

Senate Executive Committee
December 6, 2007
3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Present: Tim Wandling, Scott Miller, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Art Warmoth, Thaine Stearns, Ruben Armiñana, Karen Thompson, Robert McNamara, John Wingard, Elaine McDonald, Edith Mendez, Susan Moulton

Absent: Maria Hess, Eduardo Ochoa

Guests: Steve Wilson, Pat Fuscaldo, Bonnie Sugiyama, Bill Fusco, Chuck Rhodes, students of the Queer/Straight Alliance and members of the SSU Basketball team.

Approval of Agenda – *Approved.*

Approval of Minutes of 10/4/07 – *Approved.*

Chair Report – T. Wandling

T. Wandling began his report by talking about the visit of Coach Fuscaldo. He said that when the Senate passed the resolution (<http://www.sonoma.edu/Senate/Resolutions/ReaffirmNonDisc.html>) is seemed non-controversial and the President did agree with the Senate's recommendation. The Chair then said that he had been made more aware of the other side of the issue and thought that's what they would hear today from Coach Fuscaldo. He had talked with S. Miller and E. McDonald about this visit and told the body he thought the Coach might ask to speak to the Senate. He thought the best place to talk about the process of the Senate was in the Executive Committee, not the Senate. He also asked the body to be good listeners and to take the tone of people having been heard and let them know we will reflect on our process. He also wanted to talk about the Focus the Nation initiative. He said he had heard some people were upset that the Focus the Nation group had scheduled a major activity during a Senate meeting. The Chair validated the student activism and asked if the body could look to that and not get bogged down in the details.

Question for the Chair

A member commented on the visit from the Coach and said he thought this body had a legitimate right to defend itself about its process. The Chair thought that the Executive Committee did not think there was a process problem, but he didn't want to make a big deal about it and to just hear people's feelings.

Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara commented on the resolution passed by the Statewide Senate regarding votes of no confidence. He pointed out that there was a resolved clause that called for consultation in these matters from the Chancellor's office in order to move forward in a positive way. He said it was his information that the Vice Chancellor of Academics would visit a campus with a no confidence vote, but that

didn't happen here or at Sacramento. He heard this was due to the bad climate from the latest bargaining effort.

Chair-Elect Report – S. Miller

S. Miller reported that Structures and Functions is considering two changes to the Constitution. The biggest one is the definition of faculty in the Constitution. The Senate Analyst has engaged the committee in a fascinating and very productive discussion of a study of School Representatives that is on-going. They are working on Dean reviews. They are also working on the updating the policy of Faculty Representation on Administrative Appointment Committees. Consultation processes are also on their agenda. They are also looking for the next Chair-Elect. A member asked if they were looking at creating two-year terms for the Chair position. S. Miller said it was on their agenda, but not a priority.

Vice President of Administration and Finance Report – L. Furukawa-Schlereth

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported on his meeting with other CFO's in the system and said he heard the first worrisome news about the state budget. There's a 10% figure out there. The Chancellor is in Sacramento talking to Finance. There are concerns that the compact might not be funded. He thought the '08-'09 year may be rough financially. He stressed how important it will be to be close to target and not over-enroll. He reported on his progress gathering information on repairing the base. He has found that he needs to meet not only with the Deans and Administrative Managers, but needs to meet with the Standing Committees of the Senate. He may also meet with the Department Chairs for that perspective too. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said he was not sure how much consultation was needed and said he might look to the Executive Committee for guidance on this matter. Then he spoke about his reflection on the last Senate meeting discussion after his report and came away with the feeling that there is still mistrust about the post award process with grants and contracts. He will bring that to the CRC and possibly FSSP. He feels understanding the consultation process is essential now. He also said he would post the names of the auditors for current audits at this point. He noted that the Grants and Contracts audit was completed and now online.

(http://www.calstate.edu/audit/audit_reports/contracts_grants/index.shtml) A member asked what repairing the base meant. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said that it was a term he came up with. He noted that in '02-'03 and '03-'04 a substantial amount of money was taken from the campus and never recovered. He said now he sees certain things that are at a crisis stage. Some of the things are organizationally life threatening, and that will be his first goal, to identify those things that are life threatening and then develop financial strategies that will address those issues over the years. He wants to develop a consensus about what the highest priorities are and develop the budget strategically. The Chair noted that he thought the CFO's report did demonstrate consultation today.

Academic Freedom Policy – S. Shand

S. Shand introduced the policy and the attached documents. She said the policy was approved by FSAC and one concern the Academic Freedom Subcommittee had with

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the policy was that there was one reference to the statement on collegiality and they didn't think that the statement on collegiality had come before the Executive Committee, so she asked that both items be considered together. Another question they had was, who would address grievances, if any, regarding academic freedom? The body asked what was new in the policy and S. Shand gave an overview of the changes. The body asked where they got their language for the policy. She said they looked at current policies, the AAUP statement, and statewide documents. A member asked why the policy does not include the Academic Freedom complaint procedures. S. Shand said she would bring that back to the committee. The Chair argued that the document was not ready for the Senate as it needed a legislative history, a document showing the changes and a rationale. The Chair also suggested to put in what is not included under academic freedom. S. Shand said they talked about that a lot and deliberately left some parts of the policy vague. A member suggested they make a recommendation about who should address academic freedom grievances. **There was a motion to refer the item back to FSAC. Second. Approved.**

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APC report – A. Warmoth

A. Warmoth thanked L. Furukawa-Schlereth for being willing to consult with the Standing Committees on repairing the base. He said APC is working on understanding what is going on with the SFR calculation. Once they understand that, they want to see how the virtual SFR is working in the Schools and with resource allocations. They are also working on a project for faculty to take control of the decisions about the direction of the curriculum via various [?] scenarios.

EPC report – T. Stearns

T. Stearns reported that EPC has coming up: the first reading of the FYE course and second readings of the Singapore Program and the resolution on CLA. The guidelines for the academic calendar are also being worked on, but new programs and revisions to programs have engaged the committee substantially this semester. He then asked for guidance about whether or how to alert the campus community to the review of the FYE program. The APC chair said they would like to make recommendations on FYE to EPC. It was suggested that the EPC chair notify the Senate in his report about EPC's consideration of FYE.

Visit from Coach Fuscaldò (and others)

The Chair noted to all the guests that this committee was the place to come to talk to faculty governance about its processes. He noted that the Coach had asked to come to talk about the Resolution Reaffirming the Non-Discrimination Policy. The Coach thanked the body for having him. He said he wanted to shed light on things that have been reported in the media. He then described the circumstances that led him to name the Basketball Tournament after Ron Logsdon, a personal friend that he admired. He talked extensively about his motivation for accepting the U.S. Army as the sponsor for the tournament. *(It is recommended to listen to the digital minutes for this discussion).* He ended by noting that relationships start with trust and better communication between departments is a beginning for that. A member said she

was moved by his talk and said she thought he could express his sentiments at the tournament too. The Chair noted that the Coach's talk pointed to other places where learning can happen on campus besides the classroom. A member said he thought this was a good conversation and could continue for next year. B. Sugiyama from the Center for Gender, Culture and Sexuality said she thought the body needed to hear from students and brought two students from the Queer Straight Alliance who spoke to the committee. The students provided the variety of views on the topic expressed in the QSA. The Chair thanked the guests and said the committee heard them and will reflect on the Senate's process.

Transforming Course Design – T. Wandling

T. Wandling introduced the topic. R. McNamara described Transforming Course Design as part of the Facilitating Graduation initiative from the Chancellor's office. It is intended for cost reduction and meant to target courses with high enrollment, unsatisfactory rates of student success and faculty willing to participate in changing the success rates. His concern is about academic freedom, as they are putting together course design teams that will be created on the different campuses. These teams will work with departments. The concern is who will make up these teams. He was concerned that the Provost was not in attendance, as he has more questions. He noted that the deadlines are fast approaching and he pointed out that there was supposed to be "robust" consultation with campus Senates which has not happened. This was his major concern. A few members express their opinion that high fail rates were not intrinsically bad and that the communication about this initiative had been poor. R. McNamara then spoke about the Institute for Teaching and Learning and its Discipline Research Project. He said the project shared some goals with the Transforming Course Design, but was a statewide faculty-led initiative, and he described its different approach to the issues. The Chair asked if the campus could take the money and do what we want with it. He suggested the item be referred to EPC. A member questioned the logic of the Transforming Course Design project and expressed a negative opinion about it. **Motion to refer to EPC. Second.** The Chair of EPC asked for some clarification. The Chair asked if the President had any information about the process. The President said he thought there have been discussions in the Provost's group about so-called "bottleneck" courses and he thought that the cost would affect students, not the university. He said he knew that the process had not evolved appropriately on this campus. The Chair said he wanted to keep the item on the agenda for further discussion. There was further discussion about what exactly EPC should do. **Vote on referring the item to EPC. Approved.**

Engineering Science Revision and Anthropology and Linguistics Revision – T. Stearns

T. Stearns described the additional information he added in the cover letters. There was discussion about curricular items on the consent calendar and the objection raised at the last Senate meeting. There was agreement in the body that consent calendar items should only be brought off for specific concerns, not for a request for a report on the item. **No objections to these items to be on the Senate's consent calendar.**

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The Chair spoke for a few minutes on the Faculty Retreat and asked for suggestions via email. There was some discussion.

Focus the Nation resolution – T. Wandling

There was a wide-ranging discussion about the Focus the Nation project and the nature of the Senate's participation. There were suggestions about how to run the Senate meeting that day.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Tim Wandling

Correspondences

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes 10/11/07 emailed

Engineering Science revision – attachment

Anthro & Linguistics revision – attachment

➤ Update on WASC

BUSINESS

1. Revision to Grade Appeal Procedures – Second Reading - K. Thompson – (11/29 agenda) T.C. 3:30
2. Sustainability Resolution – Second Reading – A. Warmoth – (11/29 agenda)
3. APC recommendation: Schools to Colleges – Second Reading (11/8 agenda)
4. Focus the Nation – Second Reading – T. Dondero & S. Milne – attachment T.C. 4:00
5. TESL Discontinuance – First Reading – T. Stearns – attachment T. C. 3:15
6. Ad-Hoc Committee: Resolution Regarding Independent Audit of Grants and Contracts on Campus and the California Institute on Human Services – Second Reading – N. Byrne – attachment T. C. 4:30

Approved.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström