

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 5/10/2012

Minutes of Meeting of April 19, 2012

Jack and Florence Ferman Presentation Room

Faculty President Stepanek called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Michael Bennett, John Bruton (excused), Sakile Camara (excused), Douglas Carranza, Daniel Cutcher, Herman DeBose (excused), Claudia Fajardo-Lira (excused), Susan Fitzpatrick-Behrens, Amanda Flavin, Abel Franco, Shane Frehlich (excused), Nicholas Habib, Cathy Jeppson (excused), Terri Lisagor (excused), Jennifer Matos (excused), Pat Miller (excused), Daniel Odom, Kathleen Rowlands (excused), Mary-Pat Stein (excused), April Taylor (excused), Jeff Wiegley

The Faculty Senate Minutes for March 8, 2012 were approved as corrected.

1. Announcements

- a. The Faculty Leadership Reception hosted by Interim President Hellenbrand will be on May 10, 2012 at 5:00pm at the Orange Grove Bistro. All Senators will receive an invitation to attend.
- b. The Honored Faculty Reception will be on May 21, 2012 at 10:00am at the USU Grand Salon. Faculty will be presented with awards, honored for milestone service years and granted emeritus status. Also, new faculty officers will be installed. All faculty are invited to attend.

2. 2012 Senate Election Results

The results of the 2012 Senate election were displayed on the projector screen. Stepanek pointed out one change that was made since the election results were sent to faculty a few weeks ago. For the Library Committee, the individual receiving the highest number of votes was ineligible to serve because there were already two people from that particular College serving on the committee. Therefore, Charles Hatfield (English/Humanities) received the next highest number of votes and will serve instead.

3. Run-off Election for Learning Resource Advisory Committee

In the recent Senate election, there was a tie-vote for one of the senate-elected openings on the Learning Resource Advisory Committee. A run-off election was held and Kim Henige (Kinesiology) was declared the winner.

4. Policy Items – Personnel Planning and Review Committee

Magnhild Lien (Chair), David Aks and Matt Cahn, Members of PP&R

First Reading – University Publication Standard Policy

Lien said that these changes have been made to clarify the policy. The proposals have been distributed widely; two public forums were held to gain feedback. Cahn added that the University standard on publication is a minimal standard. PP&R added “peer reviewed” to the policy since Section 632.4.2.1 has long been interpreted to include the standard of peer review. Peer reviewed is understood to mean two or more reviews in one’s discipline that are external to the University.

The word “reviews” was deleted since this term means different things to different disciplines. Departments can define whether or not review articles, as well as other publication requirements, are acceptable within their discipline and include them in their departmental personnel procedures as equivalencies.

Some Senators felt that removing the word “reviews” and treating a review as an “equivalency,” narrows the field of publication. They were not comfortable with the University publication standard being the minimal standard without including “reviews.” Lien responded that an equivalency is not of lesser value or importance than “traditional” methods of publication. Departments would have the autonomy to clearly define whether or not review articles are acceptable as an equivalency to publication for their discipline. A Senator suggested that Section 600 define “peer reviewed.” Another Senator felt that more forums and consultation was needed.

Additional feedback may be sent to Lien. PP&R will consider the recommendations.

First Reading – Policy on Reappointment

Since there is no mention in Section 600 of expectations for retention during the probationary period, Aks said that adding language requiring a probationary faculty member to show evidence of making progress toward meeting the requirements for tenure and promotion will help faculty on their path toward achieving this end goal. Jennings said that this policy requires showing evidence in the PIF in all areas -- teaching, service and research.

Initially PP&R had recommended that faculty submit a plan in their PIF, but based on feedback, the proposal was modified. Some Senators expressed their preference for including a plan in the PIF. Hellenbrand pointed out the importance of referencing the evaluation from the prior year when doing the retention review.

PP&R will consider the feedback.

5. President’s Report – Interim President Harry Hellenbrand

Interim President Hellenbrand reported on the following topics:

- a. **Budget** – We will not know until the November election whether the \$200 million trigger cut will be taken from the CSU budget. However, we are making contingency plans in the event that the two tax initiatives do not pass. We have sufficient campus reserves and reserves in the divisions to handle the cut this year. The State University Grants will continue for graduate students but will be under review.
- b. **Early Start** – The Early Start Program is moving ahead but it is not clear how to deal with students who do not comply.
- c. **Enrollment** – The plan to curtail admissions from outside the greater Los Angeles area has worked to control enrollment but the bad news is that we have cut access to a number of potential students. It appears that we will have the same number of freshman next year as this year despite our efforts to reduce the numbers of first time freshman. Given that we can exceed our FTES target by five percent and that we will not admit transfer students for Spring 2013, we should be in good shape for next year. In the long run, we will need to look at impaction as a possible way to manage enrollments.

A Senator asked if there are plans to support new faculty with regard to retention. Hellenbrand said he will work with probationary faculty to meet their department personnel standards. He is meeting with junior faculty on this issue and others next week.

6. **Resolution in Support of Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech**

Steven Stepanek, Faculty President

Link to proposed resolution:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/resolutions/acadfreedomresolution041912.pdf>

A letter from three CSU presidents (San Luis Obispo, Northridge, Fresno) in support of academic freedom and freedom of speech was distributed (see link above). The letter referenced a particular person speaking at the campuses mentioned above. San Luis Obispo has already passed a resolution in support of the letter and the Academic Senate CSU is in the process of passing a resolution. As one of the campuses involved, SEC drafted this resolution for consideration and support by our Senate.

A Senator raised concerns about the resolution being linked to commendation of Interim President Hellenbrand, the particular mentioned speaker, and Hellenbrand's opposition to studying abroad in Israel. It was suggested that the resolution be divided into two – one commending Interim President Hellenbrand for being an outstanding administrator and another resolution reaffirming our campuses' commitment to free speech and academic freedom. The Senator is against linking the resolution to any speaker.

It was mentioned that there continues to be controversy around bringing this speaker to the campuses. A few local assemblymen and legislators have gotten involved and questions have been raised about how CSU facilities and resources are being used, speakers fees, etc.

MSP to have SEC take another look at the resolution and have them consider not referencing the presidential letter or the speaker but to address the concept of freedom of speech and academic freedom and to send a copy to our local legislators.

7. Funding the Future of the CSU Symposium held on April 2-3, 2012

Michael Hoggan, Chair of Planning Committee

Link to Summary Report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/csufuturerereport041912.pdf>

Hoggan thanked the Committee for their hard work in preparing for this Symposium. He said that we acknowledge that there is a funding issue and are seeking out the intellectual power in the CSU that can help solve the problem. Three questions were addressed: 1) How do we align mission and funding? 2) Where does the money come from? 3) What is the policy for spending the money? A 4-6 person delegation from several of the CSU campuses along with representatives from the offices of the Legislative Analyst, Assemblymen and the Chancellor were in attendance. The participants were divided into five groups and each group discussed the same question. A summary document was distributed and a transcription will be available soon. Hoggan said that the key message is that we continue the discussion and we keep the conversation going. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.csun.edu/csufuture>.

A participating faculty member gave the Symposium high praise.

8. Campus Climate Survey Results

Sheila Grant, Former member of the Educational Equity Committee

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

Dianah Wynter, chair of the Educational Equity Committee, thanked the department chairs for responding to the invitation to attend the Faculty Retention Workshop. The workshop is for chairs and tenured faculty. Hellenbrand will give the keynote address and lunch will be provided. She asked the Senators to share this announcement with their tenured faculty.

9. Senate Reports

a. Academic Senate CSU Report – Statewide Senator Sandra Chong

Link to report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/sasreport041912.pdf>

Chong said that Interim President Hellenbrand's mention of State University Grants being continued for graduate students is an update from what is stated in the written report.

Volunteers are needed to review courses for the Transfer Model Curricula (TMC's) in History, Political Science and English.

b. Provost's Report – Vice President William Watkins

Vice President Watkins reminded the Senators to attend Honors Convocation on May 21, 2012.

c. **CFA Report** – Nate Thomas

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport030812.pdf>

Thomas urged the faculty to vote to authorize a faculty strike. Online voting is going on for 2 weeks. Voting in person will be on Monday, April 23rd from 9-1pm, 4-6pm and Tuesday, April 24th 9-1pm, 4-6pm outside Sierra Tower and on April 25th, 9-3pm in Sequoia Hall, Room 283. He reminded the Senators that the commit cards were not the official vote.

Questions were asked about where to sign petition forms for the tax initiatives, why the CFA is supporting AB 2497 (oversight by legislature of Mandatory Early Start), and AB 2427 (ensuring that matriculating CSU students take the same required courses at the same cost, whether they are offered in the regular university or in the CSU Extended Learning programs). Thomas said that more information about the bills is in the CFA Magazine and on the California Faculty Association website: <http://www.calfac.org>.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

April Taylor, Secretary of the Faculty