

ANNUAL REPORT
2005-2006
FACULTY SENATE ACTIVITIES
California State University, Northridge

OFFICERS OF THE FACULTY

President: Ronald McIntyre, Department of Philosophy
Vice-President: Jennifer Zvi, Center on Disabilities
Secretary / Treasurer: Diane Schwartz, Department of Computer Science

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Sister Rita Basta, Department of Mathematics
Patricia Born, Department of Finance
Harry Hellenbrand, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rachel Howes, Department of History
Lesley Krane, Department of Art
Charles Macune, Department of History
Ronald McIntyre, Department of Philosophy
Diane Schwartz, Department of Computer Science
Steven Stepanek, Department of Computer Science
Barbara Swerkes, Department of Kinesiology
Jennifer Zvi, Center on Disabilities

MEETINGS OF THE FACULTY SENATE

September 29, 2005	February 16, 2006
October 27, 2005	March 16, 2006
December 8, 2005	April 20, 2006
May 18, 2006	

MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 17, 2005 (Special Meeting)	February 2, 2006
July 21, 2005 (Special Meeting)	February 23, 2006
August 15, 2005 (Special Meeting)	March 2, 2006
September 15, 2005	March 23, 2006
October 6, 2005	March 30, 2006
November 10, 2005 (Special Meeting)	April 27, 2006
November 17, 2005	May 11, 2006

SPECIAL EVENTS

Faculty Retreat – January 23-24, 2006

Faculty Elections – March 14-30, 2006

General Faculty Meeting and Honored Faculty Reception – May 19, 2006

Faculty Governance Orientation for New Executive Committee and Standing Committee
Chairs – May 26, 2006

POLICIES PASSED IN THE FACULTY SENATE

New Policy on Written Syllabi for Graduate Courses

Graduate Studies Committee / Passed December 8, 2005; Approved February 2, 2006

(Requires written syllabi for all graduate courses and prescribes the minimum information to be conveyed.)

Revision of Policy on Eligibility for Emeritus Status

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed February 16, 2006; Approved April 20, 2006

(Reduces full-time tenure-track service required for senior faculty to become eligible for emeritus status from 15 years to 10 years. Participants in the Faculty Early Retirement Program become eligible for emeritus status upon completion of teaching service.)

Deletion of Position of Assistant Vice President of Human Resources from Section 622 Searches

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed March 16, 2006; Approved March 30, 2006

(Removes the position of Assistant Vice President of Human Resources from the positions subject to the search procedures specified in Section 622 of the *Administrative Manual*.)

Revision of Policy on Awarding a Major and a Minor from the Same Department

Educational Policies Committee / Passed April 20, 2006; Approved April 27, 2006

(Allows a department to award a major and a minor to the same student provided the awards are in different academic degree programs.)

New Policy on GPA Requirements for Graduate Programs

Graduate Studies Committee / Passed May 18, 2006; Approved June 1, 2006

(Requires that graduate students maintain a minimum 3.0 (B) average in the formal program and the cumulative GPA once admitted to the program. Specifies that grades below C cannot be counted in the formal program. Establishes a repeat policy for graduate courses in which a grade lower than C has been earned.)

Revision of Policy on Student Participation on Section 622 Search Committees

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed May 18, 2006; Approved June 1, 2006
(Makes student members of search committees for Deans and Associate Deans voting, rather than non-voting, members.)

New Policy on Faculty Role in Development of the Academic Calendar

Senate Executive Committee / Passed May 18, 2006; Approved June 22, 2006
(Establishes a process for faculty involvement in developing the academic calendar when recommended changes in the calendar would impact the curriculum or other educational functions of the University.)

Revision of Faculty Bylaws and Standing Orders

Senate Executive Committee / Passed May 18, 2006; Approval by the Faculty and by the President pending
(Revises and reorganizes all articles and sections of the Faculty Bylaws, with the goal of making them clear, coherent, and consistent with recent practice. Eliminates the Standing Orders as a separate document by incorporating its provisions into the Bylaws. Revisions make some, but limited, substantive changes in the conduct of faculty governance.)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FACULTY SENATE***Appreciation for Administration's Concern for the Financial Distress of the University Faculty***

Passed unanimously September 29, 2005
(The Senate expressed thanks to the Provost and the University for the sympathy and concern they have exhibited for the faculty's financial plight and for the specific measures of relief either accomplished in 2004-05 or proposed in the future.)

Acknowledgment of the Contributions of Omar Zahir

Passed unanimously December 8, 2005
(The Senate acknowledged and honored the outstanding contributions made to our institution by Professor Omar Zahir as teacher, scholar, and friend. The resolution was preceded by the reading of a eulogy in honor of Professor Zahir, who passed away on August 26, 2005.)

Commendation for Lynne Cook

Passed unanimously December 8, 2005
(The Senate acknowledged the outstanding contributions made to our institution by Professor Lynne Cook, including service as Faculty President and as CSUN representative to the statewide Academic Senate. Professor Cook has accepted the position of Dean of the College of Education at CSU, Dominguez Hills.)

ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Search Approvals. Meeting as the Personnel Planning and Review Committee in three special summer meetings in 2005, the Executive Committee considered and approved reports from the Search and Screen Committees for the following positions: Director of University Counseling and Testing Services; Director of the Career Center; Associate Dean of the College of Business and Economics; Associate Dean of the College of Arts, Media, and Communication; and Associate Dean of the Library.

Policy Reviews. Throughout the year, the Executive Committee heard reports and discussed policy recommendations from the following standing committees: Educational Equity, Educational Policies, Graduate Studies, and Personnel Planning and Review. All policy recommendations forwarded to the Senate were passed, sometimes with modifications. Recommendations not forwarded remain under consideration by the appropriate committees.

Bylaws Revisions. The Committee continued the process of revising the Faculty Bylaws, section by section. Proposals for revision were discussed, modified, approved, or rejected at nearly every meeting. The Committee's final proposed revisions were, with slight modifications, approved by the Senate at its final meeting of the year.

Campus Directory Issues. The Committee met with the Chief Information Officer and representatives from Instructional Technology, first in September and again in May, to discuss the many inaccuracies in the 2005-06 Campus Directory. Some improvements are anticipated.

Elections. In accordance with the Faculty Bylaws, the Committee set the calendar for Faculty and Senate elections; made and received nominations for Faculty officers, representatives to the CSU Academic Senate, Senators at-large, and Senate representatives on the Standing Committees; finalized election slates; and tallied election results.

Meetings with Trustees. Members of the Committee met, on separate occasions, with visiting members of the CSU Board of Trustees Craig Smith, Jeffrey Bleich, and Raymond Holdsworth.

Meetings with Candidates for Administrative Positions. Members of the Committee met with candidates for the position of Chief Information Officer and with candidates for the position of Vice-President for University Advancement.

Academic Calendar Issues. The Committee responded to faculty concerns about proposed changes in the academic-year calendar, potentially including the elimination of a January intersession. The Committee placed discussion of these issues on the agenda of the Senate and proposed a policy giving faculty an explicit role in developing the academic calendar. (The policy proposal was passed by the Senate and approved by the President.)