

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING 3/12/2024 APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 4/9/24
Sub. To Exec. Comm. 4/9/24 Approved by Exec. Comm. _____
Sub. To Acad. Senate _____ Approved by Acad. Senate _____
POLICY ITEMS _____

Members Present:

David Boyajian, Krystle Cronin (recording), Yi Ding, Callie Juarez (non-voting), Greg Knotts, Lesley Krane, Katherine Stevenson, Holli Tonyan, Yarma Velazquez Vargas, Tadeh Zirakian

Not present:

Christian Tedeschi

Guests:

Provost Komarraju

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by G. Knotts.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with no objections. MSP (Velazquez Vargas/Tonyan)

2. Approval of the ERC Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2024

The minutes were approved from the February 13, 2024 meeting with one abstention. MSP (Velzaquez Vargas/Tonyan)

3. Provost Komarraju

Provost Komarraju discussed course modality (online, hybrid, and face-to-face) and how it is counted amongst the colleges. She reached out to all of the deans for their input. However, some areas still need to be sorted out. For example, the definition provided by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and how we internally count these courses. An Ad-Hoc Committee on Online Programs is also being formed to assist with this issue and the possibility of adding more online courses. Provost Komarraju is concerned with students staying motivated and engaged during online courses, therefore, she emphasizes the importance of the quality of the experience. She is also interested in providing support to faculty who choose to teach online.

Komaraju also touched on student retention and what work needed to be done to increase it. For Fall 21/22 and 22/23 cohorts, CSUN has been at a 76% retention rate. At one point CSUN used to be at 80%, therefore work needs to be done to bring our current rate up. One possibility is for faculty to be able to leave a note through EAB on which students stopped attending and have their advisor reach out to them directly to better understand why.

Regarding the University Planning and Budget Group (UPBG), the Provost spoke on some of the fiscal implications for the coming year. There is a gap between the revenue and the expenses. Since the governor cannot give the CSUs the compact budget this year, CSUN will have to come up with money to fill the gap using reserves. CSUN has also been asked to increase the target by 450 FTES. The Office of Institutional Research has stated that by increasing a student's average unit load by .2, CSUN can increase the FTES without adding new students and retaining the students we have.

4. CSUN Ready

R. Evans presented the CSUN Ready program regarding the affordability of campus course materials. The plan is to implement this program for Fall 2024. The campus fee is \$17.50 per credit unit. Currently, this program is in the testing phase to integrate this program with financial aid.

Concerns were raised regarding students being financially savvy and calculating whether or not this program will save them money every semester. Another concern was regarding faculty that have zero-cost course materials. With this program, students will need to pay \$17.50/unit, as opposed to \$0. Another concern was regarding course supplies, like studio courses, those supply costs are not taken into account. The committee encourages the program to be opt-in and not opt-out.

For reference: [ASCSU DRAFT Resolution](#).

5. Chair's Report

None

6. Executive Secretary's Report

C. Juarez addressed a question from a previous Educational Resources Committee meeting: Why are there fewer classrooms in Maple Hall than there were in Sierra Hall? During the very early planning/feasibility study stage (about 5 years ago), Academic Resources and Planning did a thorough analysis of utilization (when the enrollment was above target) and determined the campus could manage with 42 classrooms if we were careful about scheduling 8:00 am-3:15 pm and used nearby spaces, such as Manzanita classrooms well. Subsequently, a stairwell was added (from the original design) to Maple Hall and it equaled an additional loss of 4 rooms (down to 38). Also, Sierra Hall classrooms were not efficiently used and part of the process was to "right-size" according to course capacities. Reallocation of classrooms was vetted with deans, directors, and schedule coordinators and when we checked in with the directors last Spring and Summer regarding the Fall 2023 build actuals—no concerns were raised about classroom availability. In addition to the enrollment drop, the

percentage of online and hybrid courses has increased, further reducing the classroom demand.

7. AY 2425 Meeting Time

This agenda item is being moved to the April meeting due to lack of time.

8. Tour Maple Hall

The tour commenced at 3:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Notes:

The next ERC meeting will be held on April 9, 2024, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m via Zoom.