

## **Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

March 12, 2009

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

**Present:** Catherine Nelson, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Sunil Tiwari, Art Warmoth, Deb Kindy, Susan Moulton, Eduardo Ochoa, Terry Lease, Karen Thompson, Ruben Armiñana, Scott Miller, Sam Brannen, Tim Wandling

**Absent:** Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Thaine Stearns, Andy Merrifield

**Guests:** Derek Pierre, Carmen Works

**Approval of Agenda – Approved.**

**Approval of Minutes of 2/26/09 – amended and approved.**

**Correspondence Received** – The Chair received a letter from Dean Rahimi regarding recognizing Nowrooz as the first day of Spring. He noted a video online that explained the tradition. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQbCfelHSxI>). There was support for the Executive Committee to invite Dean Rahimi to speak on this topic.

### **Chair Report – S. Miller**

S. Miller clarified questions from the last Executive Committee about lecturer units on the Senate. He said although the resolution about the lecturer units uses the word “pool of units,” we do not have a policy that describes a pool of units for release time for governance. We have a tradition in the form of an agreement between the Executive Committee and the Provost’s office. There is a long-standing tradition of collegial work on this. Most requests from the Executive Committee have been honored. It is up to the Executive Committee to forward a request along the lines of what S. Wilson asked. A member suggested that release time be returned to lecturers’ programs or departments to replace that work. There was a suggestion that release time be given to the immediate past Chair and that the Chair’s position be extended through the summer. There was a short discussion about the release time for the Chair.

### **President Report – R. Armiñana**

R. Armiñana reported that it seems that the State would not get the full amount of the Federal Stimulus package which triggers another \$50 million cut to the CSU and the UC. SSU’s share of that is about \$1.3 million in additional cuts. He also reported that the Trustees would not discuss the increase in student fees at their next meeting. He said the fee increase will most likely be 10% and probably enacted in June. He noted this was speculative. The UC announced yesterday for the summer semester, they are increasing tuition by 9.2%. He then talked about the May 19<sup>th</sup> special election and the initiatives in political terms. The Chair asked about the mood in the Chancellor’s office. The President said it’s very sad and grim. The Chair noted that the additional \$50 million appeared to trigger lay-offs at other campuses. The President said that was correct. A member asked if the fee increases would cover the

\$50 million. The President answered that the fee increase helps the original \$63 million cut, but does not affect this new figure of \$50 million or the increases in mandatory costs. A member asked the President what directive he will get from the Chancellor's office or the Board of Trustees on dealing with the cuts. The President said at this point, we cannot decrease enrollment and the system may not even reach target. Enrollment is affected by fewer classes. Enrollment numbers and fewer academic offerings effects a decrease in academic quality. If lay-offs were considered, it would affect all levels of the university. He noted that many positions are open that will not be filled. He noted the overall affect of increasing fees, which has limits, and a decrease in academic offerings and academic quality.

### **Provost Report – E. Ochoa**

E. Ochoa followed up the President's report noting how the cuts would affect Academic Affairs specifically. He said it looked like the division would have a cut of \$1.59 million. They are starting to work with potential scenarios. They are also getting additional feedback on the revised registration process for the fall. He described the thinking about the revised registration process so far. There would be one registration with two passes and an open enrollment period. He discussed how particular types of students would register such as priority registration students and transfer students. He discussed other feedback they had received.

Time Certain reached.

### **Revision to the RTP policy – S. Tiwari and P. Hammett**

S. Tiwari introduced the item. He noted the revised RTP policy that was approved by the Senate last year is now being implemented. M. Barnard and P. Hammett have met with all the Schools and developed a list of issues and concerns about the RTP policy. These mainly stem from inconsistencies with the CBA and ambiguous language in the policy. P. Hammett summarized the issues for the committee. She also passed out a revised document replacing the one previously provided in the meeting packet. There was some discussion.

### **Provost Report continued – E. Ochoa**

E. Ochoa reported on the textbook selection process and said he found out that there is a real person interface between the ordering and the web posting of book information. This helps deal with some of the questions about book ordering and so they will use the campus bookstore's database to gather the information about textbooks and have that posted on the web. He said they are re-initiating the conversation about the allocation of faculty development money. A matrix for allocation is going to the Schools. He described ideas he had about prioritizing the money to gear it towards outcomes. He reported that many RSCAP proposals came in this year, more than there was money for from the Chancellor's office. After some consultation, he was able to fund \$43,000 more in proposals. A member requested that students not be given enrollment times twice in a semester as it is very disruptive to class. A member argued that if lay offs should come, then all priorities would need to be revisited. The President said there would be no layoffs of

permanent employees. There were further questions about registration and the professional development money.

### **New pre-law concentration in Philosophy – C. Works**

C. Works said that EPC approved the item unanimously. There were questions about the Applied Ethics course. There were suggestions to enhance clarity in the document. **There was a motion that the item was not ready for the Senate. Second.** There was discussion. *No objection.*

### **Revision to Philosophy curriculum – C. Works**

C. Works said that Philosophy is revamping their entire curriculum. She said all the members of Philosophy feel that they inherited a curriculum. They recently did a program review and want to make the curriculum more interesting to their students and more interesting to teach. The new courses reflect the current faculty's interest and research. There was discussion. **Motion for item to be on the consent calendar. Second. Objection. Motion to send item back to the Philosophy Department for clean up revision. Second. Approved.**

### **New concentration in ENSP – C. Works**

C. Works said the concentration could be applied to the BA or the BS in ENSP. She said they have been teaching it “unofficially” for twenty years and now they want it to be an official concentration that would show on a student's degree. There was no new curriculum. Further information about the program not included in the packet was provided to the committee. Later in the meeting it was approved for the Senate agenda.

## **Senate Agenda**

### **AGENDA**

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Scott Miller

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

New concentration in ENSP- emailed

➤ Update on WASC

### **BUSINESS**

1. Resolution in Support of Low Cost Books for Students – Second Reading – R. Luttmann – (3/5 agenda) T. C. 3:20
2. Revision to the Excellence in Teaching Award policy – Second Reading – S. Tiwari – (3/5 handout emailed)

3. Revision to Faculty Representation on Administrative Search Committees policy – First Reading – S. Moulton (3/5 agenda)
4. Resolution in Support of Fall WASC visit welcoming Pep Rally & Bonfire (including weenie roast and Phillips-Lopez's home-brewed Applejack)
5. Revision to the RTP Policy – S. Tiwari – First Reading – attachments
6. WASC discussion: *topic deferred until later in the meeting*. T. C. 4:30

*Approved.*

#### **Notes on GE reform: WASC's expectations of Fall 2009 EER – T. Wandling**

T. Wandling discussed his concerns about planning in the context of the WASC upcoming visit and proposed that at the next Senate meeting the WASC discussion be about planning and GE be discussed at the subsequent meeting. There was substantial discussion. T. Wandling suggested that the GE pathways go before the Senate again.

**Motion for the ENSP curriculum revision to be on the consent calendar. Second. No objection.**

**Motion for the WASC Discussion to be on planning at the next meeting. Second. No objection.**

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

M. Lopez-Phillips reported that the Ad-Hoc Diversity committee has come up with a set of recommendations for the CCGS that would come before the Executive Committee soon. He noted there was a hiring cycle for Student Affairs personnel and he has mocked up a job description, for discussion only, in anticipation of that position becoming available, so that highly qualified people are not missed.

#### **Chair-Elect Report – S. Moulton**

S. Moulton reported that Structure and Functions is going over the by-laws and asked the Standing Committee Chairs to go over their section of the by-laws to make sure it is accurate. Any updates or changes can be sent to S. Moulton.

*Adjourned.*

*Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega*

