

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 3/18/2010
Minutes of Meeting of February 11, 2010
Oviatt Library Presentation Room

Faculty President Matos called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: David Ballard (excused), Cecile Bendavid (excused), Wendy Birky (excused), Nicholas Dungey (excused), Jan Goldsmith, Marta Lopez-Garza (excused), Bradley McAuliff (excused), Theresa Montano, Carolyn Okazaki, Martin Pousson (excused), Mary Schaffer (excused), Mark Steele, Jeff Stork, John Swain (excused), Rishma Vedd (excused), Jeff Wiegley

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for December 10, 2009](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. Nominations for the 2010 faculty awards are due in the Faculty Senate Office on February 22, 2010.
- b. Associated Students President Abel Pacheco asked the Senators for support in transitioning from using blue books to green books (eco-friendly) for exams.
- c. Spector announced that a benefit concert will be held on campus on Friday, February 26th, 7 – 9pm at the Northridge Center, USU, to benefit the Haiti earthquake victims. She offered ways that faculty can help support and promote this event. Flyers were made available on the back table.
- d. Spector announced that the 2010-2011 Freshman common reading is *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. She has a limited number of copies of the book available for interested faculty and staff.

2. Freshman Stretch Composition Pilot

Cynthia Rawitch, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies
Steve Wexler, Chair of the Freshman Stretch Committee

Rawitch reported that EPC approved three versions of the course that will be taught in all five departments that offer courses in writing. A pilot program will begin in Fall 2010 with 300 students. Students completing the course will receive credit for developmental writing and freshman composition.

Wexler stated that other schools using this stretch program have demonstrated outstanding results with increased student retention, a higher pass rate and higher satisfaction. He also explained that Semester one emphasizes **Progressions**: The Deepening, Memory and Visual Imagination, Argument and Reflection. Semester two emphasizes **Projects**: Web, Space and Text.

3. Senate Reports

a. **Provost's Report** – Cynthia Rawitch

Link to written report: www.csun.edu/senate/reports/provostsreport021110.pdf

Rawitch mentioned that Provost Hellenbrand will be holding open budget meetings to discuss the 2010-11 budget and answer questions. A senator asked for a glossary of acronyms for the Provost's Report.

b. **CFA Report** – Cathy Jeppson

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport021110.pdf>

Jeppson brought attention to the March 4th Day of Action.

c. **Statewide Academic Senate Report** – Barbara Swerkes

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport021110.pdf>

An official summary of the resolutions passed and discussed at the January 21-22, 2010 Academic Senate meeting was distributed (see link above). On the graduation initiative, Swerkes pointed out that the Executive Committee of the Statewide Academic Senate formally requested that we have faculty representation in meetings taking place with the campus presidents. She asked the Senators to look for information on early start, remediation, matriculation, and on the lower division transfer project.

4. **General Educational Task Force Recommendations/Resolution** – 1st reading

Vicki Pedone, Chair of GE Governance Task Force

Link to resolution/recommendation report:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/resolutions/gecouncilreport-resolution021110.pdf>

Pedone reminded the Senators that the original recommendation report was presented to the Senate last November. Based on the Senate recommendation, the Task Force consulted with the campus-wide community; all feedback and suggestions were very positive and there was genuine support for establishing a GE Council. The general consensus was that the Council start as a subcommittee of EPC. In addition, EPC has agreed to develop a practice for handling curriculum that is for both GE and major credit. There were no further comments or questions from the Senators. Approval of the GE Council will come to the Senate for a vote in March.

5. **Nominations for Faculty Officers, CSU Academic Senators, and Senators-at-Large; recommendations for Senate Standing Committee representatives**

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

President: Steven Stepanek

Vice President: Cheryl Spector, Victor Shaw

Secretary: Cecile Bendavid, Sandra Chong

Statewide Academic Senators: Cecile Bendavid, Sandra Chong, Jennifer Matos, Kay Kei-ho Pih, Victor Shaw

Senators-at-Large: Dave Ballard, Rita Basta, Cecile Bendavid, Don Brownlee, Paula DiMarco, Owen Doonan, Lynette Henderson, Catherine Jeppson, Amy Levin, Magnhild Lien, Wendy Murawski, Michael Neubauer, Donal O’Sullivan, Kay Kei-ho Pih, Jared Rappaport, Diane Schwartz, Carol Shubin, John Swain, Konstantinos Vrongistinos, David Wakefield, Veda Ward, Jeff Wiegley

Recommendations for the Standing Committees were also made by the Senate. Faculty can make additional nominations by a petition signed by 15 members of the faculty due in the Senate Office by February 24. The election slate will be approved by SEC at their next meeting.

6. **President’s Report** – Jolene Koester

President Koester reported the following:

- a. **Governor’s Budget Recommendations**– in his State of the State Address, the Governor announced that he will seek a constitutional amendment to require the state of California to fund public higher education more than it funds prisons. In his January budget proposal, the Governor recommended restoration of \$305 million to the CSU (the portion for Cal State Northridge is \$21 million). The Governor’s budget proposal also recommended that the CSU receive another \$60.6 million for enrollment growth, but this funding is contingent upon the state receiving a threshold amount in Federal aid for other state programs. It is unknown what will happen during the Legislature’s budget deliberations, so we must now wait. In the meantime, we are planning conservatively.
- b. **Additional Money for 2010-2011** – the CSU received one-time Federal stimulus dollars, making available dollars previously set aside to cover employee payroll. Cal State Northridge received \$1.8 million for Spring 2010 and will receive an additional \$3.66 million for Fall 2010. The money is to be used to add classes and to support efforts to improve graduation rates. We must still continue to manage full-time equivalent enrollment to stay within the enrollment targets defined by the Chancellor’s Office.
- c. **WASC Visiting Team** – a seven-member peer review team visited our campus on February 3-5, 2010 as part of the second phase of our WASC re-accreditation effort, the Capacity and Preparatory Review. The team was extremely complimentary and commended us for many aspects of the way this campus does our work, including our University’s commitment to student learning, our collaborative and consultative work across divisions in carrying out the University’s mission, our effective short and long-term planning, and our use of evidence and institutional research in decision making. President Koester publicly thanked Dean Elizabeth Say, Michael Neubauer, Bettina Huber, and Cynthia Rawitch for their efforts and hard work.

The Senate applauded President Koester because many of the comments from WASC were due to the open and collaborative atmosphere created under her leadership. A senator mentioned that there is statewide discussion on the graduation initiative but there does not appear to be faculty involvement in this discussion. President Koester updated the Senate on the discussions at the statewide level and assured senators that appropriate faculty consultation processes will be utilized at Cal State Northridge.

7. New Business

- a. March 4th “Day of Action” Resolution

Link to approved resolution:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/resolutions/march4resolution021110.pdf>

Senator Amy Dennisen presented a resolution requesting the CSU Northridge Faculty Senate to support the March 4th Day of Action. Dennisen mentioned a few updates to the resolution. **MSP** to unanimously pass the resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

Sandra Chong, Secretary of the Faculty