

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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(EC-16)

March 17, 2014

Members Present: Lynn Williams (Chair), Kevin Ayotte (Vice-Chair), Diane Blair (University-wide), President Joseph Castro, Kiranjit Dhanjan (ASI), Interim Provost Andrew Hoff, Thomas Holyoke (At-large), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (State-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large)

Visitors: Venita Baker

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Chair Williams in HML 2108.

1. Agenda.

MSC to approve the Agenda.

2. Minutes of 3/3/14.

MSC to approve the minutes of 3/3/14.

3. Communications and Announcements.

- A. Memo dated March 10, 2014 from Andrew E. Hoff, Provost to Lynn Williams, Chair Academic Senate re: Provost's Awards Committee 2013-2014.

This item will be discussed in Executive Session on today's agenda.

- B. Memo dated March 14, 2014 from Joseph I. Castro, Ph.D., M.P.P., President to Lynn Williams, Chair Academic Senate re: Policy on Accessibility MAPP G-63-1 and APM 624 (Revised).

MSC to refer this item to the Academic Policy & Planning Committee for review.

- C. Memo dated March 13, 2014 from Nancy Kobata, President, Chapter 309 to the Academic Senate re: Proposed changes to the Constitution.

Chair Williams will send a memo to Nancy Kobata (cc: Grace Liu, Chair of the Staff Assembly) requesting input from the Staff Assembly as the entity that should be requesting staff representation (rather than the union). The memo will request a comparison of other CSU campuses with specific information re: type of staff membership, voting rights, etc. The memo will request a detailed rationale for the specific type of staff membership proposed.

- D. Memo dated March 17, 2014 from Lynn Williams, Chair Academic Senate to Academic Senate Committee and Sub-Committee Chairs re: Agenda Scheduling, Senate Business.

Senator Kensinger suggested adding a reminder for Committee and Subcommittee chairs to submit the activity report from fall 2013, if they have not already done so, and that a report on the activities of 2013-14 will be due in fall 2014.

- E. New Senate Pin Design.

Venita Baker presented the mock-up provided by a vendor for the new design of Academic Senate pins. The design was approved by the Executive Committee pending review by the Office of University Communications for consistency with requirements for the design of the university seal.

- F. Selection of the next Provost and Vice President for Faculty Affairs.

President Castro announced the appointment of Dr. Lynnette Zelezny as the next Provost and Vice President for Faculty Affairs. Chair Williams thanked President Castro for the widespread inclusion of faculty input during the selection process.

- G. Statewide Academic Senate Report.

Senator Kensinger (State-wide) presented a preliminary report of recent State-wide Senate Activities. A full report will be presented to the Senate in the near future.

- 4. Chief Information Officer (CIO) Position.

President Castro reviewed perspectives on the need for a Cabinet-level administrator who would provide full oversight of information technology

at the university, strategic planning, collaboration with faculty, etc. He described his personal experience of working at a previous institution before and after the hiring of a CIO; the difference afterward was a dramatic improvement. We currently lack an administrator tasked with anticipating problems and planning strategically for the future needs of the campus, which leaves Fresno State vulnerable to ongoing difficulties like those we have experienced with Zimbra email. President Castro stated that having a CIO would result in better services, more efficient use of resources, and likely lower overall costs due to strategic planning.

Senator Blair (University-wide) asked for clarification of what currently dispersed responsibilities would be pulled from present directors of specific programs. President Castro stated that across the board strategic planning is a major need, especially a universal strategic vision that encompasses information technology needs across the various divisions and service areas.

Senator Holyoke (At-large) expressed concern about having a CIO as a Cabinet-level position rather than an Assistant Vice-President under the Provost. Discussion ensued.

Senator Jenkins (At-large) asked about the budgetary implications of consolidating responsibilities, offices, and people from existing Divisions to a new Technology Division. Senator Jenkins stated that including details of these ramifications, in addition to the job description, would be helpful to the Senate's ability to provide input on this issue. Discussion ensued.

No action was taken on this item.

5. Executive Session.

The committee entered executive session at 4:07 and returned from executive session at 4:10.

MSC to nominate the following faculty to Provost Hoff for the 2013-14 Provost's Awards Committee, from which he will select two to serve:

Honora Chapman-Howell (Modern & Classical Languages & Literatures)
Brian Berrett (Communicative Disorders & Deaf Studies)
Henry Delcore (Anthropology)
Susan Tracz (Education Research & Administration)
Alam Hasson (Chemistry)

6. Minor Change to General Education (GE) Policies. First Reading.

Discussion ensued re: the inconsistency of student and administration members' voting status across Senate Standing Committees and Subcommittees.

Chair Williams noted the uneven faculty membership on the GE Committee from various Colleges/Schools stipulated by the Senate Bylaws (Article XII.D.1.a).

Senator Holyoke stated that there should be consistency across committees.

MSC to request the Academic Policy & Planning Committee to review the full Senate Bylaws and Constitution of the Academic Assembly, and provide a proposal for revision that would establish a consistent policy re: voting status for non-faculty ex-officio committee members across all Senate Standing Committees and Subcommittees. The Executive Committee recommends that non-faculty ex-officio representatives should be non-voting members on committees. Delegates to the State-wide Academic Senate should remain as voting members because they are faculty members.

4. Senate Chair/Vice Chair Election Date.

Chair Williams stated that Department Chairs need to know who has been elected as Senate Chair and Vice Chair before fall scheduling in order to plan for assigned-time that comes with these offices. Discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be announced.

An Agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:
Kevin J. Ayotte
Vice-Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Lynn Williams
Chair
Academic Senate