

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Fresno, California 93740-8014
Telephone: 278-2743

Fax: 278-5745
(EC-7)

November 28, 2016

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Otto Benavides (Statewide Senate), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Tim Ryan (ASI), and Lynette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Joseph Castro (Ex-officio), Michael Jenkins (At-large), and Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large)

Guests: Debbie Astone (VP for Administration), Venita Baker, and Dennis Nef (Vice Provost)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:06pm in HML 2108.

1.) Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

2.) Approval of the Minutes of November 14, 2016

Approval of the Minutes of November 14, 2016

3.) Communications and announcements

a. Senator Kensinger

Noted that Fresno State's HR website does not make it easy for employees to find a way to report harassment and discrimination. Even when they find it, there are no phone numbers. Also, the Title IX site does not list the confidential phone number. The Provost said she would look into it.

b. Senator Ram

Noted the *Fresno Bee* article about the faculty member who was carjacked at gun-point in a campus parking lot at 7:00pm. Has anything been done? The Provost said that she and others have spoken with Chief Huerta, who is deploying more security at night in the parking lots. President Ryan (ASI) said he also spoke recently with Chief Huerta to discuss campus safety and ways the campus policy can work with ASI.

c. Chair Ayotte

Gave an update on APM 327 on accessible instructional materials. It was held up last year because it was not clear what the responsibilities of faculty actually are. The IT division is working on some new language and Chair Ayotte is trying to get them to report back before the end of the semester.

d. President Ryan (ASI)

Noted that the ASI student senate is going to take up the Academic Senate's resolution on diversity and multiculturalism on Wednesday.

Senator Kensinger asked Chair Ayotte if he had heard of other academic senates passing such resolutions. A couple may have, but he will learn more at Thursday's chairs' meeting.

e. Senator Benavides (Statewide Senate)

Noted that he has been appointed to the Statewide Senate's task force on intellectual property.

f. Action items

1.) Email dated November 16, 2016, from Jes Therkelsen, Academic Senator Department of Media, Communication, and Journalism, to Thomas Holyoke, Vice Chair Academic Senate re: Call for service – search committee for AVP for Water and Sustainability. Email has been received.

Members of the Water Cohort desire to have one of their own on the search committee, but APM 325 requires all faculty members

to be tenured full professors, and none of the cohort members are even tenured. Provost Zelezny expressed a desire to appoint a cohort member through her authority of appointing additional AVP search committee members, but it is not clear if her appointing authority circumvents the general requirement that all faculty on an AVP search committee be tenured full professors.

After some debate members of the Senate Executive Committee agreed to an exemption to permit the Provost to appoint a Water Cohort member. Vice Chair Holyoke indicated that he had drafted language for the university's Constitution formalizing the Executive Committee's ability to grant exemptions to the APM.

2. Memo dated November 7, 2016, to Dr. Lynnette Zelezny, Provost, from Sandra Witte, Dean Jordan College of Agriculture re: Peer Evaluation Form for the Department of Child, Family, and Consumer Sciences. Memo has been received.

It was decided that approving a department's peer evaluation form was outside of the committee's jurisdiction as long as it conformed to APM 322, as this one does. No action taken.

3. Memo dated November 17, 2016, from Loren J. Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor, to CSU Presidents re: ASCSU Quantitative Reasoning Task Force Report. Memo has been received.

Faculty feedback is being requested. Vice Chair Holyoke will send the report to the faculty and request feedback by the second week of January. The comments received will be summarized and brought to the first meeting of the Senate Executive Committee in the spring semester and combined with comments from the administration.

4. Email dated November 28,, 2016, from Kathleen Scott, Director of Administrative Operations and Organizational Excellence, to Kevin Ayotte, Chair Academic Senate re: APM 303, APM 315, APM 320 and MAPP D-17 Interim Sinage Policy. Email has been received.

This material will be discussed along with agenda item #5.

4.) APM 110 – Policy on Ancillary Units. First reading.

Vice Provost Nef explained the changes proposed to this policy, streamlining the reporting requirements of the 45 ancillary units on the campus, which also complies with Coded Memo AA-2014-18.

Senator Kensinger (At-large) expressed concern that ancillary units were being created and overseen at Fresno State outside of the Academic Senate system. She felt that the senate should have some oversight of these units, their creation, operations, and finances. Chair Ayotte pushed back, arguing that this would mean the senate was micro-managing centers and institutes that often only operate at the department-level. Vice Chair Holyoke recommended that the Academic Senate formally approve and oversee any ancillary unit in the Division of Academic Affairs (currently there are four of these), but we only need to be notified about the establishment of units in colleges and departments, as well as be periodically updated on their financial operations. Senator Kensinger may bring new language to this effect to a future meeting of the Executive Committee.

5.) APM 303 Policy on Nepotism and APM 315 Policy on Conducting Background Checks. First reading.

VP Astone (Administration) brought these to the Senate Executive Committee for consultation because, to a considerable extent, they have been superseded by executive orders from the Chancellor. It is hard to tell, but if both or either have been fully replaced then that part of the APM should probably be repealed.

Vice Chair Holyoke recommended that APM 315 and the Executive Order on background checks be taken to the university's counsel for comparison since they were long and complicated. Based on his analysis a decision could be made.

The committee felt that APM 303 appeared to be almost completely replaced by an executive order, but will continue reviewing it at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

VP Astone also distributed copies of MAPP D-17 on signage on the campus for discussion at the next meeting, and will be sending us a new

proposed version of APM 320 on administrative searches for consideration.

6.) Senate Task Force on Faculty Workload

The Senate Executive Committee must arrange to have two Executive Committee members, 2 Senate Personnel Committee members, 2 University Budget Committee members, and two senators appointed to this task force, along with a representative from CFA.

Chair Ayotte will ask senators for nominations from the senate at the first spring meeting of the Academic Senate. Vice Chair Holyoke will contact Chair Tsukimura (Personnel) and Chair Maldonado (Budget) about finding two members each. The decision on Senate Executive Committee members will be decided later. Chair Ayotte will formally ask the California Faculty Association for a representative.

7.) Nominations

The Senate Executive Committee entered executive session at 4:45pm
The Senate Executive Committee returned from executive session at 5:02pm

MSC appointing Kyoung Mi Choi (Counselor Education & Rehabilitation) and Melanie Ram (Political Science) to the Academic Affairs task force on student course access and high impact educational practices.

MSC appointing Susana Hernandez (Educational Leadership) and Oscar Vega (Mathematics) to the Academic Affairs task force on re-imagining research and graduate studies.

MSC appointing Van Nee Van Vleck (Economics), Patrick DeWalt (Literacy, Early, Bilingual, and Special Education), Bradley Hyatt (Construction), Martin Shapiro (Psychology), Ramon Sanchez (Chicano and Latin American Studies), Cindy Guerra (Nursing), and Melissa Gibson (Theater Arts) to the Academic Affairs task force on General Education.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 5:03pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Monday, December 5, 2016.

Submitted by:
Thomas Holyoke
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Kevin Ayotte
Chair
Academic Senate