

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Approved

Thursday, April 6, 2023**Via Zoom**

Members Present: Bendavid, Garrow, Glocke, Komarraju, Mimura, Neubauer (Chair), Spratt, Swenson, White, Wiegley, Williams

Guests: A. Berger, H. Cairns, D. Cours, K. de la Vega, N. Duran, S. Duits, R. Evans, D. Guido, L. Hansen Brown, L. Medina, P. Militante, E. Porter, A. Singleton, S. Spear, F. Stranzl, D. Weingarten

1. Call to Order

Faculty President Neubauer called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

2. Approval of the SEC Meeting Minutes

MSP: to approve the SEC Meeting [Minutes for March 2, 2023](#)

3. Announcements

There was no announcements.

4. President's Report – Michael Neubauer

President Neubauer shared:

- A. the Cozen O'Connor's systemwide assessment of California State University's implementation of Title IX, and Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation (DHR) programs report has been delayed. The report will be available to campuses after Cozen O'Connor presents it at the Board of Trustees meeting in May.
- B. in meetings with Provost Komarraju, she shared at Southern Illinois University they had regular meetings with legislatures. This may be a good idea for CSUN to do as well and asked senators to consider this idea.

Senators shared their experiences with speaking to legislators. There seems to be a lack of understanding from legislators on legislature that impacts CSUN.

5. **Provost's Report – Meera Komarraju**

Provost Komarraju shared:

- A. currently reviewing RTP dossiers, with 91 of them to review. This has been a great way to get to know the faculty and all the great work they are doing.
- B. on April 12th from 12 to 4 pm the Provost Office will be hosting a GI 2025 and the Road Ahead event. The focus of this event will also focus on student success and enhancing retention and graduation rates. Provost Komarraju encouraged senators to attend.
- C. appreciation for Vice President Theresa White for helping the implementation team that will give faculty a chance to access the course level equity gap data for their courses.
- D. there have been discussions on faculty development and how to better support this. The team is looking at the New Faculty Orientation and what more can be done in regard to faculty mentoring. Provost Komarraju welcomed senators to share their thoughts and suggestions.
- E. for Fall 2023 faculty hires, there is a team of faculty equity and compliance representatives. Their role is to help increase the diversity of the incoming faculty. This is a work in progress. Recent feedback has shown improvements are needed to ensure this process is as user friendly as possible.
- F. for Fall 2024 faculty hires, she has requested the Deans submit their hiring requests. The Deans will collect hiring requests from the departments, and these will be submitted to her along with the Dean's hiring requests.
- G. at the last Faculty Senate meeting, senators had questions and concerns about advising. This was also a topic of discussion when meeting with students. They also want to see advisement improve and be enhanced.

- H. asked senators to think about ways we can encourage more faculty to attend commencement ceremonies and what barriers there may be for attendance.

Senators proposed the idea of incorporating student attendance at Provost series events. They also asked if any data were available to assess the effectiveness of the team of faculty equity and compliance representatives. They also want to get a better understanding of how the faculty hiring decisions are made when requests are received.

6. Statewide Academic Senate Report – Adam Swenson

There concerns Senator Swenson shared are:

- A. Legislation: There is a difference of opinion between the CSSA and the ASCSU on SB11 – ban on telehealth services. Students are concerned about access.
- B. AB 927: The community colleges did not address CSU concerns on a certain degree offering and decided to move forward. The ASCSU is worried about the precedent this is setting. There has also been disagreement with the community colleges in regard to AB 506 and what fulfills the ethnic studies requirement.
- C. AB 1390 which would require service learning for all students in the CSU. Though service learning is beneficial, it is unpaid and requires a large time commitment for students and faculty.

President Neubauer asked about the Mercer Study. Senator Swenson shared concerns about the process of the study and some of the findings.

7. Cal Poly Pomona Workload Resolution Discussion – Danielle Spratt

Senator Spratt presented Cal Poly Pomona’s Workload Resolution and shared other campuses are working to draft similar resolutions. As some CSU campuses move over to a semester system from a quarter system, they are recognizing workload is challenging with a 4-4 model. This model does not allow enough time for scholarship. To address workload, the CFA and the Faculty Senate are endorsing these resolutions to better support faculty and students.

Senator Spratt asked if the committee should bring this forward as a discussion item for Senate at large and if the body should draft something similar.

Senators agreed on working on a draft resolution that is more CSUN specific.

8. CSUN Ready - Rick Evans, Executive Director, The University Corporation

Executive Director Evans gave an overview of equitable access programs.

- A. A course-by-course immediate access program is available at CSU. CSUN Ready is a type of equitable access program that supports affordability, access to course materials before courses begin, convenience, and sustainability. The program was piloted with first time freshman students. Students received free course materials that were funded by HERF funds. Participating students were surveyed and shared the program helped them be successful in their course work.
- B. The CSUN Ready team has met with student leaders who agreed this program seems like a logical next step for CSUN. Student leaders shared the need for a clear opt out option for students who may not want to participate in the program.
- C. The CSUN Ready team is raising awareness of the program and collecting feedback by meeting with various stakeholders on campus. The goal is to implement this program by Fall 2024.

Senators asked for more information on how this program is offering more affordable rates to students. Provost Komarraju recommended the CSUN Ready team meet with the Council of Chairs for their input.

9. Faculty & Staff Awards - Kristina de la Vega, Associate Vice President of Human Resources; Lissette Medina, Director of Employee Relations; Frank William Stranzl, Associate Director, Employee Development & Communications

AVP de la Vega shared historically there have been two separate events for honoring faculty and staff. This summer they will host the 57th staff service awards where they will honor years of service and recognition for various merit based awards. The merit-based awards change over time based on the campus initiatives and priorities.

As the university works to develop more inclusive practices, AVP de la Vega wanted to discuss and see if there is any interest in combining the faculty and staff award events. AVP de la Vega proposed the creation of a small committee to talk about the key areas that must be a part of the combined event. The staff ceremony will take place on June 6th this year. AVP de la Vega invited the Senate Executive Committee to attend.

Faculty Vice President White and Senator Williams will work with AVP de la Vega to discuss options and feasibility of combining the two events.

10. Proposal of New Senate Committee on Teaching Evaluation – Suzanne Spear, Senator; Nellie Duran, Senator

Senator Spear gave an overview of the Teaching Effectiveness Task Force that began in Fall 2022 with funding from former Provost Walker. The goal of the task force is to reform teaching evaluation to support faculty, improve the quality of teaching, and promote student success. The task force has been working on defining teaching effectiveness, identifying innovative models of teaching evaluation, and preparing a core set of questions that departments can use to assess student experience and provide useful feedback for improving teaching. Through their work, they have identified there is a need to continue to work past the task force end date of May. Senator Spear and Duran propose the creation of a new standing committee for Faculty Senate on teaching evaluation.

President Neubauer suggested the creation of an ad hoc committee and reviewed bylaws guidelines for its creation. Senators recommended senators Spear and Duran work on the proposed committee’s charge and membership.

11. Policy Items - Educational Research Committee, Dan Weingarten, Chair; Deborah Cours, Interim AVP Undergraduate Studies

First Reading:

a. [Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement \(Revised\)](#)

AVP Cours gave a brief recap of the proposed policy and asked for a waive of the first reading.

MSP: to move this forward to Faculty Senate with a recommendation to waive the first reading.

b. [Dean's List Policy \(Revised\)](#)

AVP Cours gave a brief recap of the proposed policy. Senators inquired about making the unit requirement nine units across all programs. Chair Weingarten and AVP Cours expressed this discussion was had at EPC and their decision was in regard to cohorted programs.

MSP: to move this forward to Faculty Senate as a first reading.

12. Policy Items - Personnel Planning and Review Committee, Lindsay Hansen Brown, Chair; Diane Guido, AVP Faculty Affairs

First Reading:

[606.1.1.b.1 Authorized Personnel File_03 01 23](#)

Chair Hansen Brown gave a brief recap of the proposed policy change.

Senators discussed changes, provided recommendations for policy language, and agreed to send it back to PP&R for additional review.

Second Reading:

a. [706.1 Establishment and Approval of Departmental Criteria and Evaluation Procedures](#)

MSP: Move forward to Faculty Senate with a do pass recommendation.

b. [DEI Language in Section 600 rev 3.1.23](#)

MSP: Move forward to Faculty Senate.

c. [Preamble to Sections 600 and 700_Revised 03.01.23](#)

MSP: Motion to send it back to PP&R for additional review.

13. Standing Committee Minutes Review

Extended Learning Committee: May be proposing new polices in regard to concerns about the self-support funding and management to state funding for summer school and plans for creating a new access program for formally matriculated CSUN students.

14. Set Agenda for the April 20th Senate Meeting

15. New Business

There was no new business.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm

Submitted by: Yoko Mimura, Secretary of Faculty, and Gabriela Pelayo, Recording Secretary