Minutes of the
Executive Committee
of the
Academic Senate of the California State University
February 12-13, 2004

1. The meeting was convened at 1:20 p.m. on February 12th with all members present as well as all chairs of standing committees.

2. The Agenda was approved with the addition of ITP as item 5.5a.

3. The Minutes of the meeting of January 21-22, 2004 were approved as distributed.

4. Chair’s Report

   Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

   There are two finalists for the Associate Chancellor for Academic Affairs position, Keith Boyum (Fullerton) and Harry Hellenbrand (SLO)

   SBAC Meeting of February 10th and Budget Summit News

   This week’s SBAC produced little that was new. The CSU argued for unallocated reductions, they plan on a 5% enrollment decline to meet these reductions, and they are experimenting with different scenarios to limit the increase in fees for credential candidates to 25% instead of the proposed 40% increase for graduate students and to increase the undergraduate fees by 11% so that the there is no overall loss of revenue. In addition, there appears to be a consensus that graduate fees should be approximately 150% of undergraduate fees.

   The Chair is negotiating with the Chancellor so all standing committee will have observers at the March 10th Budget Summit.

   Provosts’ Technology Steering Committee

   Governance issues were one of the main topics for discussion. The provosts are supportive of faculty involvement in technology issues, and they want this to continue at a high level.

   The ATCC is disbanded. Instead, ATAC will be resurrected. We should examine the personnel of ATAC as well as its charge. ATAC will be responsible for developing and validating technology plans as well as setting priorities.

   Collegis (the technology consultant) will be gone after the completion of a current project.
Academic Council

While the system is planning on a 5% enrollment decline, the provosts would prefer to reduce enrollment by the full amount of the budget reduction.

Individual campuses may revert Summer Session to self-support, however, they will not charge more than the standard SUF. Discussions are underway regarding faculty pay under self-support summer session, whether it will be the old model or the current one. Campus plans will be approved only on a year-to-year basis.

The provosts discussed the draft of a coded memo on transfer students.

Excess Units

The Senate will draft the definition. How will excess units be counted and monitored, and when and how will the policy be implemented? Who will enforce it? Who do we charge, the students or the campus?

5. Standing Committees

Reports were heard from the four Senate Standing Committees.

6. Spring Legislative Activities

AB 1175

Concern was expressed that AB 1175 (Koretz) might locate a “center” in the Chancellor’s Office. There was a strong preference that centers should reside on campuses.

Accountability

FGA Chair Jensen reported on the February 4th meeting of the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education, which focused on “California Postsecondary Education Accountability.” The committee discussed “California Higher Education: State Policy Goals.” This item was referred to Academic Affairs.

7. Executive Vice Chancellor Spence

David Spence addressed the Executive Committee on two major policy issues, POL (the undergraduate major core curriculum) and the issue of excess units. He seemed confident that the definition of excess units could be resolved quickly.
8. Fee Increase Issues

Graduate Differential

Although the Governor has proposed raising fees for graduate students, (based on increased workload), there is no move afoot for the CSU to request a differential in state funding of graduate education. Although campuses can reallocate funds internally, there will be no systemwide request for additional money to fund graduate instruction. FGA will probably develop a resolution on this topic.

Percent of Education Costs

The CSU administration believes that students should pay 33% of the cost of instruction; the CSSA is arguing for 25%. It is possible that the two groups can reach a compromise before the March Board Meeting.

Financial Aid

The CSU and the Presidents are asking that the financial aid set-aside be reduced to 20% for new fees; the CSSA would prefer that the set-aside remain at 33%.

7. The Executive Committee discussed the Senate’s participation in the Save the CSU Coalition, and asked FGA to discuss the issue.

8. Budget Summit on March 10th

Chair Cherny has requested that all Standing Committees be represented.

9. Technology Initiatives

In light of the resurrection of ATAC, that committee will meet soon.

Gerry Hanley will be asked to meet with the Executive Committee in March.

10. Ed.D. Reviewer Pool

A three-person subcommittee --Cook, Jensen and Snyder--will prepare a proposal for the executive committee regarding processes to notify reviewer pool members of their potential selection, ascertain their willingness to serve, provide them with information about their roles, and conduct orientation sessions for reviewers who are chosen.

11. Searches

The Chair is to speak with the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs regarding what some perceive as discrimination against faculty members outside the LA Basin who may wish to apply for the positions of Community Service Learning Faculty Scholar and Director of the Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program. Both programs recruit faculty members for a 2-3 year appointment; the faculty members receive full assigned time to work in the Chancellor's Office, but there is currently no
funding for relocation so the searches are limited to those who already live within commuting distance of the CO.

12. ITP

There was an extensive discussion of the procedures for obtaining disciplinary agreement on the thirty units for the program. What should the process and procedure be? Do all the faculty on all campuses have to agree with the committee’s decisions? Should administrators have a role in making curricular decisions? The Chair of Academic Affairs will be invited to attend along with ITP Task Force Co-Chair Snyder in order to address the curricular and policy issues. The Executive Committee asked Academic Affairs to develop a process for the final decisions regarding the statewide transfer package. There was consensus that the senate needs to be central in determining the process.

13. Trustee Hauck

Trustee Bill Hauck made a presentation to a joint meeting of the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Executive Committee. He discussed the current fiscal situation of the State as well as the Governor’s actions to mitigate and resolve the issue.

For the new administration, the budget process is like spring training.

The March 2nd bond measure is extremely important both politically and economically.

The Governor’s ability to drive the budget is unknown; will be tested on March 2nd.

Assembly Speaker Núñez has announced that a tax increase isn’t on his radar, so don’t count on it.

The Governor’s Budget is our best case--things could get much worse.

Chancellor Reed, Board Chair Debra Farar, and Hauck spent an hour with the Governor

He knows the importance of the CSU to the State’s economy.

However, he also went to Santa Monica City College and its president is on his transition team.

The CSU is supportive of most of the governor's fee and policy proposals.

Trustee Hauck reminded the group of the Trustees’ fee policy passed in 1993.

He mused that turning a Board of Trustees policy into law might be a positive outcome.

The Master Plan is not obsolete, but it is expensive.

If Proposition 57 passes, the Governor’s Budget might get enacted; if it does not, the State is in dire financial trouble.

The alternate plan is to issue the previously authorized $10.7 bond issue
There is a question about its legality: will it stand up to a legal challenge?

Something must be offered on the financial markets by the end of March.

The state owes $15 billion by the end of June.

If Proposition 57 fails to pass AND if the $10.7 is not legally acceptable, the State will be in a financial crisis and there will be panic in the Capital.

The CSU is well-regarded on the Capital; legislators recognize if as the economic engine of the State’s recovery.

The Governor took the K-12 issue off the table, striking a deal with them on budget reduction.

The Democrats will use the CSU as an excuse to raise taxes; we should stay out of that.

The Governor’s vetoes cannot be overridden.

When asked how faculty could help, Trustee Hauck made several suggestions:

The faculty could and should speak to their respective members, but that we shouldn’t whine, and we shouldn’t complain about increased workload.

Instead, we should indicate that we are willing to take budget cuts, but we want full restoration when the State’s economy improved.

We are willing to do a good job for our students in a time of fiscal exigency.

We are looking at a three-year plan. We shouldn’t ask for the impossible because we will lose our credibility.

The legislature realizes that the CSU is critical for the economy--it produces 77,000 graduates a year that are needed by the California business community.

The Governor will most likely agree to lowering the fee increase for teaching credential candidates.

14. Executive Director Position Description

The Executive Committee made minor changes to the Executive Director’s position description.

15. The cover letter for the Senate’s budget resolution will be discussed next week.

16. The Executive Committee discussed arrangements for the Board of Trustees’ meeting in Fresno in March.

17. Outside Employment

The committee discussed possible members of a tripartite task force on outside employment.
18. The Committee discussed the agenda for the March Plenary Session.

19. Senate Budget for 2004-2005

If Proposition 57 passes AND if the Governor’s Budget is enacted, the Senate’s budget will only be reduced by 7.5%. If both of those eventualities fail to occur, the budget reduction will be much worse.

Assuming the best, the Executive Committee discussed various ways to reduce expenditures. These will be presented to the Senate at the March Plenary Session, which is after Election Day on March 2nd

20. IMPAC/CAN/POL/ICAS

There was an intense discussion about what to do with IMPAC and CAN at the ICAS meeting on February 17th.

21. CMS

The chair reported on a conversation with Executive Vice Chancellor Richard West regarding the student module of CMS. The chair is to draft an e-mail to the campuses that are testing this module based on his conversation.

22. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on Friday, February 13th.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hood
Secretary