

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES – Approved 11/12/2020
October 15, 2020
Via Zoom

Members Present: Dermendjian, Montano, Mimura, Neubauer (Chair), Ricks, Stein, Sussman, Swenson, White, Wiegley, Walker, Wilson (Recording Secretary)

Faculty President Neubauer called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Approval of SEC Minutes

MSP to approve the SEC Minutes [September 10, 2020](#) and [October 1, 2020](#) as distributed.

2. Announcements

- a. Faculty President Neubauer welcomed newly elected Vice President Theresa White to the Senate Executive Committee.
- b. Faculty President Neubauer shared that on October 29, 2020 there will be a special SEC meeting with AVC Alison Wrynn and AVC Leo Van Cleve to discuss the implementation of AB1460. Ethnic Studies Chairs will be invited to the meeting.

3. President's Report – Michael Neubauer

Faculty President Neubauer mentioned the presidential search committee recently met and shared their recommendations for president with the Board of Trustees. The announcement of the new CSUN president will happen in November or sooner. Provost Walker requested that the Senate provide her with a brief summary. The summary will be included in the Executive Summary Briefing Document for the incoming CSUN president. Faculty President Neubauer will work on the request. Faculty President Neubauer also shared that he has made many faculty appointments to the various committees on campus. Faculty President Neubauer shared the appointments with the Senate Executive Committee.

4. Feedback From on Revisions to the Executive Order on CSU General Education Breadth-Michael Neubauer

Faculty President Neubauer recently met with President Dianne Harrison and explained that the Senate would submit its own feedback to the *Revisions to the Executive Order on CSU General Education Breadth* by November 2, 2020. Senator Montano and Senator White volunteered to help Faculty President Neubauer with the CSUN Faculty Senate response. SEC briefly discussed the Senate response, *CSUN Faculty Senate's Ethnic Studies Resolution in Opposition to the Chancellor's Proposed Implementation of AB 1460*, campus collaboration and the Ethnic Studies Council. A request was made to involve EPC in the Faculty Senate response. Another request was made to involve Ethnic Studies and to collaborate widely when compiling the Faculty Senate response. Provost Walker shared that faculty can also submit their own individual response to the *Revisions to the Executive Order on CSU General Education Breadth*.

5. Academic Senate CSU Report - Elizabeth Sussman

Senator Sussman reported on the following:

- a. That the ASCSU report is over 50 pages and included attachments.
- b. That she followed up with Chancellor White regarding what returning to campus would look like. He shared that hypothetically there would be about 70-80% of the population vaccinated before we returned to campus. A vaccination test from AVID is about \$100 per a person (for a 15 minute result).
- c. An update on the Statewide discussion and passage of AS 3450 “*Suspension of Mandatory Peer Observation of Instruction and Student Evaluations for Academic Year 2020-2021*”.

SEC briefly discussed AS 3450. Faculty President Neubauer shared that on CSUN’s campus PP&R, EPC and the Provost are not in support of AS 3450. CSUN will conduct peer evaluations and student evaluations of faculty.

Link to written report: <https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/ascsu-sept.pdf>

6. Provost’s Report –Provost Mary Beth Walker

Provost Walker briefly reported on the following:

1. That the university is recruiting for 19 faculty members. There was concern expressed about lecturers losing positions. The searches started last year for all of positions that were “unchilled”. The determining factor is tenure-density. There are a couple recruitments for administrator positions (most of the positions are held by interims).
2. That the severity of the budget situation is not understood campus-wide. The provost is working to make sure that information about the budget situation is clear and transparent. CSUN has \$60 million in their general fund reserves. CSUN is only using \$20 million out of the \$60 million of their reserves due to budget concerns about the next few years.
3. That the Sierra Annex is moving forward. Small construction on campus was put on hold.
4. That new budget information will be available in January when CSUN receives its preliminary budget.

Provost Walker asked for advice from SEC on how to better communicate information campus-wide about current budget issues. An SEC member suggested that when budget information is disseminated it starts with the conversation about the university’s financial reserves. A SEC member inquired about the announcement of the AVP for Research and Sponsored Programs. Provost Walker said the research office has been understaffed for 18 months and an announcement will be made this fall.

7. [Resolution in Support of the CSUN Armenian Community](#) – Nazaret Dermendjian

Senator Dermendjian shared information on the current state of affairs and the urgency of the *Resolution in Support of the CSUN Armenian Community*. Senator Dermendjian requested that this resolution be brought to the Faculty Senate for a vote on behalf of faculty. Senator Dermendjian said that President Harrison and other CSUN entities have recently released statements in support of the CSUN Armenian Community. Senator Dermendjian inquired about the process for waiving the first reading. Faculty President Neubauer said the Faculty Senate can decide if they would like to waive the first reading.

MSP: to forward the *Resolution in Support of the CSUN Armenian Community* to the Faculty Senate. The approval of the resolution was unanimous. Senator Dermendjian also requested that the CSUN Statewide Senators bring the resolution to the Statewide Senate. Senator Swenson said that he can bring it to the Statewide Senate. Senator Dermendjian shared that the Armenian Community has the support of various entities including the LA City Council and the Governor.

8. Tenure Density Discussion – Elizabeth Sussman

Senator Sussman said that this discussion is based on a concern from a faculty member about the calculation of tenure density. The faculty member mentioned that the way CSUN calculates tenure density does not take into account TA's and requested that SEC examine the way tenure density is calculated. Provost Walker said that the way CSUN calculates tenure density is exactly the way the Chancellor's Office calculates it. Senator Sussman will communicate this update with the faculty member. An SEC member requested that the tenure density discussion be referred to ERC.

9. Subcommittees Reports

Election Subcommittee (Neubauer, Swenson, Wiegley)

Senator Swenson is working on a draft document and will share his draft with Senator Wiegley. President Neubauer said that it would be helpful if the subcommittee can figure out how the Senate can vote at meetings. Faculty President Neubauer said that he has a meeting with the AVP of IT and will see if they can provide support with elections at online Senate meetings. SEC discussed anonymous elections and Senator Ricks suggested that the Faculty Senate use *Election Buddy*.

Bylaws Subcommittee (Neubauer, Ricks, Swenson)

There were no updates from this subcommittee. Faculty President Neubauer will share the bylaws report from last year's subcommittee with Senator Swenson.

10. Review of Standing Committee Minutes

Academic Technology (4/3, 5/1, 9/11--no policy, looking at resources)

Educational Equity Committee (4/13--no policy; discussion of resolution, looking at how loss of part-time faculty impacts faculty of color, looking at peer evaluations and student evaluations)

Extended Learning Committee (4/22--no policy; reviewed certificate program)

Educational Policies Committee (4/15-full-time enrollment; 5/6, 9/2 –no policy, reviewing courses, introducing a consent calendar)

Educational Resources Committee (4/14, 5/12-no policy, all budgets)

Graduate Studies Committee (4/14, 5/12---certificate policy from Exl Committee)

Library Committee (4/1— no policy)

Personnel, Planning and Review Committee (4/15, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 9/2, 9/16—receipt of evaluation policy, section 600, 612.3 terms of service on PP&R policy, revision to GRIF, sabbatical deferrals, subcommittee to review college and department personnel committees, RFP letters electronic, RTP recommendation letters electronic, fixing language in section 600, creating language service credit, AVP Student Success, creating university CPC elections)

Research and Grants Committee (4/10, 5/8, 9/11--no policy; temporary grant program)

An SEC member inquired about access to the PAFs during the RTP cycle. Provost Walker said that each college is digitizing information in PAFs so they will be available to be reviewed. Information will be available on Interfolio. There have been recent information sessions campus-wide. A Senator inquired about Lecturers and their Path's for range elevation. Senator Stein will bring up this discussion item at PP&R.

11. **CSUN Statement in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter – Theresa Montano**

Senator Montano said the Senator Del Williams is reaching out to some of the families whose records need to be expunged. Expunging records may require legal fees. Senator Montano will follow-up with Senator Williams and plans on working with the CSUN BFSA on the matter.

12. **Set Agenda for October 22, 2020 Senate Meeting**

- Feedback Form on Revisions to the Executive Order on CSU General Education Breadth
- Resolution in Support of the CSUN Armenian Community
- Reports (President, ASCSU, CFA)

13. **New Business**

There was no new business.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Submitted by: Yoko Mimura, Secretary of the Faculty and Nicole Wilson, Recording Secretary