

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING 03-08-2016 APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 04-12-2016
Sub. To Exec. Comm. _____ Approved by Exec. Comm. _____
Sub. To Acad. Senate _____ Approved by Acad. Senate _____
POLICY ITEMS _____

Members Present:

Damian Christian, Barbara Gross, Michael Hoggan, Greg Knotts, Karen Kochis-Jennings, Linda Noblejas (recording), Amalie Orme, Jerald Schutte, Setareh Torabian-Riasati, Bruce Zucker

Members Excused:

Nazaret Dermendjian, Diane Stephens

Guests:

Eleanor Jones, Crist Khachikian

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:09 p.m. Schutte led the meeting on behalf of the Chair.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with an addition of a brief formal discussion of the ERC charge and extending into a request that at every appropriate juncture, the Committee discuss and vote on recommendations concerning information that has been presented to the Committee.

3. Approval of the Minutes from February 9, 2016

The minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting were approved.

4. Research and Graduate Studies – Crist Khachikian

Khachikian reported on the changes in his office, what has happened in the last few years and the direction of the office moving forward. He stated that when he started at CSUN, the office only had thirteen employees of which nine were focused in research. Since then they now have 21 employees and most of the growth is on the research side of things. They have reorganized and now have a different model to support faculty in submitting grants and contracts and are modernizing the processes in the hopes of

doubling the grants and contracts. They are transitioning to an electronic research administration software platform that will help faculty submit grants easily, manage those in their office and help with the reporting that is required and necessary. It also has a module to do Institutional Review Board (IRB) electronically with the ability to help in submissions, revisions, and tracking of grants. The IRB is a protocol that is utilized to make sure that human subjects used for research are protected from harm.

On the Graduate Studies side of the office, Maggie Shiffrar is working closely with your associate deans and chairs to improve the Graduate Studies process. There were numerous programs with very few faculty but have lots of options for the students that caused a lot of confusion. They are working very closely with departments that have some hidden pre-requisites or too many units that will have the students run out of financial aid before they are actually done with their degree.

Khachikian reported that the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) came to review their processes and they informed us that the system is broken and gave a series of 72 recommendations to fix the problems. His office has come up with five big initiatives that are tied in to the President's seven priorities for the campus, faculty scholarship, accountability, graduate student success, etc.

The office is still searching for a Compliance Officer for the Research side who will handle conflict of interest, export control, and misconduct issues.

Discussion followed with questions such as what he anticipates the volume of research will be in the next year or so, export control and visual compliance, uniform guidance on pre-award and post award indirect costs, funded research versus non-funded research, defining research by the faculty in the different colleges, doubling research that ties in all the University's priorities, tracking publications, awards, promoting and highlighting faculty doing research and creative work, RSCA, etc. Khachikian will provide the RSCA statistics for the last five years.

5. Formal discussion of the ERC Charge and a Vote for Recommendation on what is presented to the Committee

The members discussed their charge from Faculty Senate. Some members expressed making their time and effort as a member more engaged and more meaningful. They also want to engage their colleagues in their colleges on the information that they receive. Zucker proposed that any recommendation be voted upon and formalized in the minutes so as to be consistent with the charge from Faculty Senate.

MOTION: Move that at every meeting the Chair of ERC solicits from the committee any recommendations formal or informal and action items to be made and call a vote for approval. (Approved)

6. Statewide Academic Senate Report

Schutte reported on the Statewide Academic Senate meeting. He provided the three hot buttons that has been discussed.

- a. Faculty Shared Governance. He stated that there is a perception on the campuses that Shared Governance is a catch phrase and that the Chancellor's Office is not engaging the faculty. Chico has reported a vote of no confidence for the President, the CFO, and Provost and requested the Chancellor to come to their campus to mediate but he said no and for the campus to take care of it. The campuses have developed a sense of isolation from the Chancellor's Office. It has resulted in a resolution that has passed admonishing him for not being involved. It is becoming more and more of an issue and is being articulated in the upcoming CFA strike and the new Background Check Policy for all campus hires.
- b. Faculty Tenure and Tenure Density. Schutte reported that the discussion focused on the proportion of tenure track faculty to total faculty. He stated that even though it is being reported that there is a record hiring of faculty systemwide, the tenure track faculty hiring ratio is still dropping. There is a task force being created to address the issue of tenure density and to come up with recommendations to mitigate the problem.
- c. Sustainable Financial Model. There have been several revisions done and the recommendations now have been divided into tiers - short, medium and long time frames for solutions. The placement of many of the recommendations into inappropriate tiers is of concern.

Schutte stated that every year in the March meeting they open up discussion about advocacy and that generally revolves around the bills that are introduced in the State Legislature. In February 2016, 5,262 bills were introduced in the Legislature and about 105 of them have a bearing on the CSU. They went through them and have prioritized them and put them in high priority versus watch. They categorized them as watch, support or oppose. (Attachment) Some of the things that are being opposed are AB 2214, Postsecondary Education: Faculty Royalty Income Disclosure, AB 1594, Non-Smoking/Non-Vaping Campuses, AB 2419, The New University of California. AB 2163, Appointment of Campus Presidents is sponsored by the CFA and the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee (FGA) is recommending this for support. Others being supported are AB 1721, Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program, AB 2019, State Employees: salary adjustments: State Bargaining Unit 3. He asked everyone to email him if they have any questions or concerns as the FGA is meeting with the Department of Finance on April 12.

7. Action Items Recap

The following are the action items for the meeting:

- a. Khachikian will provide data from RSCA for the last five years.
- b. All – Email questions or concerns to Schutte with regards to the Legislative Bills.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Notes:

The next ERC meeting will be on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in UN 211.

THERE WERE NO POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING.