

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 9/17/09

Minutes of Meeting of May 14, 2009

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: Ranita Chatterjee, Robert Cleve, Catherine Coyle-Thompson, MariaElena de Bellard (excused), Paula DiMarco (excused), Owen Doonan (excused), Abel Franco, Shane Frehlich (excused), Irma Good, Jay Holden (excused), Virginia Kennedy (excused), Dorena Knepper (excused), Greg Knotts, Melissa Lalum (excused), Bradley McAuliff (excused), Michael Neubauer (excused), Clara Park (excused), Miguel Segura, Mary-Pat Stein (excused), Rishma Vedd, David Wakefield, Jeff Wiegley.

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for April 16, 2009](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. The Senators were reminded to attend the Faculty Leadership Reception at the University House tonight at 5:30 pm.
- b. Two reports from Professor Aki Hirota, the CSUN representative to the Academic Council on CSU International Programs and CSUN's Faculty Athletics representative, were made available in the back of the room.
- c. The Honored Faculty Reception will be on May 18, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., in the Grand Salon, USU. Faculty award winners, emeritus faculty, and faculty with 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of service will be honored. All faculty are encouraged to attend.
- d. Senators were encouraged to attend the College commencement ceremonies.

2. Introduction of New Senators

The new senators were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves.

3. Election of 2009-10 Senate Executive Committee

The following faculty were elected to serve on the 2009-10 Senate Executive Committee: Cecile Bendavid (Computer Science), Joyce Broussard (History), Shane Frehlich (Kinesiology), Magnhild Lien (Mathematics), Steven Stepanek (Computer Science), and Barbara Swerkes (Kinesiology). The following faculty serve as Ex-Officio members: Sandra Chong (Secretary of the Faculty), Nicholas Dungey (CSU Statewide Academic Senator), Jennifer Matos (Faculty President), Cheryl Spector (Vice President of the Faculty), and Provost Hellenbrand.

4. **President's Report** – Jolene Koester

President Koester reported the following:

Board of Trustees – The BOT approved a 10 percent fee increase for all students. They also passed a Graduate Business Professional Fee for state-supported master's of business programs which are subject to AACSB accreditation. A portion of the additional funds will be set aside specifically for financial aid, and we will be required to conduct reviews and assessments of our programs and provide the Chancellor's Office with accountability reports.

Financial Situation – Senators were encouraged not to worry unduly about the effect of our state's financial situation on the University, but to wait until all the facts are available. The Chancellor's Office and campus presidents will be looking very closely at the Governor's May Revise to the budget proposal because it is usually a good predictor of what will ultimately be allocated to the CSU. If there is definitive information this summer, President Koester will communicate the information to the campus community.

Faculty Leadership Reception – Senators were invited to attend the reception at University House this evening at 5:30 p.m.

Commencements – Senators were encouraged to participate in their College's commencement ceremonies.

5. **Policy Item** – **Graduate Studies Committee**

Mary Woodley, Chair

Action Item – [Policy on Certificate Programs](#)

Woodley reminded the Senators that a late request for changes to the policy was made prior to the last Senate meeting so the policy went back to the Graduate Studies Committee to address the changes. Revisions were made to the policy by GSC and by the Senate Executive Committee. The policy now comes back to the Senate with a “do-pass” recommendation by SEC.

Two editorial changes were made to the section on University Certificate Program Requirements (page 4) to clear up the language. The motion to approve the policy was **passed**.

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

William Whiting, Chair

Action Item – [Policy on Sabbatical Leave Procedures](#)

Whiting reminded the Senators that at the last Senate meeting the discussion focused on how to handle “truly outstanding and exceptional” applications if a College should recommend more leaves than they are allocated. PP&R added the following statement:

The College Personnel Committee ~~is prohibited from submitting~~ shall not submit more sabbatical leave applications ranked as outstanding than the total number of sabbatical leaves allocated to the College under Section 672.2.1.

This comes from the Senate Executive Committee with a “do-pass” recommendation. The Senate made a friendly amendment (see strikeout and addition above). The motion to approve the policy was **passed**.

Action Item – [Policy on Accelerated Promotion Review Process](#)

No revisions to this policy were recommended when it was discussed on April 16th. At today’s meeting, discussion centered on changing the policy to allow for faculty to notify the Department Chair and the Dean that they wish to be considered for early promotion prior to the start of the college-level review instead of prior to the start of the department-level review.

After discussion, it was decided to send the proposed revision back to PP&R so they could re-consider based on the Senate’s feedback.

7. Spring 2010 Academic Calendar Change

Associate Vice President Penny Jennings (Faculty Affairs) and Michelle Kilmnick reported that given a CSU rule governing the date for the beginning of the spring semester, the Spring 2010 semester may not start prior to January 16th. Therefore we are moving our start date to Tuesday, January 19 (the day after Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) instead of January 15. The Senate Executive Committee approved this change at their last meeting so the changes could be communicated to other constituents in a timely manner.

8. Policy Items – Educational Policies Committee

Hillary Hertzog, Chair

Action Item – [Undergraduate Policy on Withdrawals](#)

Hertzog reminded the Senators that no changes to this policy were recommended at the April 16th meeting.

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

Action Item – [Undergraduate Policy on Repeating Courses](#)

Hertzog reminded the Senators that at the April 16th Senate meeting discussion focused on whether to allow students to re-start the unit count for repeated courses at zero beginning in Fall 2009, and thus not to count courses repeated prior to this date. EPC took the Senate’s comments into consideration and made the following change to the procedural section for implementing the proposed policy:

This new counting of maximum repeats begins in Fall 2009. Repeats for grade forgiveness accumulated prior to the start of Fall 2009 semester will be carried forward and will be counted toward the maximum 16 units. The counting of repeats for grade averaging – now limited to 12 units – will begin at zero in Fall 2009 for all undergraduate students.

This comes from the Senate Executive Committee with a “do-pass” recommendation. The motion to approve the policy was **passed**. Hertzog added that it is hoped that SOLAR will be

able to count the repeats automatically beginning in Fall 2009. If not, the policy will not be implemented until SOLAR is able to manage this change.

9. Senate Reports

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

Link to student fee data: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/studentfeedata.pdf>

Provost Hellenbrand said that we are in relatively good financial shape given the fact that we planned accordingly for this budget crisis. Under protest, we are bringing enrollment down. In the long term, we need to do a better job of getting students through high school and college. Raising fees and reducing enrollment is not the answer.

Materials were distributed (see link above) and Hellenbrand said that we need to address student fees and affordability. One item noted from the data is that individuals in the highest income bracket are receiving federal aid and grants. There is a lot of data out there that needs to be looked at carefully and discussed.

Hellenbrand encouraged the Senators to get in touch with him if they have comments with regard to the campus decision on choosing a Learning Management System. For e-mail, students will move to Google mail and faculty will be moved to Outlook Exchange.

b. **CFA Report**

No report.

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

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport051409.pdf>

Swerkes reported that 12 resolutions were passed by the CSU Academic Senate and the new officers and Executive Committee were elected. She highlighted the following resolutions:

CSU Faculty Professional Development Strategic Planning
Resolutions in support/opposition of legislation
Opposition to Impending Implementation of Mandatory Early Start Programs

10. New Business

Veda Ward, a member of ERC and the Learning Management Systems (LMS) Task Force, reported to the Senate that a decision of “no-recommendation” was made to the Provost in the selection of an LMS for this campus. She said that the options continue to morph which makes the decision-making process somewhat difficult. She asked the Senators to contact the Provost with their suggestions and comments over the summer, and to talk with their colleagues about the choices.

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

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

Cheryl Spector, Secretary of the Faculty