

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 5/9/2013
Minutes of Meeting of April 4, 2013
Jack and Florence Ferman Presentation Room

Faculty President Stepanek called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Susan Auerbach, Michael Bennett (excused), John Bruton, Michael Bryson, Sakile Camara, Vincentiu Covrig, Herman DeBose (excused), Matthew Des Lauriers, Sean Flanagan (excused), Abel Franco, Cathy Jeppson (excused), Sally Kassamanian (excused), Taehyun Kim (excused), Amy Levin (excused), Jennifer Matos (excused), Helene Rougier (excused), Kathleen Rowlands (excused), Mary Schaffer (excused), Adam Swenson (excused), Steven Thachuk (excused), Gary Victor, David Wakefield, Jeff Wiegley

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for March 7, 2013](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. The President's Investiture will be on Friday, May 17, 2013, at 11:00am in the Valley Performing Arts Center. Members of the Faculty Senate, as well as other designated faculty, are encouraged to attend in regalia (cost covered by the University, if necessary).
- b. The Honored Faculty Reception is on Monday, May 20, 2013, from 10-12:00pm in the USU Grand Salon.
- c. The special election for the ASCSU Constitutional Amendment to include a statement advancing academic freedom was ratified by the CSU faculty and will be placed on the Board of Trustees agenda in May for approval. It passed with 91% of the CSU faculty participating in the election voting in favor.
- d. Vaheh Hartoonian, Assistant Coordinator of Peer Programs, announced that S.A.A.F.E. Week (Sexual Assault Awareness for Everyone) is a week-long series of events which aim to raise awareness of sexual assault prevention. There will be guest speakers, a fair, and several workshops lined up during the week of April 22 - April 25. Senators were encouraged to attend.

2. CSU – The Extended University, Report on Opportunities to Shape the Future: Self-Support Strategies for the Next Decades

Link to Brochure:

http://www.csun.edu/exlinfo/CSU-ExtendedUniversity/assets/csu_extended_bro.1.9.13_lo-res.pdf

Pat Miller, Chair of Extended Learning Committee

Miller shared a new brochure (link above) that provides strategies for offering self-support programs and compares self-support with state-side support. She said that self-support programs are of the same academic rigor and go through the same course approval process as state-side. The brochure provides different models offered throughout the CSU system and shows how the campuses are benefitting from these programs.

Miller mentioned that the Tseng College of Extended Learning has quadrupled its revenue in the last decade and has received hundreds of awards for their innovation. These outstanding accomplishments contributed to the decision to nominate Dean Joyce Feucht-Haviar for the Edward M. McAleer, Jr. Excellence and Innovation Award. This award honors someone who has demonstrated a consistent and significant pattern of innovation and excellence in support of the work of the CSU Extended University.

3. **Run-off Election for the Learning Resource Advisory Committee**

During the recent Spring 2013 Senate election, there was a tie vote for one open position on the Learning Resource Advisory Committee. There was a run-off election held during the Senate meeting; Marcia Henry, from the Oviatt Library, was elected to serve.

4. **Policy Items – Personnel Planning and Review Committee**

Magnhild Lien, Chair of PP&R

First Reading – [Peer Class Visits Report](#)

Lien explained that the current Peer Class Visit policy addresses a time frame for conducting the peer visit but does not include a corresponding timeline for submission of the peer visit report. In many cases, the visit is conducted, but no report is submitted until several weeks later. This leaves the faculty member under review unsure about how to address concerns about their teaching in a response document or what to include in the PIF.

PP&R proposes that 14 calendar days from the date of the class visit as a reasonable deadline date for submission of the written report to the faculty member.

Senators raised concerns about the 14-calendar-day deadline because this may not allow enough time for departments who do a consultation meeting along with the written report. Also, it may be necessary to do a follow-up class visit if issues are found in the first visit. Some departments give a draft report to the candidate first and then prepare the final report. Does the candidate need to receive the draft report or the final report within 14 days? Also, it was pointed out that the candidate should be the only person receiving the report within 14 days, allowing the candidate to provide a response before the Department Chair and Department Personnel Committee receive their copy.

Senators felt it was reasonable to include a time deadline but that PP&R needs to reconsider the policy based on the stated concern.

5. **Draft Academic Calendars for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017**

Link to draft calendars: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/draftcalendars040413.pdf>

William Whiting, Senior Director for Academic Personnel

Whiting presented two academic calendars (2015-16 and 2016-17) for comments and questions. These calendars were approved unanimously by the University Calendar Committee and have been presented to various groups on the campus. President Harrison provides the final approval.

There are a number of constraints that must be adhered to (State law, Chancellor Office Executive Orders, the Collective Bargaining Agreement and campus policy and practice), so there is very little flexibility. Some language was improved and weekend class dates will now be included on the calendar.

A comment was made about why Spring break is so late and not in the middle of the semester. Schutte reminded the Senators that, based upon a calendar survey conducted in Spring 2007, faculty and students preferred Spring break occurring after the mid-point of the semester, since both midterms and Cesar Chavez holiday typically fall at the mid-point.

6. Senate Reports

a. **President's Report** – President Diane Harrison

President Harrison reported on the following topics:

- 1) **Budget** – The campus community recently received an email from President Harrison containing the latest CSU Employee Update. Included was information on the CSU budget proposal approved by the Board of Trustees during its March meeting. This budget includes the \$125.1 million increase proposed in the Governor's January budget proposal.

The CSU budget proposal includes an allocation for a moderate salary increase for faculty and staff. It also allocates funding to student success and enrollment growth, and for CSUN this would mean an additional 600 FTES to be funded. \$10 million is earmarked for technology to address "bottleneck" courses by offering online courses and support services. There may be a request for proposals for uses of this funding. \$48.2 million is allocated for mandatory costs, including increased CSU costs for health benefits, operation and maintenance of new space, and energy costs.

We now await the Governor's May budget revision and further decisions by the Legislature and Governor. CSUN will continue to be fiscally conservative and plan for the future.

- 2) **CSU Advocacy** – President Harrison and others went to Sacramento on Legislative Day to promote the CSU's critical role in the state and in the nation. Also, President Harrison, Chancellor White, and others traveled to Washington, D.C. for CSU Hill Day, to speak with elected officials about improving student aid, increasing college access, preparing students for the STEM fields, and workforce readiness. Both days were very productive and legislators seemed more receptive than in the past.
- 3) **Chancellor White Visit** – A summary planning document is now posted on the President's Office website. It summarizes the university's planning priorities, based on the President's priorities, recommendations from WASC, Academic Affairs planning documents, and other divisional strategic plans. This will be presented to Chancellor

White when he visits our campus. The visit has not yet been scheduled but we have requested that he visit in September 2013.

- 4) **Phase Two Student Housing** – The Board of Trustees approved Phase Two of our student housing project. An architect has been selected and work will begin soon.
- 5) **SB 1440** – Departments were thanked for their work on approving the Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC).
- 6) **Joint U.S.-China Science Education Project** –Senators were encouraged to recruit middle and high school students to submit a project for possible flight on a Chinese space shuttle or space station. It is an opportunity for students from any school district to learn about the space program and space science here and in China.
- 7) **Searches** – One or more candidates for the Vice President for University Advancement position may return for another campus visit. Applicants are currently being screened for the Vice President for Administration and Finance position.
- 8) **New Basketball Coach** - The new CSUN basketball coach is Reggie Theus, a former NBA player and coach.

b. **Provost's Report** – Provost Harry Hellenbrand

Provost Hellenbrand reported on the following topics:

- 1) **Enrollments** – We are 4 ½ percent above target for the academic year. Our target next year is 6.2% higher (base target from 2011-12) with a 5 % window of one-time overage. Next Fall, we anticipate having 4800-5200 freshmen and a large transfer class.
- 2) **Bottleneck courses** – We all know where the bottleneck courses are, so we will work with Deans and departments to manage. Many of the bottleneck courses have a high-failure (DWF) rate so we need to find ways to remediate these students to help clear the bottlenecks.
- 3) **Retention Rates** - We have a retention workshop scheduled for the end of April to look at the persistent gap of low retention rates in years one and two, and higher rates in years three and four. An 80% retention rate in the 2nd year would be an acceptable goal to strive for.
- 4) **MyCSUNTablet Initiative (iPad-based)** – Many faculty, staff and students are participating in this pilot, which will roll out in Fall 2013. It will be cost-neutral for the students. The pilot will be closely monitored and they will assess how it compares to online and traditional courses. It is an experiment that will give us an idea of how to adjust and to expand to the future online and technology demands coming down the road.
- 5) **Searches** – The search for a new Vice Provost is underway.

c. **Statewide Academic Senate CSU Report** – Statewide Senator Shane Frehlich

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport040413.pdf>

Statewide Academic Senator Shane Frehlich highlighted the following topics:

- 1) **Faculty Trustee Position** – Steven Stepanek was elected by the Statewide Academic Senate as one of two candidates moving forward for the Faculty Trustee position on the Board of Trustees. Governor Brown will make the final decision. Four candidates were considered by the Statewide Academic Senate; Herman DeBose (Sociology) was in this pool.
 - 2) **Sequestration** – This will cost the CSU approximately \$20 million in work study, federal grants, etc.
 - 3) **CalState Online** – Ruth Black, Executive Director, gave a presentation. Frehlich said it appears that the CalState Online website does not reflect the number of online programs that are currently taking place across the CSU.
 - 4) **50 years ASCSU Celebration** - They commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Statewide Academic Senate; the author of the People’s University gave an enlightening presentation.
 - 5) **SB 520** – They are working on a resolution opposing SB 520, which is the Senate bill allowing students to transfer online courses if they can’t get into bottleneck courses on their campus.
 - 6) **SB 1440** – Senators were asked to encourage their colleagues from other CSU campuses to volunteer to review community college courses for transfer. Barbara Swerkes gave her personal thanks to faculty on this campus for contributing to this effort.
- d. **CFA Report** – CFA President Nate Thomas
Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport040413.pdf>

CFA President Nate Thomas highlighted the following:

- 1) **Lobby Day** - CFA members went to the State Capitol in Sacramento for the annual Lobby Day on April 2-3, 2013. They met with various assemblymen and discussed SB520 and AB895 (California Postsecondary Online Education Task Force). Senators were encouraged to attend Lobby Day next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Submitted by:
Terri Lisagor, Secretary of the Faculty
Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary