

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING** – Approved 10/22/20  
**Minutes of Meeting of September 24, 2020**  
Via Zoom

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

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Jeff Campbell, Lorenz Gamma (excused), Marquita Gammage (excused), Holli Tonyan (excused), John Whitener

The Faculty Senate Minutes for [April 30, 2020](#) were approved with minor editorial changes.

### 1. Announcements

- a. Faculty President Neubauer shared that Joseph Castro, president of Fresno State, has been appointed CSU Chancellor, effective January 2021.
- b. Dean of the Library, Mark Stover shared that the CSU has signed an agreement with *Elsevier* for two years. All CSU faculty who are authors of articles in *Elsevier* have the opportunity to make their articles open access at no charge.
- c. Senator Jose Paez requested to take a moment to acknowledge “Sesevitam, the first people of this ancestral and unceded territory of Sesevenga that is now occupied by our institution; and it honors their elders, past and present, and the Sesevitam descendants who are citizens of the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians...” Senator Paez also acknowledged Black families that endured slavery and said that social justice and Black Lives Matter.

### 2. Introduction of Standing Committee Chairs

Faculty President Neubauer briefly introduced the 2020-21 standing committee chairs.

**Academic Technology:** Chris Sales, Computer Science

**Educational Equity:** Martha Escobar, Chicana/o Studies

**Educational Policies:** Dan Weingarten, Theatre

**Educational Resources:** Nazaret Dermendjian, Civil Engineering and Construction Mgt.

**Extended Learning:** Stephanie Kim, Linguistics

**Graduate Studies:** Casey terHorst, Biology

**Library:** Meiqin Wang, Art

**Personnel, Planning and Review:** Judy Schmidt-Levy, Counseling (Designee)

**Research and Grants:** Karin Crowhurst, Chemistry and Biochemistry

### 3. [CSUN Statement in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter](#)

Faculty President Neubauer shared that the Senate Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Senate and the Senate, acting on behalf of the faculty, passed the *CSUN Statement in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter* over the summer. The statement is posted on the Faculty Senate website. The very last sentence of the statement mentions that the CSUN Faculty Senate Executive Committee will constitute a task force to draft and present to the Faculty Senate a

resolution addressed to the Governor of California requesting the records of students involved in uprisings that led to the formation of Ethnic Studies be expunged. President Neubauer said that Senator Theresa Montano volunteered to take the lead on the resolution. Senator Montano requested volunteers to join the task force. Volunteers do not have to be members of the Faculty Senate to participate in the task force. Senator Montano thanked Senator Del Williams (the chair of the Black Faculty and Staff Association) and Senator Adam Swenson for volunteering to work on the task force. Anyone interested in joining the task force can contact Senator Montano.

#### **4. Election of Vice President of the Faculty**

Faculty President Neubauer shared that Vice President Samira Moughrabi no longer works at CSUN and the Senate Executive Committee declared her seat vacant. The Vice President serves on the Senate Executive Committee. Per the bylaws, the Senate shall designate one of its members to finish the term. Faculty President Neubauer opened the floor for nominations. Two Senators were nominated. A Senator requested for each candidate to speak about their interest in the Vice President position. Each candidate gave a brief speech. The election will be held via Qualtrics as soon as possible.

#### **5. Election of Senator-At-Large**

Faculty President Neubauer shared that there is a one year vacancy for a Senator-at-Large position due to Senator Cheryl Spector's retirement. Faculty President Neubauer opened the floor for nominations. Nominees cannot be current members of the Senate. Three faculty were nominated. The faculty members who were nominated at today's meeting will be contacted to confirm their nomination to be on the ballot. An election will be held via Qualtrics as soon as possible.

#### **6. Policy Item**

Judy Schmidt-Levy, Chair of Personnel, Planning and Review Committee

**Action Item-** [Section 612.3 \(Voluntary Limits to Service on PP&R Committee\)](#)

Faculty President Neubauer shared that Senator Judy Schmidt-Levy will present policies on behalf of the Personnel, Planning and Review Committee (PP&R) as their designee. Senator Schmidt-Levy said that this is a second reading of this policy. This policy change pertains to terms of service on PP&R. With this policy change, after serving on PP&R for two consecutive terms, a faculty member will have the option of declining service on PP&R.

A few Senators spoke in favor of the policy change, explained about the workload on PP&R and service on other competing committees, such as Department and College Personnel Committees. There were no requested changes to this policy item.

**MSP:** To approve the policy with no changes.

#### **7. President's Report – President Dianne Harrison**

President Harrison reported on the following:

<https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/presreport092420.pdf>

Following President's report, Faculty President Neubauer asked the Senators if they had any questions. There were no questions for President Harrison.

## **8. Provost's Report- Provost Mary Beth Walker**

Provost Mary Beth Walker reported on the following:

1. For the minimal reports of COVID-19, there were no outbreaks in classrooms.
2. Data from about 700 institutions show that undergraduate enrollment has fallen about 2.5%. Headcounts of graduate students has increased about 4% across the country. There is a 14% increase of Latinx students pursuing degrees.
3. The total headcount for CSUN is about 38,800 students. Total FTES is 33,000, which is above our target from the Chancellor's Office. For new freshmen enrollment it is at 4,016 (4,800 last fall). There are 6,700 transfer students (6,000 last fall). There are 1,058 international students (many new international students have deferred enrollment). There are 360 non-resident students (280 last fall). Retention rates have increased to 83% for freshmen and 93.2% retention for transfer students. There is a decrease in the AUL, 14.5 units per student (14.7 last fall).
4. 19 searches are moving forward (based on tenure density and some are based on enrollment calculations). Searches will be virtual. A few of the searches that will restart are the AVP of Research and Sponsored Programs and the search for the Vice Provost.
5. Applications have started to come in for the Early Exit Program.

After her report, Provost Walker responded to questions. A Senator requested for more information on the minimal reports of COVID-19 on campus. Provost Walker said that they have had very few reports of COVID-19 on campus. There have been zero on campus transmissions. Individuals that have tested positive have not been on campus. A Senator requested an update on the status of funding for sabbaticals, since the applications are due for individuals tomorrow. Provost Walker said that they are sticking to the usual number and they have no plans on changing the funding. Provost Walker encouraged Senators to contact her if they have any additional questions.

## **9. Report on Budget – Vice President Colin Donahue**

Vice President Colin Donahue gave the Senate a brief overview of the budget and the preliminary budget data. Of the \$491 million budget there is a \$33 million dollar budget issue that the university will need to overcome. The \$33 million budget issue is due to the \$16 million state allocation fee cut and the remaining dollars are due to new mandatory costs and lost revenue. The Early Exit Program and hiring chill will help the budget long-term. In response to the \$33 million dollar budget issue, there will be expense reductions and usage of the campus reserve. Vice President Donahue has been working with all of the divisions on the budget. The university is trying to plan for what will happen (budget wise) for the next couple of years. \$22.3 million of the Cares Act funding is going to help with the added expenses this year (the campus was awarded \$48 million total). Vice President Donahue shared with the Senate a breakdown of the allocation of the Cares Act funding. Student housing is going to lose revenue this year. They are going to work on a long-term budgetary plan on how to "weather the storm" with housing, the auxiliaries and parking. The university is planning to use about 1/3 of the operational reserves and save the rest to get through the next few years. The university will receive the 2021-22 budget proposal in January

and it will give the campus more information on what will happen budget-wise moving forward. Vice President Donahue encouraged Senators to visit the UPBG website and the Budget, Planning and Management website to see the budget dashboard. Vice President Donahue will share the direct link to the website.

After his report, Vice President Donahue responded to questions. A Senator inquired about vacancies left by the Early Exit Program. Vice President Donahue said that this was a discussion in the Cabinet and they hope that they can backfill 50% of the positions and shift responsibilities around. The university will have to be creative on how to move forward. A Senator inquired about the possibility of furloughs. Vice President Donahue said that furloughs are not on the table at this point. Furloughs are not in the bargaining unit contract. A Senator inquired about the relationship between the enterprises and the campus (parking, bookstore, housing and CSUN). Vice President Donahue said that CSUN has enterprises. Enterprises include regular state employees and they run on the revenue they receive (ie. parking and housing). Auxillaries are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations with their own board. They are not state employees (ie. the university corporation). Another Senator inquired about vermin control and the cleaning of buildings while people are not on campus. Vice President Donahue said that PPM is focusing their efforts on frequent cleaning.

## 10. Senate Reports

### a. **Statewide Academic Senate CSU Update**– Elizabeth Sussman

Senator Sussman reported on the following:

1. Senator Sussman said that the May ASCSU report was shared with Senators.
2. Senator Sussman gave a brief summary of the September plenary. Senator Swenson was elected to serve on the CSU Faculty Trustee Recommending Committee.
3. The September ASCSU report that Senator Sussman, Senator Swenson and Senator Ricks are working on will be shared in the next few weeks.

A Senator had a question about the May report and the mention of ITL for teaching and learning needing more coordination. Senator Sussman will reach out to the Senator who reported on this item at the ASCSU meeting to get more information. the A written report was sent to the Senators.

#### **Link to written report:**

[https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/mayascsureport\\_1.pdf](https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/mayascsureport_1.pdf)

### b. **CFA Report** – CFA President Nate Thomas

Nate Thomas shared that the word furlough is not included in the bargaining agreement. The furlough that happened 10 years ago was voted on by CFA membership. Faculty were not forced to furlough. A Senator inquired about if the topic has come up recently, and Thomas said that in statewide CFA the topic has not come up.

A written report was sent to the Senators.

**Link to written report:**

<https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/CFASenateReport%20.pdf>

**11. New Business**

Faculty President Neubauer said that he sent the Senate a resolution that needs to be addressed due to an October 1, 2020 deadline. Senator Montano gave a brief overview of the *CSUN Ethnic Studies Resolution*. Senator Montano thanked the CSUN Faculty Senate for their support of AB1460 and shared that it was passed and signed into legislation by Governor Gavin Newsom. Senator Montano said that the Ethnic Studies Faculty are not in agreement with the proposed AB1460 implementation process and that there was no consultation on the Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's) with the CSU Ethnic Studies Council and Ethnic Studies faculty.

The Senate briefly discussed the resolve statements of the resolution, the four fields of Ethnic Studies, faculty expertise, the CSU Ethnic Studies Council, faculty purview of curriculum, non-consultation with the Ethnic Studies Faculty, the ASCSU, campus involvement, GE requirements, AB1460, SLO's, Section F and the implementation process. A Senator inquired about if the units will be placed in Section F. Faculty President Neubauer shared that where the units will go has not been decided yet. This resolution requests the time to figure out what is best for each campus along with how to best implement AB1460 through collaboration.

**MSP:** To approve the [CSUN Ethnic Studies Resolution](#) with no changes. The resolution will be distributed as requested in the last resolved statement.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:13pm.

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