students Report. Senate agenda approved.

Present: Andy Merrifield, John Wingard, Richard Senghas, Margaret Purser, Deborah Roberts, Ben Ford, Sam Brannen, Jennifer Mahdavi, Armand Gilinsky, Andrew Rogerson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Terry Lease, Ruben Armiñana

Absent: Brian Wilson, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Kelly Estrada

Guests: Steve Wilson, Paul Ramey, Barbara Butler

Approval of Agenda – Priority Registration policy revision added. Approved.

Minutes of 10/20/11 – amended and approved.

Correspondence

The Chair mentioned that he received a resolution from CSU San Bernardino calling for the suspension of the CSU Online Initiative because there had not been enough consultation with faculty. He asked for advice about whether a response from the faculty was needed or not from SSU and which committee might want to take it up. **It was referred to APC.** He also reported that he was trying to schedule a time for the Faculty Trustee to visit the campus and recently learned that the Faculty Trustee would be traveling with a non-faculty Trustee. He thought this would happen in the Spring.

Report on Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative – B. Butler

The Chair introduced the item saying that this item was a systemwide initiative. B. Butler passed out print out of a webpage of the CSU (<http://als.csuprojects.org/>) and told the committee that the initiative was begun to help the CSU think about the high cost of textbooks and campuses were encouraged to do likewise, but in their own time and in their own way. She said the initiative was evolutionary. The Chair said individual faculty had been working on this issue and he hoped a conversation at the Executive Committee could help systemize it more. B. Butler passed out a mock up of a webpage for SSU on this initiative. The Chair thought the initiative would not go anywhere unless faculty adopted the approach. A member voiced

concern about the extra work requirements for faculty to find less expensive textbooks or resources. B. Butler said she thought this was a very good opportunity for faculty development and that the Library could offer workshops about where to find the materials and take some of that load off the faculty. She noted in some cases, there wouldn't be any substitutes for a textbook and the resources wouldn't be one type of material. A member voiced support for the initiative and argued to make it specific to SSU. B. Butler noted that Open Education Resources (OER) were expanding rapidly and she thought part of the faculty development portion would be to keep faculty current. A member thought approaching it from a social justice perspective might help with buy-in. The issue of vetting educational resources was raised. The Chair of EPC thought perhaps an ad-hoc committee could be convened to look at all the issues. B. Butler thought it would be good to bring the issue to the Professional Development Subcommittee and the Executive Committee agreed.

Chair Report – B. Ford

B. Ford reported that J. Kornfeld and L. Heffernon were re-thinking registration at freshman orientation. J. Kornfeld was working with a lot of faculty ramping up transition courses for freshman, so that most freshman could have a transition experience, either a series of linked courses, FYE or a FIG. They were also working on a plan for students to pair one of those experience with a GE course and have that decided before orientation. He noted that faculty from the Academic Advising subcommittee, the GE subcommittee, EPC and himself would be meeting with J. Kornfeld and L. Heffernon to hash all the details out. He would report on it again after that meeting.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported that CFA and the CSU were in the 17th month of bargaining. CFA was not intending to go to impasse as they had done in the previous bargaining period which lasted 13 months. He said they had reached tentative agreement on 13 articles. They had reached tentative agreement on the non-discrimination article which expanded the protected categories. He said the CSU would still not talk about workload, online education, transferring faculty work, wages and benefits. They had agreed not to go into so much detail with the reports coming out from the bargaining process and CFA asked the CSU to tone the acrimony. He said they were still trying to work things out at the bargaining table, but the climate around bargaining was challenging. He noted that informational picketing that would be happening on Nov. 8th from 7:30 – 9:45am in the front of campus. He said an announcement would be made on Monday about the concerted actions being planned for Dominguez Hills and CSU East Bay and what they might look like. A member asked about the state workers pension reform that was being talked about in the media and if that would affect the CSU. A. Merrifield responded that for the first time the CSU was asking to open benefits to bargaining next year and that this was usually set by PERS. He thought they would propose to roll back benefits or have faculty pay more for them. The proposal put forth by the Governor would only affect people hired after January 1, 2011. He said that the only way PERS would go away would be if the State declared bankruptcy which was unlikely. So the proposal would not affect current employees. CFA was concerned about the

CSU wanting to reopen on benefits and thought it would be more about health care costs. The President said the CSU does not have the legal authority to change the benefits.

Online Learning Policy – B. Ford

B. Ford said an online learning policy had come up at the last ACT meeting and that the campus needed to develop one. The Co-Chair of APC volunteered to take the lead on the online learning policy and that this would weave together the CSU Online initiative and the MOU for Extended Education. A member suggested having the governance committees work together at the beginning of the process. The Chair noted that other campus policies were available and that he didn't think it should be conflated with CSU Online or the MOU for Extended Education. A member questioned why the campus needed an online education policy. It was noted that SSU was one of the few CSUs that did not have a policy about what the faculty believed online education to be and what it was not. The Chair noted there was a long history of documents about CS codes and what classroom instruction looks like, but none of that fit the online world. He was concerned about using 15 hours of work for one credit when that meant 15 hours of classroom time. It was clarified that some of the concern about online education had to do with workload. **The committee approved sending the policy creation task to APC.**

Provost Report – A. Rogerson

A. Rogerson said that the Provosts had a phone meeting recently and it was clarified that the target would be the same as the current year and campuses would be allowed to go 5% over target. Campuses would be penalized if the campus did not make target. He said campuses would have to return fees for anything over 103% annualized. A member asked what the number was un-annualized for the Fall. The Provost responded that for Fall the campus was at 107.5%. He reported also from the Provost's meeting that many campuses could not even make the trigger and were hurting financially. A member asked that the need of some departments for contract courses be considered in strategies for reducing enrollment. The Provost said the strategy so far was to limit the enrollment of transfer students, and the first enrollment for all students would be capped at 9, then 12, then 12 and in open enrollment 16. They would keep that until they heard a lot of student complaints and would make exceptions for graduating seniors. He said they thought if they kept the unit load to 13 or so, they could make target. A member noted that the 16 unit cap did not take into account 3 unit courses and encouraged the cap to go higher. The Provost said they looked at the data and last year 1000 students were taking 17 units or more and a lot of them were undeclared. They thought undeclared students did not need to be taking such a high unit load. He said they would do their best and keep in mind not having to return fees. A member asked about the new EO order about internships and field courses.

MOU with Extended Education – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky said EPC had meet with Dean Merickel and had subsequently discussed the issue with APC and thought APC could take the MOU under advisement with

respect to establishing true cross campus collaboration with campus departments and experts in Extended Education to establish a policy that goes beyond the two pages of policy in the Extended Education handbook. EPC also invited the Graduate Studies Subcommittee to be involved. The CFA rep reminded EPC of the CBA of CFA and thought that needed to be taken into consideration. **No objections to referring the MOU with Extended Education to APC.**

Disruptive Student Behavior Policy – J. Mahdavi

J. Mahdavi noted that a newer version had been passed out at the beginning of the meeting. She said there had been problems in the past with students being kicked out of classes and denied their right to the class and problems with disruptive behavior not being addressed in a timely manner by faculty. The policy was created to deal with both issues. A member asked about students with disabilities and J. Mahdavi said students with disabilities were held to the same standard. There was more discussion on this topic. It was clarified that faculty would need training about how to deal with disruptive behavior and the policy would help necessitate that. There was substantial discussion about specifics of the policy and whether it should be on the Senate agenda. **Motion to add to the item to the Senate agenda. Second.** There was concern that the policy be “cleaned up” more based on the Ex Com conversation and **the mover withdrew the motion.**

Priority Registration Policy revision – J. Mahdavi

J. Mahdavi said that the Registrar came to SAC to let them know that there were two new categories in the Education code for priority registration. The changes made to the policy brought it in to alignment with Education code. They also corrected the name of the Disability Services for Students office. She noted the two new categories were veterans within two years of active duty and foster children up to a specific age. There were some questions. **Approved for the Senate agenda.**

Structure and Functions Report – B. Ford

B. Ford reported on the recent election results: Jim Robison, Lecturer Senator; Jenny Bent for APC, Sam Brannen and Bruce Berkowitz for SDS. He discussed the proposal for a Sustainability structure that S&F reviewed and sent back to the makers for some revision. They also discussed when to hold the Constitutional vote for the change in the Chair structure and would have a recommendation soon.

Vice-President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips said they were interviewing candidates for the Career Counseling position and applications were coming in for the Director of the Multi-Cultural Center. There was further discussion about changing how freshman students enroll for classes.

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported that FSAC was working with M. Barnard on a document describing guidelines for faculty responses to harassment. He said it would be coming out to the faculty soon. He noted there were some people who were confidential and some who are not and that this had been very problematic. FSAC was talking to URTP about the revision to the Sabbatical policy. He said they had looked at the flow of sabbaticals/DIP and now they were looking at the criteria for ranking. He asked for feedback on the Sabbatical policy.

EPC Report – A. Gilinsky

A. Gilinsky reported that EPC was looking at the upcoming five year academic calendar. He noted that the new calendar did not address when Extended Education intercessions would begin and end. A member asked if the committee was considering a week off at Thanksgiving. A. Gilinsky said he thought that might come up in the discussion and noted that the proposal included always having Spring Break cover the Cesar Chavez holiday.

Associated Students Report – P. Ramey

P. Ramey reported that the additional consultation process came to their Senate and the conversation was facilitated by students in the Organizational Development program. He said it went very well and students had a lot to say. The Chair said that the Hutchins Dialogue program and the Organizational Development program did a phenomenal job during the additional consultation process.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Faculty – Ben Ford
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes - emailed
Correspondences
Consent Items:

BUSINESS

1. Revision to Priority Registration Policy – First Reading –
J. Mahdavi – attached

The Chair asked for what others things might go on the Senate agendas. Suggestions were: a report from the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the report from B. Butler about the Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative, having the conversation about SSU's academic story, a review of what happened during the alternative consultation process, a report from the Graduation Initiative Group, and a report on the Sustainability efforts.

Agenda approved.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström