

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 4/16/09**  
**Minutes of Meeting of March 12, 2009**  
Oviatt Library Presentation Room

Faculty President Matos called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Ed Alfano, (excused), Joyce Broussard (excused), Catherine Coyle-Thompson, Owen Doonan (excused), Deborah Heisley (excused), Hillary Hertzog, Marta Lopez-Garza (excused), Ron McIntyre (excused), Seung-kuk Paik (excused), Miguel Segura, Barbara Swerkes (excused), David Wakefield, Jeff Wiegley (excused)

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for February 12, 2009](#) were approved as distributed.

**1. Announcements**

- a. The Faculty Leadership Reception at President Koester's house will be on May 14, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.
- b. Supporting materials for those nominated for faculty awards are due in the Faculty Senate Office by March 23, 2009.
- c. Faculty elections are taking place. Ballots are due in the Faculty Senate Office by March 26, 2009. Senators were encouraged to vote and to encourage others to vote promptly.
- d. The policy on Certificate Programs will come later in today's agenda to accommodate the schedule of Mack Johnson, Associate VP of Graduate Studies, Research and International Programs.
- e. Senator Ward, as faculty advisor to the AS Senate, asked the Senators to please allow their students classroom time to promote AS elections. Open air forums will be taking place to address election questions.
- f. Senator Neubauer, as chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee, announced that our basketball team is in the Big West tournament, and if they win, they will make the NCAA tournament. Our men's volleyball team will play against UC Irvine for 1<sup>st</sup> place on Friday evening, March 13, at 7:00 pm. Senator Stork's son, Matthew, is one of the star players.
- g. Senator Schmidt-Levy, faculty representative to the USU Board of Directors, asked Senators to encourage their students to contact the USU if they are looking for involvement in leadership activities.

## 2. Probation and Disqualification

Cynthia Rawitch, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies

Link to Report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/probdisqbasics031209.pdf>

A handout was distributed that included a summary of current undergraduate probation and disqualification policies and those that will be new for Fall 2009. Rawitch briefly explained the CSUN policy (#5) which became effective in Fall 2008. She also explained two new CSU policies mandated by the Chancellor's Office (#6 and #7) effective Spring 2009. One Senator asked for more information about the Summer Bridge exception referred to in Item #7.

Item #11 is a pending policy change from the Chancellor's Office. It gives each campus the right to "disqualify a student who at any time during enrollment has demonstrated behavior so contrary to the standards of the profession for which the student is preparing as to render him/her unfit for the profession." Rawitch explained that this policy will go through EPC because we need to come up with a process for implementation. The Senators had many questions relating to enforcement, stricter departmental policies, definitions of "unfit for profession," etc. Rawitch noted that this policy will come back to the Senate for input, guidance and final approval.

## 3. WASC Update

Michael Neubauer, WASC Steering Committee Co-chair

Link to WASC website: <http://www.csun.edu/~instrsch/wasc/index.html>

The proposal submitted to WASC in October 2007 was accepted. This document will guide the Capacity and Preparatory Review and the Educational Effectiveness Review. The themes proposed are:

Theme 1: Student Success through Engagement in Learning

Theme 2: Faculty and Staff Support for University Success

Theme 3: Learning as an Institution

WASC has four standards that we have to address in the process. A task force has been created to work on each theme. Neubauer encouraged the Senators to participate in focus groups examining what we learned as an institution from GE reform, the campus master plan, and the Graduation Rates Task Force. A WASC team will visit the campus in April 2010 for the Capacity and Preparatory Review. The review document must be at WASC in November and it will come before the Senate for discussion at the beginning of the Fall semester. The Educational Effectiveness Review will occur in 2011.

## 4. President's Report – Jolene Koester

President Koester reported the following:

**Budget Update** – the recent budget deal finalizes the budget reductions for this current fiscal year, 2008-09, which were a one-time mid-year cut to the CSU of \$31 million last fall and then an additional \$66 million one-time mid-year cut. For Cal State Northridge, this represents approximately \$7 million, which we anticipated and set aside funds. The budget deal for 2009-10 includes a \$66 million cut to the CSU's base budget (approximately \$4.5 million for Cal State Northridge) and another potential \$50 million cut if the State of

California does not receive \$10 billion in federal stimulus money. There are many unknowns and much ambiguity so it is difficult to know where things stand. The budget deal also has a number of provisions that go to the voters on May 19. Three initiatives directly involve dollars that affect the 2009-10 budget plan. Further, the Governor's May revise may further reduce the budget if actual revenues for the state are less than the amount of revenue projected.

President Koester also mentioned that the University needs to bring down its enrollment by 1800 FTES. The new probation and disqualification policies will assist in bringing down enrollment numbers. We will also reduce the number of new freshman admits and summer enrollment.

## 5. **Building Update**

Colin Donahue, Associate Vice President for Facilities Development and Operations  
Diane Stephens, Director of Academic Resources

Donahue explained that the state ordered the CSU system and other state entities to temporarily halt all state bond-funded construction projects. Consequently, construction was suspended on the Valley Performing Arts Center in December 2008. With a state budget finally in place, construction resumed on March 2 and they are now assessing the impact of the closure. Chaparral Hall (Science 5) was able to continue construction because it was so much closer to completion that there would have been many risks if construction had been stopped. Chaparral Hall will be completed this July. Stephens shared the schedule for moving into the lecture rooms, labs and faculty offices. Photos on the progress of the buildings were also displayed.

The Student Housing project is due to finish this July and will open in Fall 2009. The G3 parking structure is complete and now open. Facilities Planning is working with the city to get approval of a roads project that will give this parking lot direct access from Nordhoff Street. The tropical rain forest project (next to the fuel cell plant) should be completed in the next month.

## 6. **Policy Item – Graduate Studies Committee**

Mary Woodley, Chair of GSC

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading – [Policy on Certificate Programs](#)**

Revisions to the Certificate Programs policy came before the Senate Executive Committee in Spring 2008, but because of the need to make further clarifications, the policy did not go to the Senate for approval. The Graduate Studies Committee has subsequently made some additional updates to the policy and the Senate Executive Committee made additional revisions at their last meeting.

A suggestion was made to revise language in II.D. specifying where prerequisites and descriptions of programs are published; it was decided to leave the language "as is" because not all requirements are included in the catalog and because changes are often made between catalogs.

## 7. Senate Reports

- a. **CFA Report** – Dave Ballard, CFA Co-chair

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport031209.pdf>.

Ballard highlighted the item about CFA teaming with Assembly Majority Leader Alberto Torrico to introduce a bill (Assembly Bill 656) to fund higher education through an oil severance tax.

- b. **Provost's Report** – Cynthia Rawitch, Associate VP for Undergraduate Studies

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/provostsreport031209.pdf>

Hellenbrand made additional comments about the state budget, faculty e-mail (more detail in his written report) and the process of selecting an LMS system for the campus.

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

Link to February's written report:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport021209.pdf>

There was no Statewide Academic Senate report this month but Senator Swerkes asked that senators be reminded to review the first reading items included in her February report and to provide her, Steven Stepanek, or Cecile Bendavid with any feedback individuals or groups would like them to carry back to Long Beach.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

Cheryl Spector, Secretary of the Faculty