

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

May 6, 2010

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Abstract

Agenda approved. Minutes of 4/1/10 approved. Chair Report. President Report. Provost Report. Program Track in ELSE for Communication Development, Revision to Specialist Program in ELSE, Revision to English Single Subject Credential, and New Minor in Queer Studies approved for Senate consent calendar. Online forum concerning the financial management of SSU proposal amended and approved for Senate agenda. FSAC Report. Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees policy approved for Senate agenda. Changes to Structure and Functions in the by-laws approved for the Senate agenda. Revision to WEPT policy approved for Senate agenda. SAC Report. FSAC Report continued. Senate agenda approved.

Present: Susan Moulton, John Wingard, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Scott Miller, Derek Girman, Deb Kindy, Ruben Armiñana, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Sam Brannen, Margaret Purser, Carmen Works, Eduardo Ochoa, Art Warmoth, Richard Senghas

Absent: Robert McNamara

Guests: Steve Wilson, Jenny Tice, Jennifer Mahdavi, Emiliano Ayala, Mira Katz, Don Romesburg, Noel Byrne

Approval of Agenda – Approved.

Approval of Minutes of 4/1/10 – Approved.

D. Girman introduced J. Mahdavi as the new Chair of SAC.

Chair Report – S. Moulton

S. Moulton asked for a report about the recent CFA meeting and noted that there would be a dance in the Commons next week, so the Senate set up would revert back to the original layout to accommodate the stage.

President Report – R. Armiñana

R. Armiñana reported that the Campus Planning Committee has recommended that the tennis courts be named after former VP of Student Affairs, Rank Link and the new bridge over the creek be named after the former campus architect, Bruce Walker. He asked if there was any objection from the Executive Committee. No objection. The Chair asked about the Mario Savio free speech area. The President said the area had been approved, but the plans for a podium and statue had not found funding yet.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa noted the two calls that went out for half time faculty release time positions – the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Director of Diversity and Inclusive Excellence. A member questioned whether the Director of Undergraduate Studies needed Senate approval. C. Works provided background on a report and recommendation from EPC that included the Director of Undergraduate Studies. It didn't come before the Senate as they were waiting for the resource piece to become clear. The Chair reported on various concerns that faculty had communicated to her about the Director of Undergraduate Studies position and also voiced concerns about whether the budget could handle it. The Provost noted that the creation of the position was an administrative decision to better handle the scope of responsibilities his office already had. He called it an internal re-organization matter. He welcomed the proactive, constructive input by faculty and also argued that all administrative matters did not need to go through faculty governance.

Time certain reached.

Program Track in ELSE for Communication Development – C. Works

C. Works introduced the item saying that the changes had to do with state credential requirements. She asked a process question as the proposal had two tracks and EPC only had time to approve the one in Communication Development. She asked for that to be on the Senate's consent calendar. E. Ayala provided background on the process of the change as mandated by the requirements for teaching teachers of special education and described the changes to their program. **Approved for Senate consent calendar.**

Revision to Specialist Program in ELSE – C. Works

C. Works noted that EPC passed all the revisions as one packet. Graduate Studies and EPC both passed it unanimously. **Approved for Senate consent calendar.**

Revision to English Single Subject Credential – C. Works

C. Works introduced the item and M. Katz noted the change was already approved by the State. It had been approved unanimously and C. Works requested it be on the Senate's consent calendar. There was some discussion. **Approved for the Senate's consent calendar.**

New Minor in Queer Studies – C. Works

C. Works introduced the new minor proposed by the WGS department. It was an interdisciplinary minor and the packet included many support letters. The Chair asked about the status of the Center of Culture, Gender and Sexuality. M. Lopez-Phillips said that C. Rhodes was working with the interns to finish out the semester. He was putting together an advisory committee for the Center and they would work with C. Rhodes next year. Also some of the RLC's in the Residence Halls had some

skills they could bring to the Center. He said it depended on the budget and that they wanted more professional staff in the Center. D. Romesburg joined the meeting. A member asked if there were other minors on campus that did not have a corresponding major. C. Works said yes. A member asked about course substitutions if students needed them. D. Romesburg said students could actually take all their coursework within WGS, but that was not preferable. **Approved for the Senate's consent calendar.**

Online forum concerning the financial management of SSU – S. Moulton, N. Byrne

S. Moulton noted this was an item referred to the Executive Committee by the Senate. She asked N. Byrne to speak to the item first. N. Byrne handed out a proposal for an online forum. He noted it was not a proposal for any type of chat room and that he wanted a place online for reasoned analysis of financial management at SSU. He wanted a balanced presentation and to avoid ad hominem assertions. A member thought that the handout N. Byrne provided was ready to go to the Senate. The Provost noted that the Senate gave the Executive Committee a specific charge. The CFO said that he had been thinking about the issue quite a bit and thought that the campus needed to have more dialogue, not just about financial management issues, but also including conflict of interest issues, how the Foundation Board operates, the Green Music Center and how to move forward with our resources, financial, personnel and physical to enhance the university's mission. He said he was going to extend an invitation to the Executive Committee and the Associated Students to work together to have dialogues on these issues. He did not think the dialogues would work online and gave various examples, one of which was about making contracts public and he noted that Associated Students were having a very difficult time with making contracts public as many of their performers do not want their contract public. He discussed the complexities of this one matter to illustrate the difficulty of having meaningful dialogue online. He said he would be issuing a press release about his invitation for dialogue and hoped the faculty and students would participate. A member argued for the body to consider the proposal from N. Byrne. A member voiced concern about sequencing face-to-face dialogues and an online forum and discussed the power dynamic implications in the dialogues idea. She argued that the Executive Committee's role was to promulgate discussion. A member asked about the role of the Senate Budget committee in this process and who would determine what was reasonable analysis. N. Byrne responded that he had spoken to the Senate Budget Committee's Chair and he thought that the SBC could host the forum on their website. In terms of adjudication of materials received, N. Byrne suggested the Chair of the SBC be the adjudicator. A member noted that the magnitude of the dialogues would take some time and that all proposals should be sent forward to the Senate. A member argued that the Executive Committee had a right to weigh in on what was reasonable discussion. The Provost spoke about his concern that the online forum would be polarizing instead of attempting to find a convergence of thought and supported the face-to-face interactions. There was further discussion about the readiness of the proposal brought by N. Byrne. The CFO objected to the word "management" being in the proposal as it indicated human resource issues and appeared to violate campus policy about assessing employee performance. Concern was expressed about the SBC evaluating materials for the online forum. The student rep

encouraged more civility among university members and argued that now was a time for solidarity.

Motion to amend: change words “financial management” to “financial situation.” Second. There was discussion. **Motion to amend amendment: change “financial situation” to “finances.”** Second. *Failed.* **Vote on amendment to change “financial management” to “financial situation.”** *Approved.*

Motion to change: “Reasoned analyses of relevant information, data and reports regarding the financial situation of Sonoma State University will be made available.” in place of “Reasoned analyses of relevant information, data and reports are to be consolidated separately according to their standing as either supportive”. Second.

Motion to amend: and remove the sentence: “The format of this forum shall be similar to the Academic Senate’s forum for the collection of information, data, reports and comments regarding the faculty referendum of Spring 2007:” Second. There was discussion. *Approved.*

Vote on motion to change: “Reasoned analyses of relevant information, data and reports regarding the financial situation of Sonoma State University will be made available.” in place of “Reasoned analyses of relevant information, data and reports are to be consolidated separately according to their standing as either supportive.” *Approved.*

Motion to add to - Reasoned analyses of relevant information, data and reports regarding the financial situation of Sonoma State University will be made available “through the Academic Senate website.” Second. There was discussion. *Approved.*

Motion for entire revised document to go forward to the Senate. Second. *Approved.*

FSAC Report – R. Senghas

R. Senghas reported on the Campus Expression policy and the Academic Freedom subcommittee’s response to it. He asked whether he should ask AFS to stay on the committee and give feedback or whether FSAC should produce another document. The Chair said the committee working on the Campus Expression policy wanted feedback and did not expect another document to be created.

Faculty Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees policy – J. Wingard

J. Wingard introduced the item and said that a rationale would be included when it went to the Senate. He discussed the history of the policy and noted the name had been change to Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees. The recent revision passed by the Senate was denied by the President and J. Wingard

listed the objections. He presented the newly revised policy. There was some discussion. **Approved for the Senate agenda.**

Changes to Structure and Functions in the by-laws – J. Wingard

J. Wingard introduced the item and noted that it brought the committee into conformity with other governance committees by having the chair of S&F be elected by the committee and not be automatically the Chair-Elect. He offered a variety of other reasons for the change. **Approved for Senate agenda.**

Revision to WEPT policy – C. Works

C. Works introduced the item. She noted that the current policy was not accurate anymore and thus a change was needed. There was some discussion. **Approved for the Senate agenda.**

SAC Report – D. Girman

D. Girman reported on their work with changing the grade appeal policy concerning grades given in culminating coursework and after much consideration and talking with the CSU Counsel, it was determined that no change needed to be made to the policy and it was more a process issue. Another issue from the Fairness Board had come forward regarding the class attendance policy in the catalog. They had a grade appeal case where both the student and faculty member used the same policy to make their case. SAC was reviewing it and had asked AFS for their input. He noted that SAC developed a resolution about the minimal level of advising holds and they would be sending the resolution to FSAC for review, particularly regarding workload for faculty.

FSAC Report continued – R. Senghas

R. Senghas noted that the item of having a voting Emeritus Faculty member seat on the Senate was coming to FSAC from S&F. The Chair noted that this required a constitutional change. R. Senghas asked that any questions about this matter be sent to him via email.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Susan Moulton

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes 4/15/10 - emailed

Revision to English, Single Subject Credential – emailed

New program track in Communication Development in ELSE – emailed

New minor on Queer Studies - emailed

BUSINESS (in time certain order)

1. Revision to the WEPT Policy – First Reading – C. Works – attached T. C. 4:00
2. Revision to Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees – First Reading – J. Wingard – attached T. C. 4:15
3. From S&F: Changes to S&F by-laws – First Reading – J. Wingard – attached T. C. 4:30
4. Report back from Ex Com on referral from Senate re: format of online forum related to table resolution on no confidence – First Reading – S. Moulton - attached T. C. 4:45

Approved.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega