

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 12/5/19**Minutes of Meeting of October 24, 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: Ali Al-Sharadqah (excused), Jack Bagwell (excused), Maria Elena De Bellard, Judith Debonis (excused), Nazaret Dermendjian (excused), Danielle Jarvis (excused), Doug Kaback, Rodica Kohn (excused), Susan Love (excused), Debra Berry Malmberg (excused), Kristy Michaud (excused), Mutombo Nkulu-N’Sengha (excused), Caleb Owens, Elizabeth Poloskov, Diane Schwartz (excused), Bruce Shapiro, Adam Swenson (excused), Diana Vicente, John Whitener (excused)

The Faculty Senate Minutes for [September 26, 2019](#) were approved with changes.

1. Announcements

- a. Senator Umeck announced that on November 22, 2019 at 1:00pm there will be a faculty golfing event hosted by the women’s golf team in Van Nuys. Senator Umeck will share the flyer with the Senate Office to be distributed.
- b. Senator Heinen, the Interim Director of Community Engagement announced that the *All in Democracy Challenge Committee* is working towards increasing student voter registration and voter participation. The committee would like to know what faculty are doing in their classes, committees, departments and colleges to increase voter participation and awareness. Senator Heinen encouraged Senators to email her. Senator Heinen will send out an email with more information.
- c. Senator Bendavid announced that she will be on the March 3, 2020 ballot for the Los Angeles County Committee. Senator Bendavid encouraged Senators to vote.
- d. Senator Smith inquired about Senators receiving an email regarding the library’s Elsevier subscription renewal for January 1, 2020. Faculty President Stein said that she shared the email with all faculty.
- e. Senator Henige announced that there is an upcoming Provost Student Success event on October 31, 2019 from 2:00pm-4:30pm in the USU Northridge Center. Senator Henige encouraged attendees to bring donations for Matty’s Closet and the CSUN Food Pantry.

2. Information Item: Accessibility

Hilary Baker, Vice President of Information Technology/CIO

President Stein shared that Vice President Hilary Baker will be retiring in December. Vice President Hilary Baker gave a brief update on campus accessibility. Vice President Baker explained the importance of making all instructional material accessible (i.e. images, lecture material, videos). The Academic Technology Center, Universal Design Center and NCOD are available to help faculty with ensuring that their material is accessible (at no cost). Faculty can

use Canvas Ally to scan course material for accessibility. Accessibility postcards were left at the back table (on Canvas Ally, lecture captioning and other services). Vice President Baker also shared that there will be a network upgrade in the future and that IT has recently updated their technology vision statement. Copies of the vision statement were placed at the back table. A Senator inquired about donating closed captioned videos to the library. Vice President Baker explained that some videos may not be able to be donated due to copywriting issues (ownership). She will discuss the question with Dean Mark Stover. President Stein encouraged Senators to try out Canvas Ally. A Senator inquired about when an accessibility tool for websites would be available. Vice President Baker said that the tool should be available for faculty by next semester.

3. Provost's Report- Provost Mary Beth Walker

Provost Mary Beth Walker reported on the following:

1. For first time freshman the AUL was 14.72 units post census (14.02 units previously). The percentage of FTF who took over 15 units was 55% (up from 36% last year). There is a new Matador Academic Challenge where full-time freshman taking at least 15 units can drop up to 3 units through week 11 without penalty. As of October 24, 2019, only 33 students have withdrawn from a class. The AUL for all undergraduates is 12.9 units (up from 12.77 units).
2. The 4 year graduation rate for freshmen is 16.5% (up from last year at less than 15%). The six year graduation rate has increased to 55.2% (while it was under 54% last year). For transfer students, the 2 year graduation rate is 41% (up from 35.4% last year). The 4 year graduation rate is 77% (up from last year at 76%). The GI 2025 goal for transfer students is 80%.
3. Based on data from the Chancellor's Office, CSUN has not improved on opportunity gaps. For the 6-year graduation rate, the opportunity gap for URM students is 12.7%. CSUN is ranked last in opportunity gaps in comparison to other CSU's. Ten percent of the courses that freshmen take in the first year, contribute to 80% of DFU's. For DFU's, there is a 23% equity gap between traditionally underserved and better served students (54% of traditionally underserved students received a D, F, or U and 31% of better served students received a D, F, or U).
4. Interviews are completed for the Dean of Education search. The search committee for the AVP of Student Success finished their first round interviews. The positions have been posted for the AVP of Research and the AVP of Faculty Affairs. The Vice Provost position will be posted by the end of the semester. The Dean of Humanities position will be posted in the spring and interviews will be held in the spring semester.
5. Sixty-eight faculty positions were approved and 50 positions are currently posted.
6. Over 1,000 early alert messages for students were issued by faculty in Math 196 and other lower division courses. Advisors from the HUB, college academic advisors and retention specialists have reached out to 1,000 students. By the end of the semester there will be a training video on how to communicate effectively using Canvas Insights for early alerts.
7. The next student success workshop will be held on October 31, 2019.

President Stein requested for Senators to hold their questions until after the President's Report.

4. President's Report- President Dianne F. Harrison

President Harrison thanked the Senators for their understanding and flexibility in dealing with the Saddleridge fire earlier this month. She hoped that everyone was safe and on their way to full recovery, if impacted.

President Harrison reported on the following:

1. President Harrison shared that last week she and a team of 9 CSUN employees attended the annual CSU GI 2025 Symposium in Sacramento. The six operational priorities discussed were academic preparation (i.e. changing pedagogies for courses with high DFU rates), enrollment management, student engagement and well-being (i.e. basic needs, mental health issues, sense of belonging), financial support (support structures beyond traditional financial aid and grants), data informed decision-making and administrative barriers. At the meeting each institution received a progress report card. CSUN was commended on improved graduation rates, but our equity gaps, at approximately 12%, were of deep concern.
2. CSU Long Beach has outpaced all of the other campuses in closing their gaps and may have opportunities to be applied at CSUN. CSULB has closed their opportunity gaps to 3% and 6%. CSULB did an “academic full court press” where their staff, faculty and administration worked together to close opportunity gaps by redesigning all of their bottleneck courses with low completion rates (i.e. math, physics, chemistry and business), implemented better advising, increased course availability, used better technology, identified administrative hurdles towards graduation and also monitored students that were in need of academic support. President Harrison said that it will take staff, faculty and administration to help close our opportunity gaps. President Harrison requested that the Senators discuss this in their departments and review their courses to see where they have gaps.
3. President Harrison recently attended the University Economic Development Association (UEDA) meeting. UEDA brings together higher education leaders, institutions and faculty to create local and regional economic opportunity. This year's theme was based on resilience and how universities can partner with local communities to develop impactful programs.
4. President Harrison attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Conference. Eighteen CSUN students attended the conference and were able to learn from and network with potential employers. President Harrison thanked Shiva Parsa, Student Affairs, the college deans and Marvin Villanueva (the Director of the Dream Center) for their support. CSUN would like to send more students to the conference in the future.
5. President Harrison attended the Metro Board of Trustees meeting to speak about the importance of the SFV BRT, through Metro Measure M. President Harrison was impressed by CSUN students in attendance and their passion for the project. She was disappointed in the comments made by some of the community members about CSUN students; fortunately, Metro Board Member and County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl spoke out on their behalf and the importance of their transportation needs as well. The BOT voted to move the project forward. A study will be conducted regarding the potential routes (Nordhoff or Roscoe).

A Senator asked about GI 2025 funding for summer intensive ASL sign language programs and training. President Harrison said that sign language curriculum was raised recently in Extended Cabinet and that she understood some of the complexities about it. The GI 2025 funding is based on various factors, focusing on initiatives that were most successful for the largest number of

students. Most of the funding has gone towards hiring new faculty. Through the Provost, they would review the request.

A Senator shared that CFA recently conducted a survey at a meeting and found that 45 faculty members owed 2 million dollars in student debt.

Another Senator asked about CSULB and their stricter admissions requirements. The Senator asked if the Chancellor's Office addressed CSULB's stricter admissions requirements (higher SAT, GPA) when looking at their low opportunity gaps. President Harrison shared that she brings this up often to her colleagues, but that they still had demonstrated progress with equity gaps, which were difficult for all campuses. Their strategies remained relevant. A Senator requested data showing that centralized advisement leads to higher graduation rates. Provost Mary Beth Walker explained that the advising HUB has only been in place for one semester. The HUB advisors have helped increase the average unit load for freshmen and seen many students. It was mentioned that it was too early to see the data on the impact on graduation rates. A Senator mentioned that a few students were discouraged by the HUB from getting advisement from their departments. Provost Walker said that an advisor's goal is to provide students with a roadmap towards their degree and students should be encouraged to receive advisement from their departments. Another Senator requested that everyone prepare for an evacuation by having emergency supplies packed in advance. President Harrison thanked the Senator for the reminder. A Senator asked about the equity gap for pell students. The Senior Director of Institutional Research Janet Oh shared that last year the equity gap for pell students was 7% and this year it is 11%. Another Senator inquired about the institution looking at race and racial practices. President Harrison shared that there is a lot of work to be done like implicit bias in classrooms. It is everyone's responsibility to help fix opportunity gaps.

President Stein asked if any Senators had any questions for Provost Walker. A Senator asked if there is a resource to look at the equity data and Provost Walker said that the CSUN Student Success website has the data on its dashboard. Janet Oh also shared that faculty can look into CSUN Counts or the CSU Student Success Dashboard (calstate.edu/dashboard) to see the data. Janet Oh shared that she will have a data workshop at the Student Success event on October 31, 2019.

President Stein made an announcement that there was a fire in Santa Clarita and advised faculty who live in the area to check their phones.

5. Pending Business – Motion: The Educational Policies Committee will work on GE curriculum, policies and practices

President Stein explained that this motion was from the last Senate meeting.

MS: The Educational Policies Committee will work on GE curriculum, policies and practices.

A Senator requested clarification on the motion. President Stein explained that due to the Senate's previous vote of non-participation on implementation of EO's 1100R and 1110, EPC has been held back from looking at any GE Curriculum that is associated with GE Plan E (EO1100R). The Senate briefly discussed the motion, the vote of the faculty senate, EPC not being able to review curriculum, GE Plan E, GE Plan R, the importance of faculty maintaining control over curriculum and the implementation of the executive orders. A Senator requested for faculty to have a checkbox on the course proposal form indicating that it is a violation of faculty governance to submit

curriculum under GE plan E. President Stein explained that if the Senate votes in favor of the current motion to work on GE curriculum, faculty will not be in violation of faculty governance. A Senator proposed having a motion to rescind the motion of non-participation. President Stein explained that this motion is out of order. A Senator called the question. The Senate voted on calling the question to end the discussion and it did not pass. A Senator made a motion to amend the GE curriculum motion. There was a motion made to add a checkbox on the course proposal form. It was seconded. The Senate discussed the course proposal form. Senator Mayberry (the chair of EPC) explained that EPC would determine what is on the form not the Senate. The Senate discussed post-implementation, rescinding the original motion, the course proposal form, faculty versus administration review of course proposals and the motion to amend the motion, and GE curriculum. A Senator called the question on the amendment to the motion. The motion to call the question passed and discussion ended. The Senate voted on the amendment to the motion. The motion to include a check box did not pass. After the vote, the Senate discussed the original motion, administrative approval of curriculum and faculty control of curriculum. The Senate voted and the motion for EPC to work on GE curriculum passed.

MSP: The Educational Policies Committee will work on GE curriculum, policies and practices

6. Senate Reports

a. **CFA Report** – CFA President Nate Thomas

Nate Thomas shared that the faculty contract is expiring in 2022. The CFA has sent out the bargaining survey to all CFA members. Faculty will have until November 1, 2019 to fill out the survey. Thomas requested for CFA members to fill out the survey. Thomas shared that CFA has been conducting workshops. They also have an online link for faculty to report hate incidents. A Senator asked about CFA and their role in sponsoring curriculum bills and other Senate related matters. Thomas explained that CFA focuses on faculty workload. CFA should not be involved in curriculum matters. CFA has been involved in social justice training. Thomas encouraged faculty to join CFA and explained that when bargaining for a new contract membership is reviewed. For the last faculty contract, the membership numbers helped with bargaining.

A written report was sent to the Senators.

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

b. **Statewide Academic Senate CSU Report** – Jerry Schutte

Senator Schutte reported on the following:

- i. Chancellor Timothy White is retiring at the end of this academic year.
- ii. Senator Schutte explained that the Statewide Senators are compiling CSUN's responses to the five questions on the ASCSU resolution. Responses will be placed in a narrative form. Faculty have until tomorrow at 5:00pm to fill out the Google form.

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

A Senator inquired about how the responses will be compiled and if it will be a collective campus response. The Senate discussed SLO's, student success, feedback, the proposed Ethnic Studies requirement and faculty expertise. Senator Schutte shared that the purpose of the Google survey was to gather information to be provided to the ASCSU and not to make a decision on SLO's for an Ethnic Studies requirement. In November, the Statewide Senate will send a resolution in response to the proposed Ethnic Studies Requirement. Responses from all of the 23 CSU's will be considered and are also available online.

A Senator expressed concern about the ASCSU vote in support of a new quantitative reasoning requirement. Senator Schutte explained that the Board of Trustees will vote on it on November 22 and there is not consensus with the Board of Trustees. The next ASCSU meeting will be immediately following the next Senate meeting.

7. New Business

Motion

A Senator made a motion requesting that any SLO's for an Ethnic Studies requirement 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 tabled this item until the next Senate meeting due to time.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11pm.

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