

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 9/12/2013
Minutes of Meeting of May 9, 2013
Jack and Florence Ferman Presentation Room

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

The Vice President standing in for the Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Susan Auerbach, Michael Bennett (excused), Michael Bryson, Tracy Buenavista, Vincentiu Covrig, Herman DeBose (excused), Abel Franco, Eric Garcia, Kate Gurewitz (excused), Nicholas Habib, Helen Heinrich, Taehyun Kim, Peri Klemm (excused), Amy Levin (excused), Terri Lisagor (excused), Jennifer Matos (excused), Patricia Miller (excused), Sydni Powell, Kathleen Rowlands (excused), Mary Schaffer, Barbara Swerkes (excused), Steven Thachuk, Gary Victor, Jeff Wiegley

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for April 4, 2013](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Introduction of New Senators

Re-elected Senators were congratulated and brand new Senators, along with Standing Committee chairs, were welcomed and introduced themselves. Senators with terms ending this Spring were thanked for their service.

2. Announcements

- a. The Honored Faculty Reception is on Monday, May 20, 2013, from 10-12:00 pm in the USU Grand Salon.
- b. Kathleen Young, COUGH Coordinator, announced that in January, the Academic Senate CSU passed a resolution supporting a 100% smoke-free system. In February 2013, the Chancellor's Office announced its plans to make all 23 CSU campuses 100% tobacco-free. No date has been set on when the system will go tobacco-free; however the Chancellor has stated he will create a special task force to move the policy forward. A report on the proposed policy is expected at the end of the calendar year. She thanked Chancellor White for supporting this policy. A copy of the policy statement was made available on the back table.

3. Policy Items – Personnel Planning and Review Committee

Magnhild Lien, Chair of PP&R

Action Item – [Peer Class Visits Report](#)

Lien pointed out 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 his/her teaching in a response document or what to include in the PIF.

PP&R is proposing that 14 calendar days from the date of the class visit as a reasonable deadline date for submission of the written peer class visit report to the faculty member. Concerns were raised at the last Senate meeting with regard to giving the candidate adequate time to provide a response to the report before the Department Chair and Department Personnel Committee received their copy.

PP&R revised Section 612.5.2.c.(2)(a)(iii) and Section 706.3.1.c. to address the concerns. The Senate made two amendments to each section (amendments are in italics below).

Section 612.5.2.c.(2)(a)(iii).

A written report of the class visit shall be ~~submitted to the candidate, to the Chair of the Department Personnel committee, and to the department Chair~~ placed in the candidate's campus mailbox and otherwise made available upon request within 14 calendar days after the peer class visit. The candidate may request a meeting to discuss the report, to be held within ten (10) calendar days after the written report is placed in the candidate's campus mailbox. before the report is placed in the Personnel Action File. The candidate may also submit a rebuttal statement or response in writing within the ten (10) calendar days. At the conclusion of the ten (10) calendar days, the report, and any response or rebuttal statement, will be placed in the Personnel Action File and be sent to the Chair of the Department Personnel Committee and to the Department Chair. A copy of the report shall be retained in the candidate's Personnel Action File for a period of five years.

Section 706.3.1.c.

A written report of the class visit shall be ~~submitted to the lecturer~~ placed in the lecturer's campus mailbox and otherwise made available upon request within 14 calendar days after the peer class visit. The lecturer may request a meeting to discuss the report, to be held within ten (10) calendar days after the written report is placed in the candidate's campus mailbox. before the report is placed in the Personnel Action File. The lecturer may also submit a rebuttal statement or response in writing within the ten (10) calendar days. At the conclusion of the ten (10) calendar days, the report, and any response or rebuttal statement, will be placed in the Personnel Action File and be sent to the to the Department Chair. A copy of the report shall be retained in the lecturer's Personnel Action File for at least five years.

The motion to approve the policy changes in Section 612.5.2.c.(2)(a)(iii) and Section 706.3.1.c. as stated above was passed.

4. Report on VPAC Financing Status

Thomas McCarron, Vice President for Administration and Finance

In January 2008, the CSU Board of Trustees approved CSUN's plan to finance up to \$30 million of debt for the Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC). In 2010, we were down to \$12 million of debt. In late 2010, we financed \$7 million with a commercial paper loan underwritten by the University Corporation, and a \$5 million loan from CSU Risk Management Authority. In February 2013, we retired the \$7 million dollar commercial paper loan and we are now down to \$5 million in debt. Earlier this month, President Harrison approved a plan to pay off this \$5

million debt by June 2015. The primary sources of repayment will be from fulfilled donor pledges, surplus from the University Corporation, digital frequency leases, and from the money we get from the Pepsi contract. Repayment could even be expedited if we get a naming gift for the facility.

Stepanek congratulated McCarron on his new position as Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs/Chief Financial Officer at San Diego State University and thanked him for all his work while on this campus.

5. **Faculty Athletics Report (FAR)**

Link to Report:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/farreport050913.pdf>

Tina Kiesler, Faculty Athletics Representative

Kiesler presented the 2012-13 Faculty Athletics Report (written report at link above). The FAR's responsibilities involve three major areas: academic integrity, institutional control and compliance, and the well-being of student athletes. She reported on the progress of our student athletics and also spoke about some general information related to Athletics.

There are 323 student athletes for 18 teams majoring in 39 different programs across the campus (see data provided in the written report). The student athletes are given priority registration and their advisors help them to minimize missed classes. The athletes are active in community service and raise funds for different organizations such as MEND and 100 Citizens. Fifty-four student-athletes were celebrated for their academic success (3.2 GPA and above) at a reception hosted by President Harrison.

We received a \$900,000 grant (\$300,000/year for 3 years) to enhance academic support for our student athletes. She thanked many individuals on the campus for working on this grant proposal. They are planning to expand the Faculty Liaison program to pair faculty with teams to act as mentors and role models. This will help to increase faculty connections with Matador athletics. The APR for 2011-12 will become public in June 2013 and the 2012-13 APR becomes public in June 2014. Overall, Kiesler said we are in good shape academically, and athletically our teams are doing very well.

Kiesler introduced the new Athletics Director, Dr. Brandon Martin.

6. **Introduction of Dr. Brandon Martin, New Athletics Director**

Dr. Brandon Martin praised Tina Kiesler in her role as Faculty Athletics Representative. He said that he has focused his career on bridging the gap between athletics and academia. He believes that it is not only about winning games, but that academic success is extremely important. The men's basketball team has had a 2.9 GPA for five consecutive years, which is great progress. He said that we are going to set a higher bar than just meeting NCAA standards. He believes that with discipline and a level of commitment, it is possible for our student athletes to reach higher levels of academic success. Martin would like to see us finish in the top 100 and to get our CSUN and San Fernando Valley community excited about athletics, and their vision. He is fully committed to making this happen.

7. **Election of 2013-14 Senate Executive Committee**

Six Senators were nominated to serve on the 2013-14 Senate Executive Committee. There were six openings so it was not necessary to distribute a paper ballot.

The following faculty were elected to serve on the 2013-14 Senate Executive Committee: Sheila Grant (Psychology), Michael Hoggan (Cinema and Television Arts), Kristy Michaud (Political Science), Diane Schwartz (Computer Science), Cheryl Spector (English), and Adam Swenson (Philosophy). The following faculty serve as Ex-officio members: Sandra Chong (CSU Statewide Academic Senator), Shane Frehlich (Vice President of the Faculty), Provost Harry Hellenbrand (non-voting), Terri Lisagor (Secretary of the Faculty), and Steven Stepanek (Faculty President).

MSP to close nominations. **MSP** to approve the election slate as stated above.

8. **CSUN Sustainability Plan**

Link to draft calendars: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sustainabilityplan050913.pdf>
Helen Cox, Institute for Sustainability

Cox said that the mission of the Institute for Sustainability is to bring people together across the campus to work with faculty and students on projects to make our campus more sustainable. Our campus Green Core team meets monthly to initiate projects and to find leaders to take on projects to meet our initiatives. There is a Sustainability Curriculum Committee working to include sustainability in the curriculum. A new “minor” is housed in Liberal Studies and they are working to create a graduate program. Cox said they are looking for departments who would like to incorporate sustainability into their curriculum and faculty who wish to teach these courses.

President Harrison has established “sustainability” as a priority for this campus and has requested that we create a sustainability plan. The campus Green Core Team helped to work on this plan along with the campus operations and facilities groups. The overall goal is to develop a campus leadership position on the areas that we will attempt to focus on first. There are ten action plans, from dining services to water consumption that are included in the Sustainability Plan. They hope to present an implementation plan to President Harrison in the next few weeks.

9. **Blenda Wilson Courtyard**

William Jennings, Interim Vice President for University Advancement

Jennings reported that we have a practice on this campus of honoring our past presidents. Blenda Wilson was the CSUN president from 1992-2000. They are planning to place a monument near the existing earthquake memorial, which is located near the Planetarium. This area will be designated as the official Blenda Wilson Courtyard. He displayed a slide showing the location and concept. A special opening ceremony will be scheduled in Fall 2013.

Stepanek thanked Interim Vice President Jennings for his work in University Advancement and congratulated him on his retirement.

10. **Senate Reports**

a. **President’s Report** – President Dianne Harrison

President Harrison reported on the following topics:

- 1) **Lunch with Student Tutors and Peer Mentors** – President Harrison shared that she hosted a luncheon today with student tutors and peer mentors. This is one of many groups of students she has hosted for lunch this academic year. The student tutors and mentors shared how they were inspired by their own life experiences and wanted to give back by helping other students. The President found their stories to be powerful and inspiring and is very proud of the work they are doing.
- 2) **Varsity N Recognition Ceremony** – Fifty-four student-athletes, with a GPA of 3.2 and above, were honored. The new Athletic Director, Dr. Brandon Martin, challenged the coaches to double the number of recipients next year.
- 3) **End of Year Celebrations** – President Harrison has attended a large number of year-end celebrations, such as the veterans’ graduation celebration and the University Student Union Year-End Celebration. She said she will be attending the Northridge Scholars Exhibition this afternoon.
- 4) **Home Grown CSUN** – President Harrison hosted an event for faculty and staff who received their degrees from CSUN; 150 people attended.
- 5) **Commencement Ceremonies and President’s Investiture** – Senators were encouraged to attend both events. The President’s Investiture is Friday, May 17th at 11:00 a.m. in the VPAC.
- 6) **Vice President for University Advancement** – Dr. Robert Gunsalus was appointed as the new Vice President for University Advancement. His appointment will begin on July 1, 2013.
- 7) **Feasibility Plan** – We are working on a feasibility plan to establish a satellite office for the L.A. CleanTech Incubator on this campus. The L.A. CleanTech Incubator assists with accelerating development of clean technology start-up businesses by providing space, CEO coaching and mentoring, and access to a network of experts and capital.
- 8) **Meeting with Los Angeles Chinese Ambassador** – President Harrison met with the Los Angeles Chinese Ambassador to discuss U.S.-Chinese university collaborations. We were asked to host a group of visiting scholars from China during commencement week.
- 9) **Budget** – We are starting our budget planning for next year. The Governor will issue his May Budget Revision on May 14.
- 10) **Thank You** – President Harrison thanked the Senators for a very good year and wished them a relaxed and rejuvenating summer. She will host a reception at the beginning of the fall semester to jointly thank the Senators and welcome the new faculty members beginning fall 2013.

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

Provost Hellenbrand said he will hold a few town hall meetings over the summer. He invited Senators to stick around after the meeting if they had any questions for him.

c. **CFA Report** – CFA President Nate Thomas

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport050913.pdf>

A written report was sent to the Senate. No questions were raised during the Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Submitted by:

Terri Lisagor, Secretary of the Faculty

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary