

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 10/22/09
Minutes of Meeting of September 17, 2009
Oviatt Library Presentation Room

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

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Joyce Broussard (excused), Catherine Coyle-Thompson, Irma Good, Florence Kyomugisha, Maghnild Lien (excused), Jennifer Matos (excused), Michael Neubauer, Carolyn Okazaki, Denise Sandoval (excused), Lois Shelton, Jeff Wiegley, April Taylor (excused).

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for May 14, 2009](#) were approved with one typo correction.

1. Announcements

- a. The new senators were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves.
- b. Terri Lisagor, co-chair of the Faculty Retreat Committee, announced that the Faculty Retreat will be held on the CSUN campus this year on January 12-13, 2010. The theme is, *Educating Through Uncertain Times: Keep the Faith, Keep the Focus*. Proposals are being accepted now until October 23, 2009. More information is available at: www.csun.edu/senate/retreat.html.

2. General Education Task Force Report

Vicki Pedone, Chair of GE Governance Task Force

Written Report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/Agendas/gecouncil91709.pdf>

The GE Governance Task Force was formed at the request of the Senate Executive Committee to study workload issues for EPC related to general education. GE recertification and the oversight of assessment and program reviews were of main concern. The Task Force studied GE programs on 14 campuses and found that all had separate campus bodies that governed GE curriculum, program review and policies. The decision was unanimous to recommend that a new campus body be created on this campus.

The Task Force's recommendations, and proposed committee structure, directorship and membership are described in their written report. It was pointed out that the Senate has the authority to select the membership model.

The campus community was asked to engage in discussion on this report. Task Force members are available to visit Colleges, Administrative Councils, Associated Students, Council of Chairs, etc. to give a presentation and to solicit feedback. The Task Force will continue to meet to develop additional recommendations on the assessment process of general education.

[Resolution on Restructuring of General Education Governance](#) (revised version) – A resolution was presented from the Senate floor by Steven Stepenak to recommend ~~suspension~~

the delay of current General Education course recertification activities by Colleges and the Educational Policies Committee of the Faculty Senate until the start of the 2011-2012 academic year by which time the new General Education Council will have assumed responsibility for General Education policy and oversight at CSUN.

The resolution also applauds the efforts of the Task Force, endorses the recommendation of the Task Force to create a General Education Council and suggests that it continue with their deliberations and consultation with the faculty regarding the structure and membership of the GE Council.

MSP to unanimously pass the resolution with one friendly amendment (see strikethrough above).

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

President Koester focused her report on the budget. She presented the following:

- a. Cal State Northridge has a budget cut of \$41 million for 2009-10. This is our campus' portion of the \$584 million cut to the CSU system, or approximately seven percent. She explained how the cut is being managed. The Vice Presidents anticipated budget cuts, made plans, and took early steps to save this money. There is still the possibility of a mid-year budget cut if state revenues are lower than projected at the time the state budget was passed.
- b. Student enrollment is reduced this year and will be further reduced next year. There will be a combined reduction of about 6000 students (headcount).
- c. Three administrative planning processes are underway at the University level: the development of enrollment plans for 2010-11 and 2011-12; the development of budget plans for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12; and an effort to identify administrative, technology, and academic business processes that we could appropriately modify or discontinue in order to save money and operate more efficiently. The latter does not mean a University-level effort to look at academic program discontinuation or academic reorganization. Collaboration with other CSU campuses will be considered as well.

A web page has been set-up for taking suggestions on how to save money, and campus forums will be held to encourage discussion.

- d. Members of CFA voted to have furloughs instead of layoffs. At Cal State Northridge, it was decided to give faculty the maximum flexibility in choosing furlough days rather than designating specific furlough days.
- e. There are serious consequences of enrollment reductions to other parts of the University such as revenue funds (e.g., housing fees and parking fees which pay for debt on residence hall and parking construction) and auxiliaries (e.g., food service, the bookstore, the Student Union, Associated Students). Reduced enrollment means a major reduction of money coming into the University.

5. Senate Reports

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

1. We know that furloughs are for one year and the system will have to come up with \$275 million dollars next year. We will lose revenue and fee money next year if we don't have 34,000 students enrolled. We also know that federal stimulus money for next year is open for renewal. There is a lot of uncertainty and we need to plan very carefully for next year as we are looking at double the cut. We need to plan for many different scenarios.
2. The vent tent was very helpful; the complaints were reviewed and we tried to help as many students as possible. Faculty were very accommodating in adding students in their classes. We worked with international students to help place them and we hope to improve the situation with them getting into classes next year.
3. We were very close to our FTES target this Fall.
4. We will look at the budget plans and work together to come to some good solutions. It will be a bumpy ride. We need to make sure that we don't take things out on the students and that we treat the lecturers well and are respectful.

b. **CFA Report** – Theresa Montano

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport091709.pdf>

Montano said that CFA will be very active this year on several fronts. Montano highlighted items in her written report having to do with furloughs, the budget cuts, and the CFA sponsored bills (SB 218 and AB 656 Torrico). She mentioned that the October paycheck will reflect the reduction in pay as well as a reduction in dues. Senators were invited to attend CFA events listed in the report. They will be actively launching a system-wide letter writing campaign about what is occurring at CSU, Dominguez Hills having to do with drastically restructuring departments that will result in the firing and lay-offs of tenured and non-tenure track faculty.

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

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport091709.pdf>

Swerkes mentioned that the Statewide Academic Senate is dealing with the same issues that we are dealing with here – controversies over furloughs, the budget, and what will happen next year. She summarized the topics that are listed in the written report and highlighted the following resolutions:

Approved with Waiver of First Reading

CSU Budget Request for 2010-11

Mitigation of the Impact of System-wide Enrollment Management Policies on Graduate and Post baccalaureate Credential Programs

Support for the Continuation of a Planning Process to Re-envision the Lower Division Transfer Patterns (LDTP) Project

Concern over Delay in Governor's Appointment of CSU Faculty Trustee

First Reading Resolutions

A Call to Postpone the Cycle of Program Review

Furlough Implementation and Faculty Rights

Teaching and Service Responsibilities in Times of Budget Constraints

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

Sandra Chong, Secretary of the Faculty