

**Academic Senate Minutes**  
March 24, 2011  
3:00 – 5:00, Commons

**Abstract**

Chair Report. Agenda amended and approved. Minutes of 2/24/11 and 3/10/11 approved. Information items noted: Latin American Studied minor reorganization; Academic Calendar change. President Report. From SAC: Revision to the Class Attendance Policy – First Reading. Request for endorsement of Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship – Endorsed. Provost Report. Associated Students Report. Statewide Senators Report. Chair – Elect Report. Vice President of SAEM Report. APC Report. FSAC Report. SAC Report. Staff Report. Good of the Order.

**Present:** John Wingard, Ben Ford, Susan Moulton, Maria Hess, Catherine Nelson, Brian Wilson, Michaela Grobbel, Sam Brannen, Deborah Roberts, Steve Wilson, Helmut Wautischer, John Sullins, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Janet Hess, Ed Beebout, Chip McAuley, Mutombo M'Panya, Terry Lease, Florence Bouvet, Rick Robison, Tom Buckley, Nick Geist, Sharon Cabaniss, Matty Mookerjee, Michael Cohen, Karin Jaffe, Noel Byrne, Laura Watt, Margaret Purser, Phil Brownell, Sandra Shand, Marisa Thigpen, Edie Brown, Ruben Armiñana, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Alex Boyar, Collin Yballa, Nicolas Carjuzaa, Dolores Bainter, Kelly Estrada, Elaine Newman, Richard Senghas, Jennifer Mahdavi

**Proxies:** Melinda Barnard for Saeid Rahimi

**Absent:** Sarah Baker, Kathy Morris, Don Romesburg, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Andy Merrifield

**Guests:** Elaine Sundberg, Susan Kashack

**Chair Report – J. Wingard**

J. Wingard announced that Phil Brownell would be joining the Senate as the Emeritus Representative. He also announced that he would need to leave at 4:40 and that B. Ford would Chair the meeting after that. He reported that the President had agreed to make the administrative appointments to the Gender and Sexual Health Stakeholder's Exploratory Workgroup. He noted there were only three more Senate meetings until the end of the year.

**Approval of Agenda – Motion to refer the GE Unit Policy back to EPC to give the GE subcommittee more time. Second. Approved. Agenda approved.**

**Approval of Minutes of 2/24/11 and 3/10/11 – Approved.**

**Information items noted:** Latin American Studied minor reorganization; Academic Calendar change

## **President Report – R. Armiñana**

R. Armiñana reported that the budget uncertainty and confusion were overwhelming. He understood that that afternoon the Governor was going to sign a number of “trailer” bills to the budget, but not a budget. Among those trailer bills was the reduction to the CSU of \$500 million dollars. After the fee increase, the cut was net \$400 million dollars. There was also \$50 million in mandatory costs. For SSU, the cut was around \$10 million. He clarified that the general fund appropriations for SSU would go down to less than \$50 million, four years ago it was around \$70 million. He discussed the tax extensions that would need to be approved for the \$500 million to be the actual cut. He noted that the support for the tax extensions in the polls was waning. He noted that if they cannot get it on the ballot for June, then they would have to go through the initiative process to get on the November ballot. After June 30<sup>th</sup>, two of the taxes end and would become “new” taxes. The third one did not expire until December 31<sup>st</sup>. He wondered how the state would get along without a budget until the end of November and described the impact on the CSU too. He reported that the PBAC met and agreed to mount the minimum amount of classes to meet the target and use one-time savings money to do it. The Chancellor has said that if the budget cut goes higher, more things will be on the table including reducing enrollment, increase of student fees, employee reductions such as furloughs or layoffs, all of which were difficult to do.

Time certain reached.

## **From SAC: Revision to the Class Attendance Policy – First Reading – J. Mahdavi**

J. Mahdavi introduced the item. She noted that the policy had come to SAC from the Dispute Resolution Board. They had experienced a case where the faculty member and a student had used the same line in the catalog policy to defend their position in a grade appeal. So, they had asked SAC to look at re-working the policy. She reviewed the changes. The Chair of FSAC reported on the Academic Freedom subcommittee’s feedback on the policy. They did not see any academic freedom issues with the policy, but offered that language be included that faculty can determine their attendance policy based on their discipline. A member questioned the phrase “university approved activities” and offered more language about the limits on making up work for classes missed for valid reasons. A member argued against having a list of valid reasons in the policy by noting that students were adults, and to delete “due notice” as it has workload implications. A member asked why SAC did not include the language proposed by EPC. J. Mahdavi cautioned against putting too much detail in the policy. Another member offered language from the Graduate Studies subcommittee and clarifying specifically what can and cannot be made up.

Time certain reached and First Reading completed.

**Request for endorsement of Report with recommendations from FSSP regarding the survey of faculty needs in support of externally funded research and scholarship - Second Reading – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas noted that FSAC's endorsement language, as requested at the previous Senate meeting, was handed out at the beginning of the meeting. He noted that the endorsement language included concerns raised by the Senate. There were some parliamentary inquiries about that status of the endorsement language.

**Motion to approve the endorsement document and FSSP report. Second. Approved.**

**Point of order was made that the call for vote was done inappropriately. The Chair rescinded the vote and opened the floor for discussion.** A member asked how the endorsement addressed the members who had problems with the findings of the report. R. Senghas noted the issues that had been raised at the first reading and how they had been addressed in the endorsement memo. The Chair also noted that members could still raise concerns.

**Vote on approving the endorsement document and thereby endorsing the FSSP report – Approved.**

**Questions for the President**

A Statewide Senator asked about a comment Trustee Deborah Farrar made at the Statewide Senate about executive compensation. The member wondered about the relationship between executive compensation and Foundation Boards. The President said that at San Luis Obispo a portion of the compensation for the President comes from their Foundation, but that does not happen at SSU. A member asked about the 10,000 FTES reduction in the CSU and how that corresponds to the SSU target increase of 200. The President said when the targets were distributed; they had already factored in the 10,000 FTES decrease. A member asked if campus closures would be on the table if the cuts increased. The President responded that the Chancellor had said no campus closures.

**Provost Report – M. Barnard for S. Rahimi**

M. Barnard reported on the waitlist process. She said they would be going ahead with waitlists for the Fall. Departments would have the opportunity to opt in; it was not possible to do it by class. She reported on the pattern for registration - first pass will be a 9 unit limit, then 12, then 16 and after freshman orientation, it would open up to 20. A member asked why the first pass was not 10 units. M. Barnard said they wanted students to get at least 2 classes on the first registration and had found that with 10 units, if they got only 2 classes, they were anxious about the extra unit. With nine units they could get 2 classes for sure. A student rep asked about the availability of GE A1 courses for continuing students, given the GE reform going on. E. Sundberg said they were working on seeing how many courses they could offer for A1 and that they would definitely be offering them for continuing students. A member commented that registration being in four steps would multiply the

advising workload. M. Barnard said she thought there was a cultural change that needed to happen on campus that students get advised once during registration and that's it. The passes were meant to help students get the classes they need. There was further discussion about the A1 courses issue. A member noted rumors that were going around about the GE reform and asked for clarification to help with advising. M. Barnard suggested that the Executive Committee have an update on the implementation of the GE reform. A member noted that a great Power Point was online explaining the GE reform.

([www.sonoma.edu/a\\_h/A%20&%20H%20GE%20Reform.ppt](http://www.sonoma.edu/a_h/A%20&%20H%20GE%20Reform.ppt))

### **Associated Students Report – A. Boyar**

A. Boyar reported that Associated Students attended the student rally in Sacramento for higher education. He described eight pieces of legislation before their Senate the next day. They concerned preserving Pell grants, utilizing Fridays for classes, a smoking ban, etc. Student government elections were in progress. A member asked about the composition of the election ballot, particularly about the pro and con arguments for the student center. A. Boyar said that a student opposed to the student center did write the con argument and that the AS was more than happy to have any student talk to them about either position. He reported when the information meetings on the student center would happen and when debate would be open. He discussed what would happen, if the referendum passed, to the buildings that would not longer be used. He noted that the student fee at San Marcos was \$550, so what they were asking for a fee increase was not unreasonable.

### **Statewide Senators Report – B. Wilson and C. Nelson**

B. Wilson noted his report in the packet. He brought the Senate's attention to resolutions that had been introduced at the Statewide Senate for which he wanted feedback. He was particularly concerned about a resolution about the CSU campuses becoming regionally focused as so many of the campuses have a unique focus. He discussed the reports that were given to the Statewide Senate. He noted that two names had been sent forward for faculty trustee. C. Nelson provided some details about what the Chancellor reported. Other things on the table due to the budget were combining classes between campuses, where appropriate. She thought that small classes of 5 or 6 would not be viable anymore. She noted the Statewide Senate was under severe budget pressure too and the Executive Committee did not think they can meet the 10% reduction without affecting the assigned time of Senators. The Senators gave the committee the feedback that if the assigned time reduction was severe enough, it would affect their desire to serve on the Statewide Senate. A Senator clarified that 10 days prior to the next Statewide meeting would be when they would need feedback. A member asked about the Statewide Senate's position on the oil severance tax. C. Nelson said their understanding was that it was a placeholder and did not have content yet. There was a question about the current CSU policy about supplanting courses in Extended Education. The President noted that course taught in the regular curriculum could not be taught in Extended Education in the same semester. He noted there was a lot of talk about Extended Education and what they could do, should do, etc. There was discussion about the

resolution regarding students needing to obtain a C in all GE courses and it's relationship to SB 1440. There was further discussion about implications of SB1440.

### **Chair – Elect Report – B. Ford**

B. Ford reported that the President had asked Structure and Functions to appoint a faculty member to the GMC Advisory Board and they had appointed Elizabeth Stanny.

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

M. Lopez-Phillips thanked everyone who participated in Seawolf Day. He noted that about 200 students put in deposits that day, which put them ahead of where they normally were at this point in time. He then gave the time to M. Thigpen to report on the National Student Exchange program. M. Thigpen thanked everyone who wrote recommendations supporting student's studying abroad and for the NSE program. She said the campus was among the top 10 campuses for sending students in the NSE program. She said 24 students had come to SSU from 14 states, Canada and Puerto Rico this semester. They had sent 33 students to 14 states and Puerto Rico, some of which went on to Study Abroad via the NSE partner. She noted the program was IRA funded and brought a lot of diversity to campus. A member asked if there were any CSU students in Japan and if any efforts were being made on the campus to help Japan. M. Thigpen said, no CSU students were in Japan and there were some from Japan on campus. Those students were being listened to and directed to resources on campus. These students were working on raising money for relief efforts in Japan. A member asked how the NSE students were categorized. M. Thigpen gave a detailed answer. A member asked M. Lopez-Phillips about the changes in the Counseling Center. He described the changes and noted they would be adding at least two more counselors. There was more discussion about CSU students and faculty in Japan and the Chancellor's directive for no one under the CSU umbrella to travel to Japan. A member asked if the new counselors would be tenure track hires. M. Lopez-Phillips said he was taking that suggestion under advisement and they would make a decision that was best to serve students.

### **APC Report – K. Estrada**

K. Estrada reported that the Dean of Extended Education and the campus coordinator for the Early Start program had visited APC that morning. The conversation focused on how to move developmental programs in Math and English into Extended Education. She noted that the Chancellor supported the stretch programs in the regular curriculum. The Dean told them he had been given a mandate to provide a 1 unit developmental course in the summer of 2012. They would use a hybrid model. APC would like to collaborate with Extended Education and EPC to develop a policy on the hybridization of regular courses. A member asked the President about the CSU's position now on remediation. The President said they have been talking about this for a long time and that there was not a single approach to it. He noted the longer a student is in remediation, the greater the chance that they will not complete work at a campus. A member asked for "programs" also to be included in the policy on hybridization of "courses." A

member discussed issues for high school students who end up needing developmental courses in Math. The Chair of FSAC noted FSAC would want to look at the policy noted above when in development.

### **FSAC Report – R. Senghas**

R. Senghas said FSAC would be bringing a proposal on Intellectual Property Policy to the Senate soon.

### **SAC Report – J. Mahdavi**

J. Mahdavi asked if Senators had any feedback on the Class Attendance Policy to send it to her before the next SAC meeting on Wednesday.

### **Staff Report – D. Bainter**

D. Bainter reported on the Diversity Dialogue for Staff that was held recently. She noted interesting results and that now there was information to help develop workshops.

### **Good of the Order**

A member noted the Ethnic Studies presentation that was coming to campus.

### **Adjourned.**

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström*