

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 10/15/15
Minutes of Meeting of September 10, 2015
Jack and Florence Ferman Presentation Room

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

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Nazaret Dermendjian (excused), Sharon Klein (excused), Rodica Kohn, Terri Lisagor (excused)

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for May 7, 2015](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. Senators were reminded to attend Freshman Convocation at 6:00 p.m. on the Oviatt Lawn. David Levithan, author of the book, *Every Day*, will meet with faculty and staff to answer questions at 4:00 p.m. in the Jack & Florence Ferman Presentation Room.
- b. Swenson shared the devastating news about the passing of our Faculty President Shane Frehlich, on September 4, after his long battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. He said that we will honor him at today's meeting and will also consider a memorial resolution at the next Senate meeting. Per the Faculty Bylaws, Swenson is now Faculty President and will continue in this capacity until the end of the academic year. We will need to elect a new Vice President at the next Senate meeting.

2. Honoring Dr. Shane Frehlich

Michaud announced that Shane Frehlich's memorial service will be on Friday, October 30, at 4:00 p.m. in the Valley Performing Arts Center. A video booth is set-up now in the Graduate Reading Room for anybody who would like to offer comments about Shane that will be passed along to his family. A few ways to provide support to Shane's family include: 1) helping with medical/education expenses through GoFundMe, and 2) Mealtrain (donate prepared meals, restaurant, or store gift cards). Senators were encouraged to send "Whereas" or "Resolved" statements for inclusion in the memorial resolution that will be considered at the next Senate meeting.

Swenson read a statement that was sent to him from Steven Filling, Chair of the Academic Senate CSU, and our former Provost, Harry Hellenbrand, remembered Shane by reading a heartfelt tribute. He said, "Shane was selfless, with grace, sparkle, and humor. If more like him walked among us, we would need far less law and governance."

Senators took a moment of silence to remember their beloved Faculty President and colleague.

3. **Faculty President's Introductory Remarks**

Swenson gave a parliamentary procedure overview to help the new Senators make the most of their service as a faculty senator. He provided some tips for being a good senator, explained what a Senate does, outlined the basic steps for approving motions, and went over parliamentary procedure rules.

4. **Introduction of Standing Committee Chairs, Provost Yi Li, and AS President Reyes**

As part of the President's Report, President Harrison welcomed Provost Li and the AS President, Jorge Reyes. Due to time limitation, the Standing Committee chairs will be introduced at a later meeting.

5. **Senate Reports**

a. **President's Report** – President Dianne Harrison

President Harrison reported on the following items:

1. **The Passing of Shane Frehlich** – President Harrison expressed her sadness over Shane's passing, saying that she enjoyed and respected him enormously and that we had lost a great colleague.
2. **Welcomed Provost Yi Li** – President Harrison welcomed Provost Li to his first Senate meeting at CSUN. She is pleased with the work he has done on implementing enrollment and student success strategies, noting that they are well coordinated and will be carefully tracked.
3. **Fall Enrollments** – This Fall, we welcomed about 41,500 students and are the largest CSU. President Harrison asked that we all help students get the classes they need. It is important that we carefully evaluate and track enrollments and manage enrollment next year. We will try to reduce the number of unfunded students in a gradual way through our impaction tools.

One of CSUN's three-year goals, in agreement with the CSU Chancellor, is to increase our retention rate to over 80% for this fall's freshman class. Also, we will seek to decrease our achievement gap to 8% or less and achieve a 52% six-year graduation rate. The support of faculty and staff is essential to achieve these goals.

4. **Freshman Convocation** – President Harrison reminded the Senators that Freshman Convocation is this evening. She thanked Cheryl Spector for her work with Freshman Convocation.
5. **New Faculty Hires** – We hired eighty-six new tenure-track faculty this Fall; forty-three faculty are from traditionally under-represented groups so we were successful in our diversity efforts and are to be congratulated. We must be successful in retaining our new faculty by supporting and mentoring them and by helping them find the resources that they need.

6. **Fall Welcome Back Annual Address** – The President encouraged those that were unable to attend the Fall Welcome Back Address to view it online; it is posted on the President’s Office website. It includes details about the challenges and opportunities that we will face this year.
7. **Chief Diversity Officer** – We are currently searching for a new Chief Diversity Officer who will report directly to the President. The position will help coordinate efforts across the campus so we can track hiring and retention, identify our strengths and additional areas of opportunity, encourage civil dialogue and conversations on this campus, and chair the Commission on Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives.
8. **The Oasis Wellness Center** – This Center is now open to provide nutrition counseling, meditation, massages, acupuncture, power napping sleep pods, and workshops focused on wellness and managing stress for students. President Harrison encouraged the Senators to visit this new facility, conceived by students and designed with the assistance of many faculty and staff across the campus.
9. **Portfolium** – Similar to an ePortfolio, this tool is now available for students. President Harrison encouraged faculty to consider ways to use it in the classroom. It’s a wonderful way for students to archive their work.
10. **Founder’s Day** – Founder’s Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 19. Many of our alumni will be on campus to attend this event. Thanks to those who participate.
11. **CSU Faculty Trustee Reappointment** – Professor Steven Stepanek was congratulated for his reappointment as CSU Faculty Trustee.
12. **AS President Jorge Reyes** – President Harrison welcomed AS President Jorge Reyes and said she is very impressed with his *100 classes in 100 days* and his efforts to talk to students about what is on their minds.

b. **Provost’s Report** – Provost Yi Li

Provost Li reported on the following items:

1. **Enrollments** – This Fall, we have the largest number of enrollments. We must focus our efforts to reduce the numbers of students that are not funded by the state (about 11.85% of the student population). The next couple of years, we will need to manage and monitor enrollments very carefully to reduce this percentage. Provost Li said he would report regularly on this topic.
2. **Faculty Hires** – Currently, we are planning to hire 34 new tenure-track faculty for Fall 2016. Provost Li said that hiring faculty is an important priority for him.
3. **Student Success** - This is a number one priority for Academic Affairs. We will concentrate on student retention, graduation, and closing achievement gaps. It is very important for the faculty, those with first-hand experience with our students, to participate in this effort for it to be successful. We will begin this conversation with the deans, department chairs, and with the faculty.

4. **Research and Scholarly Work** – Getting students involved with research helps the faculty member and increases student engagement. We will need to focus on funded research – federal, state, private, etc. Diversifying our revenues is extremely important.
 5. **Diversity** - Fifty percent of our new tenure-track faculty hires are from traditionally under-represented groups. Our goal is to help these faculty progress to full professor. We will look at our existing programs and resources to help support this effort.
- c. **Statewide Academic Senate CSU Report** – Senator Jerald Schutte
Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/sasreport091015.pdf>
- A written report was distributed. Due to time limitation, Schutte will provide highlights and answer questions at the next meeting.
- d. **CFA Report** – CFA President Nate Thomas
Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/cfareport091015.pdf>
- A written report was distributed. Due to time limitation, Thomas will provide highlights and answer questions at the next meeting.

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

Submitted by:

Kristy Michaud, Secretary of the Faculty
Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary