

Senate Executive Committee Minutes
October 22, 2009
3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Abstract

Agenda approved. Minutes of 9/24/09 approved. Chair Report. FSAC Responds to RSCAP cuts. Provost Report. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. Associated Students Report. EPC Report. CFA Report. GE Program Review. Senate Agenda

Present: Susan Moulton, Deb Kindy, Margie Purser, Scott Miller, Andy Merrifield, John Wingard, Sam Brannen, Carmen Works, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Eduardo Ochoa

Absent: Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Paula Hammett, Derek Girman, Kelly Estrada

Guests: Steve Wilson, Heather Howard, Richard Senghas

Agenda – Approved.

Minutes of 9/24/09 – Approved. There was a request for the “funnies” in the minutes to be put in bold or another color ☺

Chair Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton reported on her meeting with the other CSU Senate chairs in Long Beach. She noted that SSU was the only campus with a one-year Chair. There was some discussion about the terms of Chairs. She noted the next meeting would be in December in San Francisco as a teleconference. Ben Quillian was the guest speaker for the meeting and he answered many questions. She noted that at least six campuses have layoff oversight committees convened already and many are already talking about the fall layoff of faculty. She thought that SSU may want to do the same. She noted that the Statewide Senate Chair, John Tarjan, said that the current crisis was demanding a lot from campus Presidents in terms of leadership. Many campuses were saving money by doing SETE’s online. She noted there were some problems with online SETE’s. The Chairs also talked about transferring back their summer sessions with the demise of YRO. They talked about doing remediation online or allowing students to do a remedial course once and after that they would have to do it during the summer or at the local JC. They talked about faculty serving on Foundation Boards and auxiliary Boards. She found the meeting very helpful.

FSAC Responds to RSCAP cuts – R. Senghas

R. Senghas introduced this item as the Chair of FSAC, P. Hammett was absent. He noted that with the cut to RSCAP funds, FSAC was concerned about tenure-track faculty and their progress in the RTP process. They thought the statement would help bring attention to the RSCAP funding and would note the faculty desire of

priority for it. The Provost noted that some research money was being made available through the Provost office. R. Senghas noted that they understood that and wanted people to know that the central fund was comprised. The Chair asked if the statement should be in the form of a resolution. There was some process discussion.

The Chair noted she had received some correspondence that requested faculty prepare an online lesson in advance in case of illness. She thought the idea was preposterous.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa reported that 1/3 of the federal stimulus money will come to the campuses for instructional needs. SSU is getting about \$600,000 and that came very close to what the campus needed to help the Spring schedule. A member asked what would happen to the other 2/3rds of the stimulus money. The Provost said the Chancellor's office is holding back the 2/3rds in case of mid year cuts and a potential lawsuit brought forward against changing the student tuition after students were enrolled. He reported on his meeting with the Statewide Academic Affairs Council. He said most campuses were finding that the saving from furloughs were not what were anticipated. The CSU as whole dropped 6 -7% of faculty this year. A member asked how much the campus was lowering the FTES for the Spring and upcoming Fall. The Provost said the campus was reducing FTES for the Spring to 6744 FTES. The Chair asked if the reduction was due to lower student load or headcount. The Provost described his process for forecasting the average student load. The Chair asked why the campus dropped the FTES so low when there was a student fee increase. The Provost said the fee increase did not cover the cost to the campus of not reducing FTES. A member noted the issues this was creating for students and whether that information was getting communicated to students. She asked for more information about the impact to students and how that would affect planning and advising. The Provost offered a mathematical strategy for figuring out the percentage difference in availability of units for students. It was clarified that the first registration unit cap was 9 units and that by the end of registration students would be able to enroll for 20 units. A member asked if low enrolled courses would not be looked at until after last registration due to student strategies for getting the courses they want. The Provost thought that issue needed to be discussed with the Deans. There was a discussion about whether regular courses could be part of intersession coupled with the issues of faculty retiring and not having rehires. A member brought up the discipline related issues of hiring new faculty and argued that the normal process was broken and that it was not a good time to determine efficiencies in the organization. There was further discussion about the issues of curriculum revision in this particular fiscal climate.

Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reported that Structure and Functions recommended Sam Brannen and Terry Lease for the Space Committee. They appointed Heather Brace to the Alcohol and Drug Advisory committee.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips reported that SAEM was taking the Senate's resolution on the Center for Culture, Gender and Sexuality seriously and moving forward with developing a committee to look at the name of the CCGS and to create an advisory committee. The first run of H1N1 vaccine had been delivered to the Student Health Center. He noted the death of a student recently, an EOP sophomore and that they held a candlelight vigil. 100 people were present. He discussed how they were working with the family as they were Spanish speaking only. He noted the student to student violence recently at Sacramento. He described the iPhone app called iScore and also noted the Counseling Center was seeing more incidents of sexual misconduct. He called Pepsi, the sponsor of iScore, and as the campus served Pepsi, expressed his concern. He found later they had pulled the app off the internet. He reported on C. Rhodes recruiting in Los Angeles and said Rhodes noted he was the only CSU official at the events he attended. M. Lopez-Phillips noted that the campus is trying to bring more diversity to campus. He spoke about the registration process consultation. A member commended the Provost and the VP of SAEM on the experimentation with the registration process and the good things the campus has learned. The Chair asked what policies were in place for faculty who felt threatened by a student. It was clarified that the campus Violence Free policy (<http://www.sonoma.edu/UAffairs/policies/violence.htm>) and the student code of conduct both addressed that concern. Several members thought these policies needed to be fore-grounded. M. Lopez-Phillips noted a disruptive student procedures process that he was hoping to develop.

Associated Students Report – H. Hanson

H. Hanson reported on the previous week's Homecoming events and how successful they had been. M. Lopez-Phillips thanked H. Hanson for the student organizing of Homecoming. He remarked that many students thought we needed traditions and this was a good start.

EPC Report – C. Works

C. Works reported that EPC had discussed creating a resolution on double majoring. She said EPC was taking the position that students should be allowed to double major. The Provost noted that the issue around double majoring was about time to graduation and that the registrar noted that double majoring could put students over the 120-unit limit. A member noted that some students were using double majoring to tailor their BA's for professional goals. A member voiced concern about the focus on getting a degree at the expense of getting an education. He wished the CSU would put their focus on getting more resources than making sure students graduate. C. Works pointed out that the number of students double majoring, or having a major and a minor was under a thousand students. The VP of SAEM suggested that a policy would be helpful. The Provost discussed the two distinct missions for higher education: preparation for careers and the transformational experience of education. He noted that the State was falling behind in providing the kind of workforce needed for the 21st century and so there was a sense of urgency in the State. Some of the reasons for having unit caps was about having people move out, so others can move in. There was further discussion about this topic. C. Works continued her report by noting the Geography and CALS were coming through with

program changes. She also discussed the Liberal Arts degree programs at Napa and Solano and the issues surrounding these programs. A member voiced concern about the implications of Executive Order 802 on Extended Ed and Statewide blended programs.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield reported that in a week a meeting for all Unit 3 employees would be held from 1-3 to discuss the collective bargaining agreement that expires on June 30th. He noted other CFA leaders would be available during that day as well. He also reported that CFA is continuing to support AB656 to help higher education have a dedicated revenue stream.

GE Program Review – C. Works

C. Works noted this item was coming through as an information item. She said normally EPC does not formally “approve” program reviews, but they decided to do that in this case, since it was a review of the entire GE pattern. The last chapter of the review was in the packet, which summarized the recommendations of the review, and she said she wanted that to go to the Senate. The GE subcommittee had prioritized their recommendations and were beginning to create an assessment mechanism for GE. She said they did not include items they thought were part of their regular business, such as the proposal that is coming from Arts and Humanities to change their GE units from 3 to 4 units and thereby collapse GE Areas A and C. She noted the full GE program review was online.

(<http://www.sonoma.edu/Senate/Currentinfo.html>) The Provost noted that he did not see in the action items the new pathway for GE that the Senate approved previously. C. Works said EPC had asked about this question and the GE subcommittee responded they saw it as part of their regular business. They were more interested in proposals coming from the faculty. They were seeking direction from the Senate about how much buy-in there was from faculty for GE reform. The Chair suggested that perhaps in the assessment process, it would be noted what kinds of GE changes were needed. A member asked for EPC to ask GE where all the Schools stand in terms of changing unit values for GE courses. The Provost argued for the faculty to collectively have oversight over the GE program. A member noted reasons for possible inertia towards the GE reform focus. A member noted that it was one thing to talk about reforming GE and another to get inside it and see the complications when trying to change GE.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate – Susan Moulton
Correspondences
Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda
Approval of Minutes

BUSINESS

1. By-Laws Revision: Change to Charge of SAC – Second Reading — J. Wingard - attachment
2. Motion to strongly recommend to Provost the hiring of a Diversity Coordinator for Academic Affairs - (postponed from meeting of 10/15) - maker R. Coleman-Senghor T. C. 4:30

Standing Reports

1. President of the University - (R. Armiñana) T. C. 3:15
2. Provost/Vice-President, Academic Affairs - (E. Ochoa) T. C. 3:25
3. Vice President/Admin & Finance - (L. Furukawa-Schlereth) T. C. 3:35
4. Vice-President of SAEM – (M. Lopez-Phillips) T. C. 3:45
5. Vice-President of Associated Students – (J. Tice) T. C. 3:50
6. Chair-Elect of the Senate - (J. Wingard)
7. Statewide Senators - (R. McNamara, C. Nelson)
8. Chairs, Standing Committee - (Estrada, Works T. C. 4:00, Hammett, Girman)
9. CFA Chapter President – (A. Merrifield) T. C 3:55

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega