



**Faculty Senate Office**

Phone: (818) 677-3263

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved  
Minutes of Meeting of September 22, 2022**

Via Zoom

Faculty President Neubauer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

President Neubauer read the Land Acknowledgement.

Secretary of the Senate Yoko Mimura called the roll. Senators not present were Dermendjian (excused), Domagni, Duran (excused), Greathouse (excused), Jarvis (excused), Liu, J. (excused), Stein (excused), Tamayo, Tonyan (excused), Tripp (excused)

The Faculty Senate Minutes for May 5, 2022 were approved.

**1. Announcements**

- a. President Neubauer informed the Faculty Senate that the office manager job announcement was on its way and asked the Senators to encourage suitable candidates to apply.
- b. President Neubauer announced the honorary degree nominations are open.
- c. Senator Suzanne Spear updated the committee on the effort to address the campus community's concern about the current practice and process of the Student Evaluation of Faculty. The Task Force is looking for facilitators who will receive a reassigned time.
- d. Vice President White announced the major events the Faculty Senate is hosting – a New Senator Orientation, Faculty Retreat, and Honored Faculty Reception – and encouraged the Senators to be involved in the planning of and preparation for these events.

**2. Senator Introductions – Theresa White, Faculty Vice President**

Vice President White introduced the new and reelected Senators.

**3. President's Report – Erika D. Beck**

President Beck greeted the senators and expressed hope that the Fall semester has gotten off to a productive start. Students, faculty and staff are back on campus as evidenced by a peak of 31,000 devices concurrently connected to our wi-fi network during the first three weeks of the semester.

President Beck expressed gratitude for those who attended the Fall Welcome address which highlighted the many extraordinary achievements of our faculty and staff, the initiatives underway to enable academic excellence and educational equity, and the alignment of our efforts to realize our shared vision outlined in the Road Map to the Future.

President Beck shared that the search for CSUN's next Provost is underway with candidate finalists invited to campus in early October. President Beck encouraged faculty to participate in campus forums and provide feedback about the candidates.

She thanked Doctors Neubauer, Chavira and Gammage, Librarian Lindsay Hansen Brown, Associated Students President Shayan Moshtael and Dean Toutanji for serving on the search committee, and to Vice President Donahue for serving as Chair.

President Beck announced that Shawn Chin-Ferrell will join CSUN on October 10th as our new Director of Athletics, as previously shared via campus email. In addition to his demonstrated support for student-athlete wellbeing and academic success, broad campus participation and philanthropic success, as a former first-generation student-athlete himself, Shawn understands our mission and champions our campus values. She expressed thanks for the faculty on the search committee for their time and dedication.

President Beck addressed declining enrollment at institutions of higher education across the country and throughout the CSU. We are projecting Fall 2022 to land somewhere around 4% below our CSU target enrollment, something very new to our academic community which has experienced robust enrollment for a very long time.

The Enrollment Management Council, established last year, is advancing a draft Strategic Enrollment Plan, which is currently being vetted across campus. This planning document includes strategies to increase outreach staff and forge new community connections; marketing; tailored transfer student initiatives; and encourages discussion around impact.

The draft plan also includes specific focus on targeted recruitment strategies including Black Matadors Rising and building new pathways for Asian American, Pacific Islander and Desi American students as well as students from Indigenous communities as we seek to re-earn our AANAPISI designation.

To ensure broad dialogue and discussion, Dr. Watkins, Dr. Walker and President Beck have met with the Senate Executive Committee to discuss this topic and further discussion has already taken place or will soon take place with ERC, UPBG and the AS Senate. The council seeks Senate guidance and feedback as they move forward toward recommendations.

The application period for Fall 2023 begins October 1st and Outreach Counselors are already in the field recruiting prospective students and our new website was designed to make it easier for prospective applicants to find the information they are seeking about CSUN.

The implementation phase of the Road Map is underway and President Beck has asked the Vice Presidents to facilitate the creation of tactical plans, working in collaboration within their respective divisions to shape divisional goals, guide resource allocation and measure progress. President Beck hopes that faculty will continue to actively engage as we co-create our future.

President Beck discussed the allocations planned this academic year from the transformative gift from MacKenzie Scott and Dan Jewett, in alignment with our Road Map to the Future.

As a one-time gift, distribution of these funds necessitated identification of programs and initiatives that do not require on-going financial commitments, while enabling our continued momentum towards educational equity. Also, reserves will be set aside that permit us to target additional initiatives over the next several years as the Road Map work continues to unfold.

As indicated in President Beck's email to campus, \$13.32 million will be allocated this year to campus priorities. This includes just over \$9.8 million allocated to support capital projects focused on student basic needs and eliminating equity gaps, \$2.5 million to support scholarly innovation and interdisciplinary activity, and nearly \$1 million in holistic student support. The funds allocated toward scholarly innovation are particularly exciting as they will spark new frontiers in equity leadership. With \$1.75 million in grant funding, President Beck is eager to see what our faculty will enact. Provost Walker will be finalizing the details on the process for accessing these grants with Academic Affairs in relatively short order.

Over the summer, President Beck had the pleasure of meeting with new LAUSD Superintendent Alberto Carvalho to discuss educational pipeline opportunities; and with Congressman Cárdenas and Assemblymember Valladares to seek their greater engagement in the transformative impact of higher education at CSUN.

She met with LA Mission College President Ornelas on supporting our transfer students; presidents from across Los Angeles to continue to dialogue about a brighter post-pandemic future, and with Tribal President Rudy Ortega, Jr. and his team from the Fernandéño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians to explore additional opportunities to expand our partnerships. She also met with the LA Counsel General of China; American University of Bahrain's president, Dr. Bradley Cook, with Chief Strategy Officer of Esol Education, Ahmed Mitwalli; and she signed a renewed MOU with American University of Armenia's president, Dr. Karin Markides. These meetings centered on strengthening international relationships for faculty and student exchange opportunities, and further celebrating CSUN's successes in a global context.

President Beck was honored to provide remarks at the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Highway Dedication she attended the inaugural CSU Juneteenth Symposium; and was an invited speaker at the 2022 National Social Mobility Symposium.

President Beck made her podcast debut as an invited guest on the higher education series EdUp and was privileged to be invited back to serve as co-host of another episode.

President Beck also again with our union partners; toured the Marilyn Magaram Center with their entire team; and met with the Teenage Drama Workshop faculty and youth actors.

She visited the Aquatic Center at Castaic Lake, the Great Wall of Los Angeles with artist and proud CSUN alumna Judy Baca; and joined Chancellor Koester for a meeting in San Francisco with Autodesk to explore deeper engagement between the tech company, the CSU, and CSUN.

She also had the pleasure of participating in The Soraya open house, attending the Bridge to the Future orientation and greeting colleagues at the Student Affairs division meeting.

This summer also included a multi-day CSUN Foundation Board of Directors retreat to facilitate and support their momentum as we seek to expand philanthropic investment in our collective future.

CSUN recently hosted Cozen O'Connor on campus as part of the systemwide Title IX assessment of all 23 CSU campuses. President Beck is eager to receive their final assessment and report to the Board and to activate the collective leadership necessary to implement their recommendations to strengthen our processes and policies, and to ensure that our campus culture provides and promotes a safe and welcoming environment where students, faculty and staff can thrive personally, professionally and intellectually.

President Beck had the profound honor of joining the first reunion of the Minority Engineering Program since 1996 and recently she visited the Chabad House alongside many of our student leaders and Rabbi Brooks.

She welcomed guests to the Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard M. Nupoll Education Librarian Endowment Celebration – the first endowed librarian position at CSUN, and also the first ever endowed librarian position ever in the CSU – quite a reflection on our colleagues in the library.

In closing, President Beck acknowledged that we are in the midst of Hispanic Heritage Month, and reiterated how grateful she is to be part of an academic community that so proudly serves an incredibly diverse student body and celebrates the depth and breadth of our campus' cultural fabric. She expressed thanks to Dr. Neubauer for providing the opportunity to engage with our senators.

#### **4. Provost's Report – Mary-Beth Walker**

- a. The dollar amount received through external grants and other sponsored programs, \$36.5 million, was the highest it has ever been, and so was the amount applied, \$172 million. The awards were across all Colleges and disciplines.
- b. Currently, pre-census, there was a drop in enrollment this Fall in all units. Retention at various levels is a concern, with the largest drop among Latinx students, from 83% to 70.6%.
- c. Administrator hires: The timeline to appoint the new HHD Dean will be after the new Provost's appointment. Searches for the permanent Associate and Assistant Vice Presidents for Undergraduate Studies are upcoming.
- d. Administrator reviews: Five in Fall, five in Spring, using new policies in Section 600; These are third- and fifth-year reviews.

- e. Effective October 3, 2022, masks in the classrooms, etc., will be strongly recommended, no longer required. Send related questions to the Vice Provost Dr. Matt Cahn.
5. **Associated Students President Report** – Shayan Moshtael
- a. The much anticipated “Big Show” is postponed until Spring.
  - b. Faculty are welcome to attend Student Senate Meetings.
  - c. Current efforts include increasing dining options on campus (i.e., affordable, healthier, Kosher).
6. **Policy Item** – Graduate Studies Committee  
Danielle Spratt, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee; Amy Levin, AVP, Graduate Studies
- Action Item – Policy on Credit Certificates**  
Passed
7. **Policy Item** – Educational Policies Committee and Graduate Studies Committee  
Dan Weingarten, Chair, Educational Policies Committee; Debi Cours, Interim AVP, Undergraduate Studies; Danielle Spratt, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee; Amy Levin, AVP, Graduate Studies
- Action Item – Policy on Discontinuance of Programs**  
Passed
8. **Policy Items** – Personnel, Planning, and Review (PP&R) Committee  
Lindsay Hansen Brown, Chair, Personnel, Planning, & Review; Diane Guido, AVP Faculty Affairs
- Action Items:**
- a. **604.2.12 – Professional Responsibility**  
**MSP:** Add “to the extent feasible”  
**MSP:** To replace the above with “whenever possible”  
**MSP:** with the change.
  - b. **612.2.3 – Dual Service**  
Passed
  - c. **645.4 – Periodic Review of Tenured Faculty**  
Passed
9. **Statewide Academic Senate Report** – Adam Swenson, Senior Statewide Academic Senator  
Senators received a summary from the ASCSU 2022 September Plenary beforehand.
- a. Governor Newsom and the CSU reached a multiyear agreement on CSUN funding.
  - b. The Course Equity Portal is a way for the faculty to look at the equity gap in their courses.

- c. AB 928 does not dictate a single General Education plan at Community Colleges, UC, and CSU. Students transferring from Community College will come with five less units in General Education, without American Institutions and Section E.

## **10. New Business**

Senator Wayne Smith shared the resolution on changing instructors' mask wearing from required to recommended.

**MSP:** Postpone indefinitely.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 pm.

Submitted by: Yoko Mimura, Secretary of the Faculty