Academic Senate of the California State University
Academic Affairs Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, November 7, 2007
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

CSU Chancellor’s Office - Anaconda Room

Members Present: Jacinta Amaral (Fresno); Andrea Boyle (San Francisco); Vince Buck (Fullerton); E. Michael Gorman (San Jose); J. Ken Nishita (Monterey Bay); Michael Perkins (San Diego); Jim Postma (Chico); Hank Reichman (East Bay); C.E. Tapie Rohm (San Bernardino); Steven Stepanek (Northridge); and Maria Viera (Long Beach).

Guests Present: Keith Boyum and Christine Hanson

1. Welcome and Call to Order: Jim Postma called the committee to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda: Agenda approved by all committee members.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2007: The meeting minutes were posted on the website for review on 11/7/07 and will be approved at the next Academic Affairs meeting on 12/7/07.

4. Chair’s Report: Jim Postma

   Chair Postma reported that the CSU Executive Committee met and that there were no new agenda items for the Academic Affairs Committee to consider at today’s meeting

5. Administrative Reports:

   5.1 Keith Boyum:  
   A. Voluntary system of accountability (VSA) will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees next week.
   B. ICT Literacy skills to be reported to the Board of Trustees next week (Reichard and Welty will present this information.)
   C. Information on both the VSA and ICT will be presented together at the Board of Trustees meeting.
   D. Text affordability to be discussed with the Board of Trustees next week- a resolution will be presented at the plenary session on 11/8/07.
   E. Information to be presented at the Board of Trustees meeting next week will also stress the following regarding:

       1. VSA:
a. Institutional accountability is on the national radar screen and accountability measures from the Education Department may become mandatory. WASC would then require universities to adhere to the Spelling’s Report.
b. If the CSU does not do something regarding the concept of value added, other agencies will determine this for the CSU.
c. Accountability is voluntary in the sense that organizations work on what would be reported and why it would be reported.
d. Templates need to be developed and should include items such as the number of graduates, especially professionals.
e. The CSU serves as a ladder for social mobility and for social good and many graduates make contributions to California.

2. CLA:
   a. Gary Reichard will describe this as a 2 year experiment.
   b. Judgments will be made after faculty consultation.

3. ICT:
   a. CSU is working with ETS to develop a battery of assessments to obtain, assess, and use information in technology.
   b. A 75 minute scenario-based (i-skills) program has been developed for online use by students in the CSU.
   c. Questions regarding this can be addressed on individual campuses.

F. Questions from AA Committee Members
   1. H. Reichman questioned the involvement of faculty (has not occurred) in continued development of the VSA.
   2. Questions were raised by committee members regarding the reliability/validity of this test- At this time the CLA is the sole measure of student learning outcomes and this is an issue for future discussion.
   3. Questions were raised whether this work will hold off future assessment challenges. Keith notes that this is currently a good bet because 8% of higher education budgets come from federal funding (e.g. Pell grants and student aid.)

G. Remediation Policy- Keith is hoping that the Senate will address this prior to 1/08 with the Board of Trustees taking this issue up in 1/08. Senate input is requested prior to the 1/08 meeting.

H. Academic Council will meet to discuss budgets, transfer and articulation, and enrollments. Keith noted that the budgets may be decreased although he is not sure. The CSU asked for a 1% increase in funding for current enrollments. Clinical nursing support funding is also sought.

I. Transfer and Articulation-
1. Barbara Swerkes is working to position the LDTP in the community colleges. There is interest in re-branding the label because the string of letters in LDTP has no appeal to students or faculty in both the CSU and the community colleges.

2. Title 5 changes in the community colleges—areas of study must have a major for a diploma.

3. Current plan is to move toward a pilot project for implementation with one CSU campus and 1-5 community colleges collaborating together. Keith noted that if the pilot shows success, then expansion could occur.

J. CSU conversation on the Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) is quiet at this point and talks are ongoing with legislative friends and the community colleges about the likelihood of hiring doctorally prepared faculty.

K. Professional Business Fees-
   1. This is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Trustees as an action item in 1/08 (this is to give faculty and others time to discuss this issue according to Keith) but may be re-scheduled for presentation in 3/08.
   2. H. Reichman questioned modifications such as changes in fee structure.
   3. Campuses are responding to this item.
   4. A survey of MBA students is underway (Keith has contracted with a group at Fullerton to conduct a survey on degree expectations, salaries, and projected salaries.)
   5. Focus groups of MBA students (and possibly recent graduates) will be conducted by the Fullerton group with participants from San Diego and San Bernardino.
   6. Accountability for spending money from additional fees will go to university presidents.
   7. Chair Postma noted that this may indicate a movement away from low cost fees in the CSU.

L. Campus readiness for ATAC funding is in process and transfer course design is a part of this with all campuses asked to show a need for academic technology. A workgroup is currently piloting a template for campuses to develop or self assess the need for academic technology and the input this into use.

M. Access to Excellence
   1. The first draft is on the web and the steering committee with review the comments to strengthen the draft.
   2. The Board of Trustees is scheduled to review the draft in 3/08.
   3. The completed plan and Board of Trustees approval is scheduled for 5/08.
   4. Comments and Discussion from AA committee members:
      a. What is the definition of excellence for the CSU as a system to meet both local and state needs?
b. This is a system strategic plan—members noted that students do not enroll in a system, they enroll in universities.
c. Goals and indicators—this was described as the least well developed component of the draft document.
d. Measurable indicators of excellence are not well defined.
e. Measurable outcomes are not clear.
f. Keith will continue to work as the staff person.

5.2 Christine Hanson:
A. GE Policy—Seven issues have been raised for review by the GEAC Committee and these will be discussed.
B. The CSU needs to connect with the community colleges to see how GE can be used for CSU admissions (Title 5 changes.)
C. Calls for Honorary Doctorates—There are 2 nominations per campus and these will be approved by the individual campuses.
D. Nursing Doctorates—
   1. Focus on the faculty shortage and these discussions should be quiet until 1/08. The need and demand for nurses with doctoral degrees have been documented and the doctoral advisory committee will be part of program development.
   2. The DNP Resolution will be discussed today (11/7), reviewed in December, and will be ready for discussion in plenary sessions in 1/08.
   3. DNP funding will be up to the individual campuses who then may partner with hospitals or other agencies.
   4. DNP Proposal has gone forward to the legislature.

6.0 Liaison Reports:

6.1 Academic Technology Advisory Committee (ATAC) – Jackie Kegley: will be meeting on 11/18.
6.2 Admission Advisory Council – Jacinta Amaral, Vince Buck, Hank Reichman, Steven Stepanek: has not met yet.
6.3 California Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) – Jacinta Amaral: will meet 5/22.
6.4 CSU Ed.D. Faculty Consultation Group – Andrea Boyle, Michael Perkins, Tapie Rohm, and Darlene Yee-Melichar: has not met
6.5 Disabilities Advisory Committee – Ken Nishita: has not met.
6.6 Early Assessment Program Advisory Committee (EAP) – Ken Nishita: has not met.
6.7 Entry Level Mathematics (ELM) Development Committee – Jim Postma: meeting has been scheduled
6.8 Commission on Extended University – Michael Gorman: has met once.

6.9 General Education Advisory Committee – Maria Viera, Jim Postma: reported at the last meeting.

6.10 Institute for Teaching and Learning – no representatives.

6.11 International Programs – Jacinta Amaral: resolution currently being crafted, multiple issues were addressed, especially issues related to visas for faculty coming to work in the US.

6.12 Library Directors, Council of (COLD) – Jackie Kegley: will be coming to the next meeting.

6.13 Lower Division Transfer Program Advisory Committee – Jim Postma: Patterns are in place, course articulation issues and practice issues are being discussed. Course articulation officers have problems with this articulation.

6.14 Other- An ad-hoc committee was proposed for the development

7. Old Business

7.1 Textbook Affordability (AS-2813-07): Resolution scheduled for the AS meeting on 11/8/07.

7.2 Drops, Withdrawals, Incompletes, and Repeat Policies: Draft resolution was discussed by the committee. The resolution will be presented at the AS meeting on 11/8 in first reading (no waiver requested) and resolution typos were presented to Chair Postma.

7.3 Follow-up on AS-2814-17/AA/FA/FGA Professional Fee for Graduate Business Degrees (with FGA): H. Reichman gave a report from the task force meeting regarding professional fees and will work on a first draft of a resolution on these fees to include:
   A. opposition to professional fee statement sent to the Board of Trustees
   B. Acknowledgement of the serious needs of MBA programs
   C. Look at the basis for discipline-based fees in the CSU. Hank Reichman further noted that there was task force agreement that the AS can not afford to be silent at this time and must be sensitive to opposing points of view. The principles of discipline-based fees should not be ignored. This is a precedent-setting proposal because it is based on the ability of the student to pay and the intrinsic value of the degree to the individual. Schedule for this proposal is 11/7.
7.4 Resolution on Distinctive Universities (AS-2820-07/FGA) was reviewed by the committee – this is ready for AS 11/8/07.

7.5 Other – no other old business was presented for discussion.

8. New Items of Business

8.1 Remediation: Draft TEKR Recommendations To The Board of Trustees In Response To The Report Prepared By The Committee On Education Policy- This draft document was presented and reviewed by committee members who then approved to co-sponsor a resolution on this issue with TEKR.

8.2 The Voluntary System of Accountability/The Collegiate Learning Assessment: Members of the AA Committee reviewed resolutions from Chico State and SFSU. Suggestions were made to review local senate resolutions and then have volunteers draft an ASCSU Senate resolution focused on looking forward to the use of this assessment test 2 years from now. Committee members Boyle and Perkins will draft a resolution for review by the AA Committee at either the 12/07/07 or the 1/08 committee meetings.

8.3 Resolution in support of the CSU Doctorate of Nursing Practice Degree: A draft resolution was reviewed by committee members. Suggestions for revisions were offered. This resolution will come back to the AA Committee at the 12/07 meeting for review and then introduction to the AS in 1/08.

8.4 Resolution on Academic Technology Budget Priorities: There is no resolution to date. Jim Postma will talk to Jackie Kegley about the development of a resolution following the 11/18 meeting. Concerns expressed by H. Reichman included the following:

A. This may set a precedent for the CSU
B. There is a short timeline
C. There are questions regarding faculty commitment
D. No clarity on criteria for faculty review teams
E. It was noted that this does make sense for remedial math at this time

8.5 Access to Excellence: See http://www.calstate.edu/acadaff/system_strategic_planning/ : A resolution crafted by the Access to Excellence Task Force was submitted for AA Committee review and discussion. The question of graduate education was raised and the suggestion was made to include this in the resolution. The resolution is cursory at this point and other suggestions were made to stress positives as the task force works to re-formulate the resolution. The resolution will be co-sponsored by AA and FGA committees.

8.6 Other Items:
A. Draft Statement on Core Values (Joint Task Force on Patents and Technology Transfer) - The draft statement was reviewed by committee members. Jim Postma noted that this is an attempt to develop a core set of principles developed by a task force (which includes Jim Postma, Marshelle Thobaben, and Beth Ambos) and represents work that the CSU does very well. Eventually, this document will result in a CSU policy. The task force is reviewing other policies that are currently in place at other universities. Additionally, it was noted that the draft statement on core values can be disseminated to other interested parties.

B. Michael Gorman proposed that a resolution be developed by AA Committee regarding international education. Jim Postma will raise this issue with the Executive Committee. Michael will also bring this item to the AS at the 11/8 session.

9. Other:
Members of the AA Committee thanked Maria Viera for her work in coordinating and organizing the food and drinks for the upcoming AA sponsored social on 11/8.

10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jim Postma at 3:25 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by A. Boyle.