SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES – Approved 2/25/2016
February 4, 2016
University Hall, Room 277

Members Present: Hoggan, Lisagor, Michaud, Schmidt-Levy, Schutte, Schwartz, Swenson, Wolfbauer (Recording Secretary)

Members Absent: Li, Spector, Willingham

Guests: H. Baker, L. Borchard, S. Grant, D. Harrison, P. Jennings, M. Neubauer, C. Sales

Faculty President Swenson called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

1. Announcements
   a. Lisagor announced that she purchased the tickets for the show, Parade, for those who wanted to attend.

2. Faculty President’s Report – Adam Swenson

   Swenson reported on the following topics:
   a. The Chancellor’s Office is reviewing Learning Platform Services (LPS) and has asked the campuses to provide feedback. We have been told that campuses will not be forced to change. We nonetheless need to be engaged and vigilant throughout the process. A task force will be convened to work on this.

   b. The State of California has passed legislation (AB 798) that provides funding for campuses to support faculty and students choosing no-cost and low-cost course materials. To acquire funding, campuses must adopt a resolution that states its support to increase student access to high-quality Open Educational Resources (OER) and to reduce the cost of textbooks and supplies for students. Campuses also need to create and approve a plan that describes evidence of the faculty’s commitment and readiness to effectively use grant funds to support faculty adoption of OER. [See Item #3.]

3. Affordable Learning Solutions Resolution
   Chris Sales, Chair of the Academic Technology Committee

   The presentation began with Laurie Borchard, coordinator for CSUN’s Affordable Learning Solutions (ALS), stating that our campus is doing many of the things mentioned above in Item 2.b. Last year, CSUN was awarded $20,000 to facilitate these activities. She and two other faculty members from the ALS team are planning to attend the conference in March to learn more about the legislation (AB 798) and the requirements for submitting proposals to acquire more funding. Afterwards, Borchard said she will report back on their plan.

   The other requirement to receive funding is to pass a resolution. Sales presented the Affordable Learning Solutions Resolution approved by the Academic Technology
Committee. SEC recommended a few revisions and suggested that they include (within or outside the resolution) an explanation about what ALS and OER mean. They also suggested expanding the rationale and removing the “whenever possible” in the first Resolve.

MSP to forward the resolution to the Senate with a do-pass.

4. Visit with President Dianne Harrison

President Harrison visited with SEC to listen to concerns and answer questions. In response to questions, she said transportation (parking, traffic, and carbon emissions) was a major concern to her. She is having conversations about getting a direct Orange Line to our campus. President Harrison said that the economic issues faced by our students is a big problem. She has asked VP William Watkins to take a look at what we need to do to improve the campus food bank run by Associated Students. The Students of Color Coalition provided a list of concerns that we plan to address. And we have a great deal of work to do to close the achievement gap. President Harrison said it is our responsibility to provide an environment in which students can thrive and be successful.

5. Committee Appointments and Nominations

a. Appoint a Faculty Member to Replace Pat Miller on the Extended Learning Committee (ELC) and the Learning Resource Advisory Council (LRAC)

   A faculty member was appointed to both the ELC and the LRAC. A few other faculty members were also recommended and ranked for both committees, should their first choices not be available.

b. Appoint two Faculty Members to Replace Laurie Borchard and Janet Oh on the Educational Policies Committee (EPC)

   Two faculty members were appointed to EPC. A few other faculty members were also recommended and ranked, should their first choices not be available.

c. Appoint a Faculty Member to Replace Kathy Dabbour on the Educational Resources Committee (ERC)

   A faculty member was appointed to ERC and two other faculty members were recommended and ranked, should their first choice not be available.

6. Update and Request for Input on Faculty Emeritus Policy
Sheila Grant, Chair of PP&R

Grant reported that President Harrison has postponed signing the Emeritus Status for Lecturers Policy until the section on Rights and Privileges (650.3.5.) has been updated, because this section has resource implications. At the same time, PP&R decided to update the criteria and procedures to make it a “genuine honor” to receive emeritus status. PP&R asked for input from SEC in creating the first-draft policy statement. PP&R recommends adding the following criteria to the existing policy:

The granting of Emeritus status recognizes faculty members who have met their professional responsibilities as members of an academic profession, as teachers, counselors, or librarians.
as colleagues, and as members of an academic institution, and who have continuously performed high quality work in the areas of (1) teaching, librarianship, or counseling, (2) scholarly or creative activity, and/or (3) service.

Some SEC members were concerned about the phrase “continuously performed high quality work . . . ” since some faculty may have short breaks during their service.

In the Procedures for Nomination section, SEC preferred Option 3 that allows for nomination by the Department Chair, senior-rank tenured faculty members, but also includes allowing for self-nomination. Penny Jennings, Special Assistant to the Provost for Academic Personnel, mentioned that every CSU campus has a procedure for review except for CSUN. Therefore, PP&R decided a process for review should be added to the existing policy. Jennings said that all options mentioned include review by the Department Personnel Committee and that having the Dean or Provost involved in the process is helpful because they are aware of any issues or concerns about a faculty member. Creating an Emeritus Review Committee or having the Post Tenure Review Committee review the nomination was suggested. SEC supported keeping PP&R approval part of the process. An SEC member asked that an appeals process be considered.

7. **Statewide Academic Senate CSU Report** – Jerald Schutte

A written report was distributed. Schutte highlighted the following hot topics:

a. Chair Filing announced that the Sustainable Financial Model would be presented to the Board of Trustees at next week’s meeting and stated that it was not clear whether the report would be informational or voted on for implementation. After receiving the report, the BOT said they would study the report further, so nothing was passed for implementation.

b. In regard to the CFA strike, the Fact Finding report from the Chancellor’s Office came at the end of December and a final report is due in February. The vast majority of CFA members voted to strike; they won’t get back to the bargaining table until March. CFA is hoping that the Chancellor will offer a compromise soon.

c. Tenure-density is an issue. The ratio of tenured to total faculty has gone down.

d. CSU Student Trustee Brewer said that one of her biggest concerns has to do with homeless students and their need for food.

8. **Provost’s Report** – Vice Provost Michael Neubauer

In Provost Li’s absence, Neubauer mentioned the following items:

a. The interim AVP for Faculty Affairs search is in its final stages. Two searches for new Deans (HHD and AMC) are moving forward.

b. The 2nd year probationary faculty are being reviewed and the Provost will send out his letters next week.
The Admissions Planning Group has weekly meetings to look at the latest data from Admissions and Records and Institutional Research, and to calibrate the cut-off indices for out-of-area freshmen and transfers.

9. **Review of Standing Committee Minutes**

   Personnel Planning and Review (12/2 – no new policies)

10. **Set Agenda for February 18, 2016 Senate Meeting**
   - Nominations for Faculty Officers, Statewide Academic Senators, Senators-at-Large and recommendations for Standing Committee Representatives
   - Election for Senator-at-Large and an SEC Member
   - First Reading – Basic Skills Policy
   - Affordable Learning Solutions Resolution
   - Senate Reports

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Terri Lisagor, Secretary of the Faculty and Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary