

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES – Approved 3/28/2019
February 28, 2019
University Hall, Room 277

Members Present: Dermendjian, DeVeaux (via Zoom for Provost candidate interview), Heinen, Henige, Michaud, Neubauer, Spector, Stein, Sussman, Swenson, Theodoulou, Wilson (Recording Secretary)

Faculty President Stein called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

1. Approval of SEC Minutes

MSP to approve the SEC Minutes for [February 7, 2019](#) as revised.

2. Announcements

- a. Senator Spector requested that the standing committee instructions be updated. SEC will request of Standing Committee chairs that at all meetings, guests who are speaking, will either introduce themselves or be introduced to the standing committee.
- b. Faculty President Stein said that the university is currently conducting Provost Search meetings. One meeting was held on February 26, 2019 and the other meetings will be held today and on March 4, 2019 and March 5, 2019. The Search committee will meet after the on-campus meetings and make a report to President Harrison.

3. Approval of the Spring 2019 Election Slate

President Stein said that she had the Election Subcommittee review the ballots and they gave her feedback on Qualtrics. President Stein explained that the names on each ballot will be randomized and Qualtrics will send voting reminders to individuals that have not voted. SEC members briefly discussed the terms for the officers and Senator at Large positions. SEC members requested that the department names be updated and the option to write in candidates is checked for functionality on each voting category.

MSP: to approve the 2019 Senate and Faculty election ballots with the corrections requested.

4. Setting Senate Agenda for March 7, 2019 Senate Meeting

SEC members discussed the importance of having the Senate discuss the ASCSU Task Force Report on GE and allowing the opportunity for faculty to provide feedback on the report. An SEC member suggested that the Senate should first discuss the report at the March 7, 2019 meeting. At the meeting, Faculty President Stein can request that all Senators reach out to their constituents for feedback. After the March 7, 2019 meeting, Faculty President Stein will send an email to all faculty asking them to review the ASCSU Task Force Report on GE and request that they send feedback on the report to their college Senators. The email will also provide a brief explanation about the ASCSU Task Force Report on GE. At the April 7, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting, the Senate can discuss faculty feedback on the report.

SEC members discussed inviting Colin Donahue (to discuss the university budget) and Ken Rosenthal (to discuss CSUN's infrastructure) to the March 7, 2019 meeting. SEC members decided to have Ken Rosenthal attend the March 7, 2019 meeting and invite Colin Donahue to a future meeting. SEC members also discussed tutorials on Robert's Rules of Order, student cheating and the resources available to faculty, and the motion to add a permanent lecturer position on the Senate Executive Committee. SEC members expressed concern with designating a specific spot on the Senate Executive Committee, since all members of Senate, including lecturers, can be on the ballot for the Senate Executive Committee. SEC members briefly discussed lecturers and their current representation on Faculty Senate. SEC decided not to recommend that the motion be passed at the March Senate meeting.

SEC decided to keep the Senate meeting in the Ferman Presentation Room and continue using the randomized lottery for guest seating. The link to sign up for the Senate meeting will be shared via email and posted on the Senate website one week prior to the Senate meeting. Faculty President Stein will send out an email to all faculty sharing that the Senate will be discussing EPC's current ability to decide on GE curriculum and the ASCSU Task Force Report on GE at the March 7, 2019 Senate meeting.

Senate Agenda for March 7, 2019 Senate Meeting

- Discussion/Informational Item-EPC Report: Making Curricular Decisions (30 minutes)
- ASCSU Task Force Report on GE (30 minutes)
- CSUN Infrastructure Update
- Motion for a Permanent Lecturer Position on SEC
- Senate Reports

5. Meeting with Provost Candidate

SEC members met with Dr. Simon Rhodes, a candidate for the Provost position at CSUN.

6. WASC Presentation and Discussion

Dan Hosken, Dean of Arts, Media and Communication
 Matt Cahn, Interim Vice Provost of Academic Affairs

Interim Vice Provost Matt Cahn shared that CSUN is up for WASC reaccreditation. CSUN has to identify one to three themes. CSUN will submit a 5-7-page report to WASC. Currently, they are conducting several visits on campus with different constituents to figure out what themes to use. Faculty President Stein said that the WASC Steering Committee would also like to get suggestions from SEC. All comments and general information regarding the WASC reaccreditation process will be posted on the WASC website (<https://csun.edu/wasc>). Anyone that was unable to attend the WASC open forums can submit comments online. SEC members suggested the following themes: Academics and a Community Approach to Student Success (basic needs, housing, food pantry, Matty's closet, learning commons, co-curricular activities). Additional theme suggestions can be emailed to Interim Vice Provost Matt Cahn or Faculty President Mary-Pat Stein. They will be reviewing the suggestions in April.

7. Post Implementation and the Limits of Interpretation Discussion

Faculty President Stein mentioned that a small group of SEC members met on Thursday of last week and discussed post implementation and the limits of interpretation of the motion passed by Senate to "not participate in the implementation" of the Executive Orders. EPC is requesting guidance on how to proceed since the implementation of the executive orders by Interim Provost Theodoulou on December 17, 2018. President Stein mentioned that Larry

Becker from EPC requested advice from SEC about how to proceed and when EPC will once again resume governance over GE curriculum in Plan E. President Stein explained how some faculty believe that the Senate voted to “not implement” the executive orders at all at CSUN. President Stein said that EPC should not be prohibited from looking at curriculum in perpetuity with respect to plan E. President Stein said that not working on curriculum is, in actuality, faculty giving up faculty governance of the only thing that faculty truly do control – curriculum. An SEC member suggested that SEC pass a motion stating that the implementation phase of the executive orders is over and EPC’s job is to use the structure put in place by administration to evaluate curriculum. Interim Provost Stella Theodoulou asked if non-participation in the implementation (non-compliance) of the executive orders means also not teaching the GE curriculum in Plan E. An SEC member explained that the motion is about the standing committees and the Faculty Senate, not about teaching courses. President Stein mentioned that there are departments on campus that believe that non-participation means not working on curriculum for courses that are part of GE Plan E and in fact, faculty members are arguing that all faculty are bound by the vote. An SEC member shared that CSUN has dealt with this issue before when Executive Order 1048 was implemented and lecturers were hired to teach courses that some full-time faculty refused to teach.

SEC members discussed the role of faculty at CSUN, executive order implementation, the GE Task Force report, curriculum review, diversity of the Senate Executive Committee and the need for healing on campus. Interim Provost Theodoulou shared that CSUN is currently searching for a mediator to come to campus to help with the current campus climate issues. After discussing whether or not to bring a motion to the Senate about issues of curriculum, SEC decided that a motion would not yet be made by SEC and that the “post implementation” discussion should be referred to the full Senate. The decision was made to have an EPC discussion item where Christina Mayberry (the chair of EPC) explains how EPC is currently looking at curriculum, since the implementation of the executive orders. The chair of EPC will give a report and have a time certain of thirty minutes and Larry Becker will also be invited since he raised the question of how EPC should proceed.

SEC also briefly discussed the need for a parliamentarian at Senate meetings to help explain rules such as, who is permitted to speak at Senate meetings. The Association of Retired Faculty has been asked if someone would serve as parliamentarian but no one has stepped forward.

8. CSU Taskforce Report on GE

SEC members briefly discussed the ASCSU Taskforce Report on GE. SEC members expressed concern with the report proposing to take away the 6-unit American History graduation requirement and eliminate double counting. A question as to the Eurocentric nature of the American History requirement was discussed. SEC members suggested inviting Steven Stepanek to a future Senate meeting to discuss the report since he was on the taskforce. Faculty President Stein suggested that the Senate should review the document and point out all of the areas that are problematic and unclear. Interim Provost Theodoulou suggested that CSUN should respond and send their feedback on the report. An SEC member said that the changes proposed in the report are course level changes. President Stein said that the Senate will have a discussion about the report and we will keep track of the feedback. Interim Provost Theodoulou said that on other campuses this document is controversial. A couple of other CSU campuses have had protests and demonstrations in response to the ASCSU Taskforce Report on GE.

9. Provost's Report – Interim Provost Stella Theodoulou

Interim Provost Stella Theodoulou reported on the following:

- a. Interim Provost Theodoulou said that a CSUN Credit Momentum Report was recently shared via email with the campus. The report gave data on the average unit load increase. Regularly, the campus will receive a report with data updates and insights. The next report will be an update on the Executive Order 1110.
- b. The new Interim AVP of Faculty Affairs James Mackin will be starting on Tuesday March 5, 2019. CSUN now has a new Interim Dean of Humanities, Jackie Stallcup. The campus has had a few issues with the Dean of Engineering search due to issues with search committee membership. RTP letters will be going out this week.

An SEC member inquired about the new AVP of Student Success. Interim Provost Theodoulou explained that they will eventually have to conduct a new search for the AVP of Student Success since the candidate for the position backed out due to personal reasons ten days before she was scheduled to start the position. In order to temporarily fill the current vacancy, the campus will conduct a search for an Interim AVP of Student Success.

10. Senate Executive Committee Subcommittee Reports

Bylaws Subcommittee (Heinen, Neubauer, Stein, Swenson)

SEC members briefly discussed the motion proposed to add a permanent lecturer position on SEC. An SEC member explained that the motion for the bylaws change can be proposed at the Senate meeting and if passed, would come back to SEC. President Stein said that the motion would be placed on the Senate agenda and the Senate can discuss the motion and then vote on it.

President Stein also discussed the proposed bylaw change concerning defining an open meeting. President Stein mentioned that SEC has been discussing the bylaw change via email. She will update the proposed bylaws changes with all of the suggestions received via email from SEC and send an updated version to SEC. President Stein said that she would like to bring the open meeting bylaw change to the Faculty Senate this semester.

11. Review of Standing Committee Minutes

Extended Learning (11/28--no policy)

Educational Policies (11/28--no policy)

Graduate Studies Committee (11/13--no policy)

Personnel, Planning and Review (10/31-- RTP date changes and changes to RTP categories; 11/14, 11/28, 2/6--update to GRIF policy)

Research and Grants (10/12, 11/9, 12/14--no policy)

12. Other Business

SEC briefly discussed the importance of communication between the different constituents on campus. President Stein said that all the key players need to be brought to the table to have a discussion, once a mediator is chosen. An SEC member suggested that a few SEC members should help facilitate conversations between the different constituents on campus to help heal

the campus. An SEC member suggested having informal conversations like *Coffee with the Provost* to give people to have a chance to be heard.

An SEC member requested guidance on how to proceed with the resolution regarding student evaluations of faculty. President Stein said that the information received from the Senate should be shared with the Educational Equity Committee and a task force should be formed (to look at data, questions on evaluations and how evaluations are used). President Stein mentioned that she is happy to help facilitate the next steps.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Kim Henige, Secretary of the Faculty and Nicole Wilson, Recording Secretary