

Senate Executive Committee Minutes

October 8, 2009

3:00 – 5:00, Sue Jameson Room

Abstract

WASC Team Members Visit. Agenda Approved. Minutes delayed. Correspondence presented. Provost Report. Statewide Senator Report. Chair-Elect Report. Vice President for Administration and Finance Report. Vice President for SAEM Report. Associated Students Report. APC Report. EPC Report. SAC Report. CFA Report. FSAC Report. Faculty for Space Committee. Revision to by-laws: Charge of SAC approved for Senate agenda. Spring Convocation and Faculty Retreat. Senate agenda approved.

Present: Susan Moulton, Scott Miller, John Wingard, Derek Girman, Andy Merrifield, Margie Purser, Ruben Armiñana, Matthew Lopez-Phillips, Robert McNamara, Carmen Works, Sam Brannen, Kelly Estrada, Larry Furukawa-Schlereth, Eduardo Ochoa

Absent: Paula Hammett, Deb Kindy

Guests: Jenny Tice, Viki Montera, Steve Wilson and members of the WASC visiting team: Paul Gaston, Desdemona Cardoza, and Terry Wildman

The meeting began with the WASC visiting team members.

P. Gaston noted the meeting was the last meeting of the team visit. He noted the team felt they needed to provide a context that will make sense now and fifteen years from now. They had begun a sketch of a preface about conducting an accreditation review in a time of financial crisis. He noted that the campus had not made excuses for itself because of the budget issues and that it was clear to them that the campus intended to pursue its priorities and weather the storm. He said also the WASC team was just as committed to doing a rigorous, analytical and objective a review as they ever would be while acknowledging the stress and hoping to be of assistance to strengthen an effective university. He asked the body, from their perspective, what they would expect to see in the review that was either a concern or a point of pride.

J. Tice said she saw a point of pride as student involvement outside the classroom. A member discussed her participation in FYE as the faculty-in-residence and the kinds of activities she coordinated for her residential community. The Chair spoke about the high degree of faculty involvement with students in and out of the classroom. She also spoke about creative responses to the budget crisis. A member noted that he would like the committee to address how the CPR WASC visit had helped the campus. He thought the campus was more thoughtful now. A member noted that the WASC visit did not make the campus suddenly more interested in improvement and said he thought faculty in the CSU were highly committed despite the difficult conditions. The Provost noted the added structure and benefit available from the WASC review. P. Gaston commented on the deadline function of WASC and thought the review would help give the campus legs to move forward. He then said he thought that the budget crisis might heighten public discourse about the value of higher education in California and asked if

anyone was seeing evidence of that. A member suggested that perhaps the state was in decline and would not get better. A member said she was hearing two versions of how to get out of this among faculty – 1) that it would be a good thing to have less access and to have fewer people coming in to higher education and 2) to go the opposite direction and help develop the kinds of leadership the 21st century demands. She noted that in the WASC process, she found the focus on assessment troubling as it focused on the past and not the future. A member said the most positive side of the politics in California was the student activism toward higher education. He noted the Alliance for the CSU. He thought it had not permeated public consciousness. The Provost said he thought the State had serious political and structural problems and wondered if the US would let the 9th largest world economy decline even more. The President said people in the CSU and in higher education felt a deep sense of abandonment, especially since higher education contributes so much to the economy of the state. He noted the pattern of the state, economically, was that it goes up fast and down fast. So, he thought it would get better sooner than we think. He thought the question was how to capture the prosperity in that moment and keep it. He also discussed the constitutional issues facing California that could help stabilize the ups and down. He noted he would like to see in the report that SSU is persevering. The Chair noted the need for new methodologies to deal with the cuts coming to campus. She hoped for more shared decision-making particularly regarding budget issues. The Provost hoped that the WASC team would go beyond a snapshot of the institution and note trends in the environment. The Chair noted the stress and increased workload on the staff. P. Gaston thanked the committee and the campus for its hospitality. The WASC team then left the meeting for a much anticipated trip to The Citadel in San Francisco.

Agenda approved.

Minutes delayed.

Correspondence – The Chair noted correspondence from the President about the policy on Faculty Representation on Administrative Appointment committee and said it would go to Structure and Functions for review.

Chair Report - S. Moulton

The Chair asked the Provost for a summary report of the WASC exit comments at the Senate. She also noted there was interest in having more discussion on Diversity at the Senate. She was particularly interested in the loss of money for Roseland University Prep. M. Lopez-Phillips said that the scholarship money for the RUP students was secure through the Spring, but after that, it was unsure. He suggested having J. Chong at the Senate as she sits on the Board of RUP. The President noted that some students from RUP were funded through Pell Grants and other financial aid. The RUP Board money was helping students whose immigration status did not allow them to apply for financial aid. The Chair asked for updates on the funding for the MESA program and the CCGS.

Provost Report – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa reported that there seemed to be difficulty reaching the self imposed target. He was starting to get a fix on the situation. The Chair asked for census data with FTES, etc. J. Tice asked for that data to be sent to students, so they can get angry. The Provost noted that the Deans have back up plans in case more money becomes available. The President asked the body to believe in small miracles.

Statewide Senator Report – R. McNamara

R. McNamara reported that the Governor's office still has not appointed a trustee. He saw this as a concern for faculty governance statewide. The statewide travel budget has been decimated. He noted other statewide programs being negatively affected by the budget reductions. He discussed resolutions before the Statewide Senate. He asked for input on the resolutions. A member asked about a rumor that there was a systemwide push to align GE. R. McNamara said C. Nelson was on the GE statewide committee and would have a better answer. The President noted that there was interest among the community colleges to have a degree in transfer studies to allow students to transfer easily to the CSU and the UC. He discussed the issues surrounding this kind of alignment between colleges.

Chair-Elect Report – J. Wingard

J. Wingard reported that Structure and Functions had made two committee appointments – Scott Nickleach for the Student Affairs and Enrollment Council and John Urbanski for the Student Union Board. There was no objection to either appointment. He said S&F was also working on the list of faculty on non-Senate Committees.

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

L. Furukawa-Schlereth reported that all student scholarships were funded for the '09- '10 year. The next big budget agenda topic was the impact of the furloughs. They now had one good month of data about the savings from the furlough. He found they are short of what they projected, so that would need to be shored up. The next issue was the course section question and the need to mount a schedule. He also discussed the endowment distribution and the athletics challenge. He was exploring and developing financial opportunities that he would present at PBAC in November. He thought the course section issue would have to be dealt with sooner and said he did not think there would be much time for consultation. He didn't think money for courses would be very controversial. He noted that it was time to think about '10-'11 scholarships and he had been meeting with the ASI about this topic. He thought student scholarships were a high priority for the campus. He noted the money needed was about \$400,000 to \$600,000 for all scholarships, including athletes. A member noted that in S&T they are having problems meeting target without scheduling large classes, but they don't have the space for large classes. He asked if they could teach in the Commons without paying rent. L. Furukawa-Schlereth said it was possible, but asked them to not schedule during lunch time. The Chair asked if Town Hall meetings were being scheduled. L.

Furukawa-Schlereth said those were being scheduled through Dan Condron's office and he thought there was one in October on budget, one in November on the Foundation and there would not be one in December. The Chair asked him to report the specifics to the Senate. The Chair asked about the recent \$178,000 assessment to School of Arts and Humanities for the Green Music Center. The Provost said the assessment was part of the debt service for the Green Music Center from the Center for Performing Arts. He also said rental revenues were anticipated from the GMC, but have not materialized yet due to the project being incomplete. It was clarified that CPA funding was not general fund money. A member asked if the campus had any scholarships for Hispanic students in the local area. The President said those kinds of ethnicity targeted scholarships were now against the law because of Prop. 209. The member asked if some sort of scholarship, like the Doyle scholarship at the JC, could be created for SSU. She thought there was a small window of opportunity to create conditions for more diversity on campus from the local area. The President noted the very small pool of students that were eligible for college from our local area. There was further discussion on this topic.

Vice President of SAEM Report – M. Lopez-Phillips

M. Lopez-Phillips announced that over 100 local area counselors would be on campus next week for a conference and encouraged faculty to come talk to them about why they should send their students here. He noted the BSU and Latino/Latina students were having their welcome back barbeques and the coming weekend was Parents and Families weekend.

Associated Students – J. Tice

J. Tice reported on all the activities for Spirit week and how they are promoting Sonoma State spirit. She also talked about the vent tent event coming up. A resolution from the past Chair was sent to the Student Senate about academic advising and it was killed on the floor. They want to start over with the issue due to the changed circumstances.

APC Report – K. Estrada

K. Estrada reported that APC had identified their top items for JCAP. She planned to meet with Structure and Functions to talk about the relationship between APC and JCAP. She thought they were moving in the direction of having more integral people on JCAP to help move the planning efforts forward.

EPC Report – C. Works

C. Works reported that EPC was still working on the Discontinuance policy and program reviews. She then reported on their meeting with WASC. She said there were very pointed questions about program review and assessment. She thought the campus was no longer at the bottom, but not on the top yet either. There were a couple of questions about training for assessment. In GE they asked about the campus identity and how GE fit in with that. She thought that was something they were still working on. All in all she thought it went ok. She said faculty were talking

to her about the Op Ed piece in the STAR from the Provost where it appeared the Provost said faculty did not care about students. The Provost said he was making the point that the administration cares as much about the students as faculty do in his editorial.

SAC Report – D. Girman

D. Girman said that SAC invited E. Velasquez-Andrade and S. Cabaniss to talk about how to take the Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee work and activate it via SAC. They had a wide ranging conversation. They wanted to find cost-free items first and then prioritize other items for when the budget improves. They may do some policy investigations initially.

CFA Report – A. Merrifield

A. Merrifield said CFA has heard that faculty in different Schools were reporting violations of the MOU on furloughs. He gave examples. He noted CFA was concerned. They were monitoring the situation. They did not yet have the numbers on the reduction of lecturers.

FSAC Report – V. Montera

V. Montera reported for P. Hammett. She said FSAC was looking at the review of lecturers in conjunction with the CBA and thought they would have something for the Senate in the Spring. FSAC also discussed the furloughs and probationary faculty being able to extend their RTP year. They were not prepared to take a position on that. They will look at the Diversity report at their next meeting and were drafting a statement on the RSCAP funding.

Faculty for the Space Committee – E. Ochoa

E. Ochoa requested two new faculty members for the Space Committee.

By-Laws: Revision to the Charge of SAC – J. Wingard

J. Wingard said that S&F had approved the revision to the Charge of SAC and turned the floor over to the Chair of SAC to discuss the revisions. Changes were made to show the correct subcommittees and liaisons of SAC currently. They also changed student membership on the Academic Advising subcommittee to two instead of three. **Approved for Senate agenda.**

Spring Convocation and Faculty Retreat – S. Moulton

S. Moulton suggested switching the Convocation and Faculty Retreat so the President could attend the Convocation. She suggested as a topic for the Retreat some brainstorming about personal survival and re-making our curriculum in this time. She thought the Convocation should be a traditional format as there would be need for reports. She suggested talking more about it at the next meeting.

The Chair reported that the Emeritus Dinner would be held at the French Garden restaurant in Sebastopol on November 15th.

Senate Agenda

AGENDA

Report of the Chair of the Senate – Susan Moulton

Correspondences

Consent Items:

 Approval of the Agenda

 Approval of Minutes

➤ Update on WASC 3:10

BUSINESS

1. Resolution recognizing the work of the Senate's Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee – Second Reading – S. Miller - attachment
2. By-Laws Revision: Change to Charge of SAC – First Reading — J. Wingard – attachment T. C. 3:15
3. Diversity discussion (Ad-Hoc Committee reports available at: <http://www.sonoma.edu/Senate/AdHocDiversity.html>)
T. C. 4:30

Standing Reports

1. President of the University - (R. Armiñana) T. C. 3:50
2. Provost/Vice-President, Academic Affairs - (E. Ochoa) T. C. 4:00
3. Vice President/Admin & Finance - (L. Furukawa-Schlereth)
T. C. 4:10
4. Vice-President of SAEM – (M. Lopez-Phillips) T. C. 4:15
5. Vice-President of Associated Students – (J. Tice) T. C. 4:20
6. Chair-Elect of the Senate - (J. Wingard) T. C. 3:30
7. Statewide Senators - (R. McNamara, C. Nelson) T. C. 3:35 & 4:25
8. Chairs, Standing Committee - (Estrada, Works, Hammett, Girman)
9. CFA Chapter President – (A. Merrifield)

Occasional Reports

1. Senate Budget Committee – (T. Wandling)
2. Senate Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee – (B. Lesch-McCaffry, E. Velasquez-Andrade)
3. Staff Representative – D. Bainter T. C. 3:45

Items from the Floor

Good of the Order

Adjournment

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Holmström Vega