

Executive Committee Minutes

March 14, 2002

Present: Rick Luttmann, William Poe, Catherine Nelson (Left at 4), Sam Brannen, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Tim Wandling, Phil McGough, Peter Phillips, Bernie Goldstein, Art Warmoth, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Ruben Armiñana, Susan McKillop

Absent: Noel Byrne

Meeting Started at 3:04

R. Luttmann communicated to the Executive Committee that Laurel has requested a scaled down version of the minutes due to concerns about her health. It was proposed that the minutes include a summary of ideas, action items and reports from administrators that are very important to have in writing—*Approved*

Agenda *Approved.*

Minutes Changes were made. Corrected minutes *Approved.*

REPORTS:

Chair of the Faculty Report given.

Provost/Vice President

April 19th is a potential date for Diversity Retreat planning.

Statewide Senator Report

Chancellor Reed addressed the Statewide Senate at the last meeting.
S. McKillop discussed issues she sees as “dangerous” in the new Master Plan.

Chair-Elect Report

No Report

Vice President, Administration & Finance

L. Furukawa-Schlereth advised that he won't be here next week. The Board of Trustees meeting in Sacramento complimented us on having taken steps to fix our student-housing problem. New student housing is expected to break ground before May 1. The Board of Trustee is expected to raise non-resident fees by 15%. This increase in revenue would be added to the compensation pool. Trustees have not taken action yet. The fee hasn't been raised since 1991; the UC will also raise their fees. The remodel of Darwin Hall is well placed for a possible bond issue.

APC

They are working on the Symposiums.

EPC

EPC expects a formal proposal for Freshman Seminar becoming a permanent versus an experimental program sometime before the Spring break. People are invited to their meeting to hear the second reading and comment.

SAC

No Report

FSAC:

W. Poe will not be at Senate next week. R. Luttmann asked if another representative of FSAC could attend the Senate to be available for questions about the Evaluation of Temporary Faculty on the Senate's agenda. W. Poe replied in the affirmative. S. McKillop raised concerns about the current MOU in regards to department course offerings and asked if FSAC could do an analysis. W. Poe agreed. B. Goldstein offered to put together questions and answers on this topic. R. Luttmann stated he will contact Judith Hunt and Victor Garlin to see if they agree on the MOU implications of the Evaluation of Temporary Faculty document. He will ask them to resolve issues before the Senate meets so a statement can be made to facilitate discussion.

President Report:

The Board of Trustees made a proclamation, acknowledging SSU's 40 year anniversary. Deborah Ferrar is the new Chair of the Board of Trustees. He reported on the debt issue of \$43 million dollars for student housing.

Business:

Senate Resolution of Jim Meyer:

The last half-hour of the Senate meeting will be designated for speeches honoring Jim. Between 5-5:30 there will be a reception with cake and champagne. There were many grammatical and syntax changes needed in regards to the resolution. Robert Coleman-Senghor and Tim Wandling volunteered to revamp the resolution. Rick Luttmann will send it to him electronically. The resolution must be to Laurel by Monday.

Reports from APC and SBC regarding original APC recommendations

There was considerable discussion clarifying the origin and future of the recommendations. It was suggested that it go to Structures & Functions. Rick wasn't sure what Structures & Functions would do with it, because it is essentially a

conversation between two committees. It was determined that it would be reported to the Senate under the APC Standing report.

Senate Agenda

The time of the meeting was changed to 3-5:30. Budget Committee will be recommending that the Development Office issue will be tabled indefinitely, that the Marginal Cost issue be withdrawn and that the Governor resolution is ready to go.

Proposal for faculty annual evaluation of the President

No body knows who suggested this be put on the agenda.

Proposal for response to evaluation of the President by the Chancellor's Office

Reasons cited for responding to the evaluation of the President were 1) that it is a public letter; 2) it is on our SSU website; and 3) it came from the Chancellor. Particular points brought up included the implication that the faculty opposed the Schulz Information Center and that the language of "hostile" referring to the President's relationship with faculty leadership was inappropriate. President Armiñana explained the evaluation process. He advised that the STAR contains evidence for the notion that faculty opposed Schulz. His examples of hostility were the use of his last name as a Greek name and that his administration was characterized as of the ilk of "Idi Amin." He felt the evaluation was accurate. Many of the faculty present believed that the letter was very one sided and gave a slanted view of things, and that a broader view could be represented. Even though the letter is a composite of opinions, it was argued that the way it is worded, the opinions are stated as facts. President Armiñana did not believe that anything was in error, and that it represented accurately the expressions that were received. Almost everyone agreed that some sort of response was appropriate, however there was no consensus about what type of response should be given. The notion was expressed that the issue of the faculty's voice needs to move beyond individualism or personal reactions to a collective understanding, that the letter was symptomatic of larger issues about communication between faculty governance and the administration. A. Warmoth requested concrete suggestions to create maximum collegiality between the President and the Senate. P. Phillips proposed that the Executive Committee create a subcommittee to craft a response. S. McKillop spoke against a formal response arguing that there are more important things to focus on.

R. Luttmann stated that the letter seems to state that the conflict is a personal one between himself and the President, and he believes it is serious historical one. President Armiñana disagreed believing that the issues between himself and the Chair of the Faculty are personal. Rick Luttmann explained he was just joking when he made a comment about the President's last name. He apologized for any misunderstanding.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22

Respectfully submitted by Katie Dunn with assistance from Laurel Holmstrom