

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 2/20/2020**Minutes of Meeting of December 5, 2019**

Jack and Florence Ferman Presentation Room

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

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Soheil Boroushaki, Inga Chira (excused), Judith Debonis (excused), Kate Gurewitz (excused), Christopher Higgs (excused), Delinah Hurwitz, Rodica Kohn, Virginia Kennedy (excused), Susan Love (excused), Debra Berry Malmberg (excused), Kristy Michaud (excused), Mutombo Nkulu-N'Sengha (excused), Caleb Owens, Elizabeth Poloskov, Jeanne Robertson, Chris Sales (excused), Bruce Shapiro (excused), Gina Umeck (excused), John Whitener, Del Williams

The Faculty Senate Minutes for [October 24, 2019](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. President Stein requested that faculty email her if they are interested in being on the ballot for the Presidential Search Committee. The goal is to have a new president by the summer.
- b. President Stein shared that the Faculty Retreat is on January 14, 2020 at the Pickwick Gardens in Burbank. President Stein sent out the announcement via email to CSUN faculty.
- c. Senator Bendavid announced that she was elected to the Democratic Party Executive Board.
- d. Senator Saetermoe shared information about starting an anti-racist coalition on campus.
- e. Senator Ruiz shared that he co-published an article about institutional racism with Professor Martha Escobar. The article can be found in the Ethnic Studies Review.

2. Information Item: [2020-2021 Academic Calendar](#)

Jim Mackin, Interim AVP of Faculty Affairs

Interim AVP Jim Mackin relayed that the Office of Faculty Affairs is in charge of facilitating the process of the academic calendar. The Academic Calendar Committee reviews calendars up to five years in the future. Mackin explained that there are a number of constraints from the Chancellor's Office that the Committee takes into account when creating the calendar. Senators inquired about the distribution of classes throughout the week, spring break being earlier than other schools, having more days off during the Thanksgiving holiday break, student travel, staff working hours and students being scheduled for more than one final on the same day at the same time. There was also an inquiry about why finals are scheduled on the same day as one commencement ceremony. AVP Mackin explained that there are constraints from the Chancellor's Office and other entities. President Stein said that the committee voted on spring break but it is hard to align three different school district schedules' with CSUN's spring break. Iliana Carvajal from Faculty Affairs explained that CSUN as a campus, takes our flex holidays

designated by the Chancellor's Office at the end of the year. Senator Vicente shared that the proposed academic calendar was approved by Associated Student's Senate. A Senator suggested that faculty work together to resolve the issue of students having to take two final exams at the same time. President Stein said that all of the feedback received will be shared with the Calendar Committee and encouraged faculty to volunteer to serve on the Calendar Committee.

3. Information Item: Campus Safety Update

Chief Gregory Murphy, Police Services

Colin Donahue, VP of Administration and Finance & CFO

Ken Rosenthal, AVP of Facilities Development & Operations

VP Colin Donahue shared a brief update on campus safety. It was explained that the campus looks at safety from three viewpoints: prevention, intervention and investigation. Chief Murphy briefly explained the campus approach to safety. Chief Murphy shared that he performed a campus security analysis and is working with AVP Ken Rosenthal to assess campus safety. Police Services has added the position of a crime analyst to help with cybersecurity and social media threats. VP Donahue also mentioned that he is working with Provost Mary Beth Walker and VP William Watkins along with other campus partners to address mental health intervention. Campus leadership is working to push campus security as a funding priority at the CSU system level (proposition 13 Bond Initiative). The campus has allocated funding for upgrading the camera security system (for the perimeters), a radio system (which will integrate CSUN into the county-wide system used by LAPD to communicate with all first responders), upgrading door lock systems and gun shot detection. The gun shot detection system will allow major buildings on campus to detect the sound and the location of a gun shot within three seconds. This will help shorten response times. These requested safety upgrades might take a few years. There has been a request made for \$12 million in funding for campus safety.

A Senator inquired about social media responses to threats and Chief Murphy explained that the new crime analyst will help with communication. The Police Services Department also added an Instagram account to help with communication. Another Senator requested for the campus to create a safety policy for scooters. Chief Murphy said that the campus is working on creating a campus scooter policy. A Senator inquired about an affidavit form that students are required to sign when reporting a crime. Chief Murphy requested that the Senator send him the form for review.

4. Policy Item

Casey terHorst, Chair of Graduate Studies Committee

Action Item - [Culminating Experience Policy](#)

Casey terHorst shared that this policy will allow students that fail the comprehensive exam once, to have the option to switch to a graduate project, if approved by their department. It is a department's choice. A Senator inquired about the number of times a student is allowed to take the exam and how it relates to student success. President Stein explained that the current university policy allows students to take the exam two times. A Senator inquired about exam policies at other CSU's and terHorst explained that it varies.

MSP: to approve the policy revisions.

5. Resolution on a Quantitative Reasoning Requirement for Admission to the CSU

President Stein explained that this resolution is from the Senate Executive Committee and has been revised multiple times. The purpose of this resolution is to state that CSUN does not support a fourth year course or requirement of quantitative reasoning for admission into the CSU. The Senate discussed student success, quantitative reasoning, high school art programs, the ASCSU's votes in favor and against the quantitative reasoning requirement, the ambiguity of the proposed requirement and high school quantitative reasoning courses.

MSP: to waive the first reading of the resolution so that the Board of Trustees will receive the resolution prior to their vote in January.

MSP: to approve the Resolution on a Quantitative Reasoning Requirement for Admission to the CSU with the requested changes.

Approved Resolution:

[Resolution on a Quantitative Reasoning Requirement for Admission to the CSU](#)

6. Provost's Report- Provost Mary Beth Walker

Provost Mary Beth Walker reported on the following:

1. The finalists for the AVP of Student Success are coming to campus this month. First round interviews for the AVP for Faculty Affairs will take place in the spring semester. The AVP for Research has been posted. First round interviews will take place in late January. The Vice Provost search committee has been formed. The Dean of Humanities search will start after January 31st. The search committee for the Interim VP for Technology will be an internal search. The search for the permanent position will start in the spring. Some faculty searches have taken place this semester and will continue throughout the spring semester.
2. A group from the Chancellor's Office visited CSUN this week to discuss CSUN's progress on the GI 2025 Initiative. CSUN is working on closing our equity gaps. The Provost's Office has hired two faculty affiliates who will work with the Provost and the colleges to close equity gaps. Professor Frankie Augustin and Professor Marquita Gammage are the faculty affiliates. The assignment is for one semester.

A Senator inquired about the Matador Academic Challenge, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and how it affects students receiving financial aid. AVP of Undergraduate Studies Elizabeth Adams explained that she chairs the SAP Committee and very few students do not achieve SAP. Once undergraduate studies has the outcomes and data on SAP, it will be shared with EPC and the Faculty Senate. The Senate also briefly discussed faculty attrition and faculty hiring.

7. Pending Business – Motion: Any SLOs for an ethnic studies requirement at CSUN will go through the CSUN Ethnic Studies Council

MS: Any SLOs for an ethnic studies requirement at CSUN will go through the CSUN Ethnic Studies Council

President Stein explained that this motion was tabled from the last Senate meeting. A Senator said that first-time freshmen who take Ethnic Studies courses have higher retention rates. The Senator also explained that the Ethnic Studies faculty are the experts on SLOs for an Ethnic Studies requirement. Another Senator explained that all SLOs go through EPC, no matter the department. President Stein said that this motion is putting “the cart before the horse” since we do not know what the requirement will be. The ASCSU Senators will give an update on the Ethnic Studies requirement at their meeting, immediately following the Senate meeting. There is also an ASCSU resolution pertaining to an Ethnic Studies requirement. A Senator explained that there is currently a consultative process in place at CSUN for curriculum. Any Ethnic Studies curriculum would go to the Ethnic Studies chairs for consultation. A Senator expressed concern regarding the collection of feedback from Ethnic Studies Faculty on SLOs for the ASCSU campus report. President Stein explained that all campus feedback was submitted for the survey.

A Senator made a motion to table the motion. The motion was seconded. The Senate voted.

MSP: To table this motion until we know what will happen with the ASCSU resolution. The motion was tabled.

8. Senate Reports

a. CFA Report – CFA President Nate Thomas

Senator Thomas was not able to attend the Senate meeting. A written report was sent to the Senators.

Link to written report: https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/cfa_report%20dec.pdf

b. Statewide Academic Senate CSU Report – Jerry Schutte

President Stein shared that all Senators received the statewide report via email. Senator Schutte will give a report at the ASCSU update meeting after the Senate meeting.

Link to written report:
https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/ascsureport_novupdated.pdf

9. New Business

EPC Motion

A Senator made a motion to allow EPC to work on all math and writing curriculum, policies and practices. The motion was seconded. President Stein shared that this motion was very similar to the motion passed at the last Senate meeting. A Senator said that we are now in post implementation and faculty do not currently have control over math curriculum. This motion would allow faculty to work on new math and writing curriculum. President Stein shared that the math department is not currently working on curriculum.

MSP: the Educational Policies Committee will work on all math and writing curriculum, policies, and practices. The Senate voted; motion passed.

Ethnic Studies Requirement Motion

MSF: A Senator made a motion to bring the pending business Ethnic Studies motion back on the table. The motion to untable the motion was seconded. The Senate voted and the motion did not pass.

President Dianne Harrision's written report was shared with the Senate via email.

Link to written report:

https://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/presidentsreport_120519.pdf

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04pm.

Submitted by: Kim Henige, Secretary of the Faculty and Nicole Wilson, Recording Secretary