



FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes of Meeting of November 18, 2021
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, Judith DeBonis (excused), Francis Domagni, Elizabeth Poloskov, Mary-Pat Stein (excused), and Francisco Tamayo

The Faculty Senate Minutes for October 21, 2021 were approved.

1. President's Report – President Erika Beck

President Beck greeted the Senators and shared that she enjoyed seeing them again and hearing the introductions. It is remarkable that we are nearing the final stretch of the Fall semester. While students she has greeted have remarked on the stresses of end-of-term assignments, they also continue to be incredibly grateful for the faculty's commitment to their success and for the opportunity to be on campus and with one another. President Beck remains grateful for the faculty's dedication to excellence and creativity and flexibility as we continue to navigate this pandemic together. She remains optimistic that we will soon be able to gather in-person once again and benefit from human connection, but she is ever-aware of the incredible professional and personal challenges that our community has traversed and continues to navigate. COVID will have an enduring impact on us all and we will continue to support as we can on campus and seek and advocate for solutions for those challenges beyond our reach. President Beck recognized that November is National American Indian Heritage Month and acknowledged the land upon which our University stands today, the Sesevenga, is the historic and unceded territory of the Sesevitam. The descendants of the first inhabitants of this land are still here, among us as citizens of the Fernandeano Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. She recognizes the First People of this nation within our campus community and across our country. We honor their sacred history today and every day and as a community. She asks that we continue to work together to elevate their stories, identities, values and future as inextricably linked to our own. President Beck highlighted a few of the many positive developments on campus: CSUN is among the first 35 institutions nationwide to be named a "Fulbright Hispanic Serving Institution leader" in recognition of our commitment to fostering international exchange and supporting the Fulbright Program's opportunities to our richly diverse students and faculty. CSUN has been named a 2021 Equity Champion for Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for our exemplary work in advancing the success of Latinx Associate Degree for Transfer students in earning bachelor's degrees. Taken together, these recognitions clearly underscore our collective commitment to authentically serving our Latinx students and helping them realize their greatest educational aspirations. We have more to do, but this is absolutely tremendous. Thank you, all,

for your efforts. Earlier this week we announced our partnership with the American University of Bahrain. It has been designed to include a number of scholarly connections and collaborative learning opportunities that will benefit our participating faculty and students in significant ways. Many thanks to Dean Joyce Feucht-Haviar and the team in Tseng College for their great work on bringing this partnership to fruition. The Student Device Loaner Program has provided 2,080 students technology tools and devices. The CSUCCESS program has also experienced great utilization by our first-time freshmen and new transfer students with over 5,200 students receiving a free iPad bundle. President Beck expressed her sincerest appreciation to Vice President Ron Philip and his entire team as well as our Campus Store colleagues. CSUN's inaugural Engagement Conference took place last month. This inter-disciplinary event was a collaboration between Undergraduate Studies, the Office of Faculty Development, Academic Technology, and the Faculty Technology Center. Presenters from across the university shared the tools and strategies they incorporated into teaching since shifting to the online modality to increase student engagement. Academic Affairs, under the leadership of Dr. Melanie Bocanegra, hosted a Matador Student Success Speaker Series Event, with broad campus participation. President Beck commends our Engagement Conference collaborators and our speaker series attendees, all of our faculty and student presenters, and to our faculty who stay so actively engaged in continuously raising the bar and exploring new tools to engage our students. President Beck has been actively engaged in a wide range of both internal and external engagements, including the CSU GI2025 Convening; the CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology; serving as a panelist in a discussion hosted by the LA Times focusing on Inclusion and Belonging; and the opportunity to interview Huma Abedin about her newly released book, "Both/And." CSUN was the first University to be part of her book tour. President Beck also travelled to Washington, DC to speak at an event honoring this year's Seal of Excelencia recipients by Excelencia in Education. 5 CSU campuses have now earned the Seal of Excelencia. The Chancellor is encouraging all of the CSU campuses to strive for this incredible distinction as part of our comprehensive institutional strategy for truly serving Latinx students. While in DC, she also met with Beatriz Ceja, Director of the HSI Division in the Department of Education, to share more about CSUN, our Equity Innovation Hub, and to learn about the additional funding opportunities coming available for HSIs across the nation. She was also pleased to join President Michael Crow of Arizona State, Chancellor Marcelo Suarez-Orozco of UMass Boston and President William Fate of Louisiana State on a panel hosted by APLU to discuss, "Delivering on the Public University Mission in the New Now." President Beck emphasized the criticality of equitable educational opportunities as the cornerstone of delivering on the public university mission. President Beck enjoyed the opportunities this month to get a better understanding of the incredible work of more of our faculty. Faculty members Lesley Crane and Sam Fields and some of our art students showed her a sampling of the many creative endeavors of our MFA students in the MFA shed; Kellie Evans, Brian Foley and Virginia Vandergon shared their work to provide support and guidance for the next generation of math and science teachers; faculty colleagues from Civil Discourse and Social Change shared their long-standing efforts to advance social justice on campus; and just earlier today, she participated with many of our faculty and students in the NASA technical review process for our Autonomy Research Center for STEAHM under the leadership of faculty members Nhut Ho and Joe Bautista in partnership with dozens of additional faculty from across the university in interdisciplinary teams. She enjoys seeing firsthand the good work of our faculty, to gain a greater depth of knowledge of our academic profile and looks forward to continuing to engage

with our academic community. The university's search for the Vice President for IT and Chief Information Officer will be launching soon. President Beck extended her appreciation to Dr. Neubauer for serving on this committee, as well as faculty members Wayne Smith, George Wang, and Caleb Owens along with Dean Subramaniam, Associated Students Graduate Senator Teady Ochoa and committee chair Matt Cahn. She expects the search to get underway in earnest this spring with an appointment at the end of the academic year. She encouraged faculty to participate. As we approach the end of the semester, one marked by ongoing and ever-shifting adaptation to the environment brought on by the pandemic, President Beck expressed her gratitude to our academic community. These are extraordinary times and there can be no doubt that they have all risen to the occasion as extraordinary colleagues, educators, mentors and scholars. She grateful to be a member of the CSUN community.

2. Policy Items - Personnel, Planning, and Review Committee

Lindsay Hansen Brown, Chair of PP&R, Diane Guido & Megan Dozier, Faculty Affairs

The Faculty Senate briefly discussed the following policies:

Action Item – Section 707 Written Comments about Lecturers

MSP: to approve this policy revisions

Action Item – Section 703.1.2 Authorized Personnel Files

MSP: to approve the policy item with the change incorporating the Collective Bargaining Agreement

Action Item - Section 622ff. Review of administrators

MS: to return the policy item to PP&R for further consideration of more frequent, tiered evaluation

Action Item - Section 621.4.2b. Lecturer Evaluations

To be in line with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, PP&R removed verbal feedback to written evaluation.

A Senator asked to reconsider item 2.2 to clarify what the commitment for diversity, equity, and inclusion is. A Senator suggested considering we first apply such commitment to tenured and tenure track faculty and then to the lecturers. Senators asked to clarify the time frame to give faculty time to fill out the survey contributing to the written evaluation.

MS: to return the policy item to PP&R to clarify the commitment and the time frame

Action Item – Section 606.1.2 Personnel Action File

In alignment with the CBA, the College Dean will be in charge of maintaining personnel files

MSP: to approve the policy revisions

3. Premier America Credit Union Matadome naming – Colin Donahue, VP Administration and Finance

Vice President Colin Donahue said the Premier America Credit Union will give the university \$3.3 million, primarily to athletics and the rest for other services to the students, including financial literacy education, over the next 10 years. The motion brought before the Senators was to endorse the naming of the Volleyball and Basketball arena the “Premier America Credit Union Matadome” with 10 year agreement.

MSP: President Neubauer will write the letter to the Board of Trustees supporting the renaming of the Matadome.

4. Provost Report – Mary-Beth Walker

Provost Mary Beth Walker shared why, what, and how of the Road Map process, seven 100-day President’s listening tour themes, three phases: design (current), engage, and synthesize (through May 2022).

Senators’ questions and comments included the significance of faculty scholarship, research, and creative activity to enhance student experiences and the need for support; concern about campus culture and acceptance, support for the effort for a more equitable learning environment.

5. Bylaws Change: Designated Lecturer Seat on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) – Cecile Bendavid

Faculty President Neubauer explained the process for bylaw change. Senators shared support, opposition, and concern about logistics. Canvas voting application designed by Senator Adam Swenson to vote on the motion for the Senate to approve the proposed Bylaws change to **Article IV**. The vote will determine when it will be returned to the Senate Executive Committee.

6. Statewide Academic Senate Report – Statewide Senator Boris Ricks

Statewide Senator Ricks reported about the Statewide Academic Senate meeting. The report, which includes faculty workload issues, will be forwarded.

7. CFA Report – CFA CSUN Chapter President Nate Thomas

CFA President Thomas gave a report. The CFA is currently engaged in fact finding.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Submitted by: Yoko Mimura, Secretary of the Faculty, and Deborah Kusin, Recording Secretary.