

ANNUAL REPORT
2006-2007
FACULTY SENATE ACTIVITIES
California State University, Northridge

OFFICERS OF THE FACULTY

President: Jennifer Matos, Department of Biology
Vice-President: Jennifer Zvi, Center on Disabilities
Secretary: Diane Schwartz, Department of Computer Science

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Edward Alfano, Art
Harry Hellenbrand, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Magnhild Lien, Department of Math
Jennifer Matos, Department of Biology
Charles Macune, Department of History
Michael Reagan, University Library
Diane Schwartz, Department of Computer Science
Cheryl Spector, Department of English
Steven Stepanek, Department of Computer Science
Barbara Swerkes, Department of Kinesiology
Jennifer Zvi, Center on Disabilities

MEETINGS OF THE FACULTY SENATE

October 5, 2006	March 15, 2007
November 2, 2006	April 19, 2007
November 30, 2006	May 17, 2007
February 15, 2007	

MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 15, 2006 (Special Meeting)	November 16, 2006
July 13, 2006 (Special Meeting)	December 14, 2006
August 2, 2006 (Special Meeting)	February 1, 2007
August 9, 2006 (Special Meeting)	March 1, 2007
August 17, 2006	March 29, 2007
September 21, 2006	April 26, 2007
October 12, 2006	May 3, 2007
October 26, 2006	

SPECIAL EVENTS

Faculty Retreat – January 22-23, 2007

Faculty Elections – March 13-29, 2007

General Faculty Meeting and Honored Faculty Reception – May 18, 2007

Faculty Governance Orientation for New Executive Committee and Standing Committee
Chairs – May 24, 2007

POLICIES PASSED IN THE FACULTY SENATE

Revision of Faculty Bylaws and Standing Orders

Senate Executive Committee / Passed May 18, 2006; Passed by Faculty in Fall 2006 election;
Approved December 8, 2006

(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.)

Revision of Exception Clause Policy

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed November 30, 2006;

Approved December 8, 2006

(Provides clarity to the faculty candidate and to the reviewing parties as to when a candidate for promotion to full professor may be reviewed as an “exception” to the requirement for publication. The candidate shall initiate the “exception” review process by identifying himself or herself as an “exception” and by providing justification.)

Revision of Policy on Endowed Chairs and Professorships

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed February 15, 2007;

Approved February 22, 2007

(Makes process more effective and less cumbersome for the University President but maintains essential consultation with the colleges and departments.)

Revision to Section 600 Search Committees

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed February 15, 2007;

Approved February 22, 2007

(Changes relate to the size and composition of Section 600 search committees for Associate Deans of the Academic Colleges and Library and the Associate Dean of the College of Extended Learning)

Revision of Class Visit Policy

Personnel Planning and Review Committee / Passed February 15, 2007;

Approved February 22, 2007

(Makes it clear that online and distance learning courses should not be excluded from peer review; it is important that the full range of teaching is evaluated and that a faculty member’s file provides a complete picture about their teaching effectiveness.)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Proposition 1D

Passed unanimously October 5, 2006

(The Senate urges all members of the University Community to vote in favor of Proposition 1D on the November ballot. Current state budget monies are inadequate to address serious infrastructure needs in education. This bond issue will bring \$690 million to the CSU for infrastructure).

Web Accessibility

Passed unanimously November 2, 2006

(The Senate encourages Academic Affairs to work diligently in consultation with the Academic Technology Committee of the Faculty, the Academic Affairs Technology Group, and faculty members completing the ATI Technical Assistance Workshop offered by the CSU on October 30-31, 2006, to develop a CSUN campus roll-out plan to ensure that our campus meets Federal standards and the directive from the Chancellor's Office)

Instructional Course Scheduling

Passed November 30, 2006

(The Senate urges earliest adoption by Academic Affairs of the recommendation contained in the "Report of the Ad Hoc Group to Recommend Course Scheduling Alternatives" that the scheduling of 3-unit C1-C6 courses be based on a Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday schedule with Friday as a block day.)

CSU Academic Senate: Importance of Settling the Contract Between the CSU and the CFA

Passed unanimously February 15, 2007

(CSUN Faculty Senate endorses the CSU Academic Senate resolution encouraging rapid resolution of the issues and adoption of a fair and equitable contract.)

CSUN Faculty Senate: Importance of Settling the Contract Between the CSU and the CFA

Passed unanimously February 15, 2007

(CSUN Faculty Senate urges Chancellor Reed, the CSU Board of Trustees, and the CFA to Negotiate in good faith to reach a fair and equitable contract for CSU faculty in as timely a fashion as possible.

Support of CFA in bargaining with the CSU

Passed unanimously February 15, 2007

(CSUN Faculty Senate supports CFA and urges Chancellor Reed to return to the bargaining table and negotiate in good faith without establishing positions that cannot be negotiated.)

Open Standards

Passed unanimously April 19, 2007

(The Senate recommends and encourages all CSUN administration, faculty, and staff to preferentially select products and formats which adhere to open standards in any circumstance where a significant portion of the campus community will be affected.)

ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Search Approvals. Meeting as the Personnel Planning and Review Committee in Summer, 2006, the Executive Committee considered and approved reports from the Search and Screen Committees for Associate Dean in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Athletics Director.

College Naming. In summer 2006, the Executive Committee supported the renaming of the College of Arts, Media, and Communication.

Ed.D. Program in Educational Leadership. Representatives from the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy met with the Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate on the following dates to report and receive feedback on the new Ed.D. Program: June 15, 2007, October 5, 2007, February 15, 2007, April 26, 2007 and May 17, 2007 (final approval from the Senate).

Academic Calendars. The Ad Hoc Calendar Committee met with five focus groups: two faculty, two staff and one student. They administered a web-based survey in May 2007 to obtain faculty, staff and student preferences with regard to the academic calendar. Reports were made to the Executive Committee and to the Senate on the following dates: October 12, 2006, October 26, 2006, November 2, 2006, March 29, 2007, April 19, 2007 and May 17, 2007. Results of the web-based survey are published on the Senate website.

Policy on Timely Adoption of Textbooks. The Provost encouraged the Executive Committee/Senate to pass a resolution on the timely adoption of textbooks so that instructional materials can be made available to students with disabilities at the same time they are available to any other students. The resolution was forwarded to the Educational Equity Committee for review and editing. The resolution was converted to a policy which is now pending approval.

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.

Faculty Awards Criteria. A subcommittee was formed to review the awards criteria and to suggest revisions.

Meetings with Executive Vice Chancellor and Trustees. Members of the Committee met, on separate occasions, with visiting members of the CSU Board of Trustees Lou Monville and Glen Toney and with Executive Vice Chancellor Gary Reichard.

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