Faculty President Matos called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Michael Bennett, Raymond Brie (excused), Brian Connett (excused), Vincentiu Covrig, David Cutcher, Owen Doonan (excused), Susanna Eng (excused), Ellis Godard (excused), David Gray, Adam Haverstock, Barbara Jordan (excused), Sabina Magliocco, Gina Masequesmay (excused), Lara Medina, John O’Brien (excused), Clara Park (excused), Alberto Restori, Jennifer Romack (excused), Denise Sandoval (excused), David Wakefield (excused), Veda Ward (excused)

The Faculty Senate Minutes from October 25, 2007 were approved as distributed.

Announcements

a. The deadline for faculty award nominations is February 25, 2008. Supporting materials are due to the Faculty Senate Office on March 24, 2008.

b. Senator Michael Neubauer announced that WASC has accepted the institutional proposal and we received praise. Task forces are now being formed and letters requesting participation will be sent out.

c. President Koester’s Faculty Governance Reception will be on May 1, 2008. All Senators will be invited.

d. Senator Cecile Bendavid was named Woman of the Year for the 40th Assembly District by Assembly member Lloyd Levine. The award will be presented on March 10, 2008, in Sacramento, at a meeting of the California Assembly.

e. Shannon Morgan, Chair of EPC, announced that there is a critical need for more General Education courses to be designated as IC (Information Competence). Courses will need to address five additional learning outcomes to meet the criteria.

f. The 2008-2009 Freshman Common Reading book will be Nickel and Dimed by Barbara Ehrenreich. Faculty interested in adopting the book in their courses should contact Cheryl Spector for a copy. More information is posted at: http://www.csun.edu/afye/

Policy Item – Educational Equity Committee
Shane Frehlich, Chair

Action Item – Timely Adoption of Textbooks/Instructional Materials for Accessibility Policy

Frehlich explained that this policy is necessary to be in compliance with Executive Order 926, mandating that the CSU make information technology resources and services accessible to all
CSU students, faculty, staff and the general public regardless of disability. Instructional materials, to the extent possible, must be accessible to students with disabilities at the same time they are available to any other student enrolled in the program. Campuses were asked by the Chancellor’s Office to create a plan to support faculty and staff practices that will ensure timely access to textbooks and instructional materials and we certainly wish to comply with this request.

Some Senators were concerned about meeting the eight (8) week deadline for submitting their textbook and/or instructional materials requests. The uncertainty of not knowing what course materials will be used so early (eight weeks before the start of the term) and the lateness in hiring some lecturers would make it difficult to comply. It was suggested that we urge the Chancellor’s Office to work with publishers to make sure textbooks and instructional materials are offered in an accessible format.

MSP to amend the proposed policy to read: It is the policy of the CSU to make information technology resources and services accessible to all CSU students, faculty, staff and the general public regardless of disability. As part of that policy all CSUN faculty shall, whenever possible, submit their textbooks and/or instructional materials requests by a University deadline established by Academic Affairs that is to be included in the University calendar and that is not less than eight (8) weeks prior to the beginning of the semester.

The motion to approve the policy as amended was passed. President Koester addressed the Senate and noted that the University is responsible for complying with the law. She will be held accountable for CSUN so she will have determine whether this policy will stand the test of the law.

President’s Report – Jolene Koester, President

President Jolene Koester reported on the following items:

1. The state auditors have investigated compensation and hiring practices in the CSU. Their report includes recommendations that will likely be negotiated at the bargaining table. One recommendation from the state auditor is that all CSU employees be required to report annually all outside employment. Another key recommendation is that, rather than using only salary as the benchmark for comparison, total compensation (including benefits such as health care) be used as the comparison benchmark. A third major recommendation has to do with faculty hiring processes. It suggests that the Chancellor’s Office provide more standardization across CSU campuses on practices for constituting the search committees for faculty hiring.

2. The National Center for Education Statistics compares data across universities. President Koester shared some of the data from a report which compares our university with 20 other regional comprehensive universities with similar missions and profiles. This report is posted on the Faculty Senate website: [http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2007.pdf](http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2007.pdf)

3. The Governor’s budget recommendation does not fulfill the Compact, and he did not recommend the $386 million additional base budget that the Board of Trustees asked the Department of Finance to support. The CSU and student and labor union representatives have gone to Sacramento, and will continue to go to Sacramento, to ask for this money. The Governor’s budget also cuts $113 million from this year’s CSU base budget (our campus’s share is 7-8% of the total). The Chancellor’s Office has asked us to keep our 2008-09
enrollments at the 2007-08 budgeted enrollment level. We will have to manage enrollment very carefully. As a campus, we have considerable experience in handling budget downturns. Everything possible will be done to protect employees. Faculty were encouraged to remain calm given this budget information.

**Policy Items – Educational Policies Committee**
Shannon Morgan, Chair

**Action Item – Reinstatement after the Third Disqualification Policy**

The proposed policy would allow a student who has been disqualified three times to reapply for admission to the university after an absence of five years or more. The student would have to provide evidence that demonstrates acquired skills or achievements that would support a successful return to the University. This would allow a person one final opportunity to attain their degree from CSUN after taking a break of five years or more; however these students would have to show “compelling evidence” that indicates their ability to complete the degree program. The students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA at all times.

This comes from the Executive Committee with a “do pass.” The motion to approve the policy was **passed.**

**Action Item – Criterion for Continued Enrollment of Readmitted Previously Disqualified Students**

The proposed revision to the policy would require students who have been academically disqualified, but who are readmitted to the University under terms of probation with an Academic Performance Agreement be allowed to continue to enroll in subsequent semesters only if they earn a GPA of 2.0 or higher each semester until both their cumulative total GPA and CSUN GPA return to 2.0. Currently the policy requires a student to demonstrate a 0.05 improvement in their GPA to enroll in a subsequent semester while on probation. This 0.05 GPA improvement is difficult for students to understand and to attain, and difficult for advisors to calculate.

Morgan addressed questions from the Senate. This comes from the Executive Committee with a “do pass.” The motion to approve the policy was **passed.**

**Nominations for Faculty Officers, CSU Academic Senate Representative, and Senators-at Large; recommendations for Senate representatives on Standing Committees**

The following nominations were made by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and/or the Senate:

**Faculty President** (one position, two-year term)
Jennifer Matos

**Vice President** (one position, one-year term)
Ed Alfano, Victor Shaw

**Secretary** (one position, one-year term)
Cheryl Spector
Statewide Academic Senator (one position, three-year term)
Steven Stepanek

Senators-at-Large (six positions, two-year terms)
Steven Stepanek, Rita Basta, Cheryl Spector, Ed Alfano, Joyce Broussard, Paula DiMarco, Marta Lopez-Garza, Michael Neubauer, Veda Ward, Jeff Wiegley, Jared Rappaport, Mary Schaffer, Michael Summers, April Taylor, Kay Pih, RosaMaria Chacon

Nominations made by the Senate Executive Committee for the Standing Committees were read aloud but no additional recommendations were made. Faculty can make additional nominations by a petition signed by 15 members of the faculty due in the Senate Office by February 29. MSP to approve the nominations.

Information Technology Update
Hilary Baker, Vice President for Information Technology

Information Technology is continuing to focus on becoming more service oriented, increasing the reliability and stability of the systems, and on improving project delivery. They are working very closely with the Colleges to increase communication and collaboration and are listening to their needs and are discussing future initiatives. The Academic Technology Committee and the Advisory Committee on Academic Technology are meeting jointly to talk about technology issues and challenges.

Baker reported on some of the key technology support projects currently underway. They are looking at various learning management systems, training and support processes, technology in the classroom and e-mail/calendaring needs. They anticipate being able to support on-line elections next year. Baker answered questions from the Senators concerning issues with WebCT and the possibility of online elections.

Senate Reports

a. Provost’s Report – Harry Hellenbrand, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
   Link to written report: http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/Provost's Report 2-14-08.pdf

   Provost Hellenbrand’s perspective on the budget is posted on the Academic Affair’s website. Information on how the faculty equity process will work will be going out to the departments. He is meeting with the Colleges to talk about the budget cuts. Some faculty searches have been cancelled and we will have to look at ways to meet student faculty ratios. Open meetings will also be scheduled to talk about the budget situation and a final set of plans will be brought to the Senate in a few months.

b. CFA Report – Theresa Montaño, CFA President
   Link to written report: http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/CFA Report 2-14-08.doc

c. Statewide Academic Senate Report – Steven Stepanek, Statewide Academic Senator
   Link to written report: http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/SAS Report 2-14-08.doc

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary
Cheryl Spector, Secretary of the Faculty