Fiscal & Governmental Affairs (FGA) Committee

Minutes

Friday December 5, 2014

Meeting called to order via Zoom at 10:57

Roll Call: Chair Thomas Krabacher, Vice Chair Steve Browne, Otto Benavides, Erick Eschker, David Hood, Ed Sullivan, Beth Steffel, Christine Miller, Ron Vogel, Barry Pasternack

1. Welcome; Call to Order; Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda – Approved as amended

3. Approval of Minutes of Nov 5, 2014 – Approved as amended

4. Campus and Member Announcements
   • Sacramento State presidential search is underway. It will likely be a closed search.

5. Chair’s Report
   • In January, members of Exec will likely be in Sacramento. They would like input on who they should visit. Please email suggestions to Tom K.
   • Two legislators plan to introduce a bill that would remove UC’s independence. It would require a constitutional amendment.

6. Other Reports: Liaison and System-wide Committee and Task Force Reports
   • Chancellor’s Office Liaisons – Ron Vogel
   • Executive Committee Liaison—Christine Miller
     - ASCSU representatives are on ITL director search committee and Assistant Director of Academic Policy search committee. The AP search has been suspended.
     - 120/180 unit limit – Exec will send questionnaires to campus senate chairs regarding the impact of the process and decisions. Exec wants to meet with the Chancellor to discuss the matter further.
     - Exec will discuss rumored changes to the presidential review process with the Chancellor.
     - The Academic Conference committee will meet in January to review the conference.
     - The taskforce on online course modality has met.
     - The taskforce on discipline councils has yet to meet.
     - Question: Have there been any discussions regarding the Wiley contracts for online journals? Answer: None that I’ve heard.

7. Legislative Updates
7.1 2015-2016 Legislature – status
- The new legislature has just been seated. It doesn’t officially start to work until January but legislators are already proposing bills.

7.2 SB 15 (Block)
- The bill would increase the dollar amount and number of Cal Grants.
- An article in the SF Chronical states that “CSU faculty are in support of the bill.” FGA is asked to investigate the source of this statement. Tom K. will ask Block’s staff regarding this.
- Exec asked FGA to examine the bill and provide an analysis and recommend a Senate position. FGA will defer a recommendation until the bill’s final language is released in January.

7.3 SB 850 implementation
- CCCs are rushing to implement bachelor degree programs.
- FGA will approach legislators to determine the likelihood of a push to allow further expansion of 4-year degrees by CCCs.

8. Potential Resolutions
- Commendation for AB 2324 (faculty trustee) Support
  - FGA asks Chair Filling to write a letter of thanks to legislators for their support. Tom K will write a rough draft.
  - Tom K will prepare a resolution for the January plenary. Please send any suggestions to him.
  - It was suggested that FGA host a reception during a legislative visit for supporters of the bill

9. New Business & Discussion Items
9.1 Development of a legislative scorecard?
- FGA reviewed the CSSA scorecard (http://www.csustudents.org/index.php/legislative-scorecard/)
- FGA does not intend to develop an ASCSU scorecard

9.2 Use of campus foundation funds, cont. (Pasternack)
- Do we want to invite someone to meet with FGA in January to discuss this?
- Ron Vogel suggests Lori Redfearn, Chancellor’s Office liaison for development.

9.3 MBA fees and the Achievement Gap
- The Chancellor’s Office hasn’t determined what the achievement gap is for graduate programs. Ron Vogel: It would be a lot of work and take a lot of resources to determine this. We are focusing on the undergraduate achievement gap, which seems to be a higher priority. Why MBA and not other graduate degrees? It would be difficult to determine the impact of specific fees.
- Comment: Most of those on the wrong side of the achievement gap don’t pay any tuition or fees, so it isn’t likely that fees are the problem.
9.4 Internet Implications of Time-Warner Merger (Benavides)
- The committee reviewed “CUE Resolution Regarding Equity of Internet Access & Net Neutrality” (Computer Using Educators)
- FGA will consider a resolution for the January resolution. Otto B. will prepare a draft resolution.

9.5 LAO Report
- Please review these documents from the LAO:
  http://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Detail/3154
  http://lao.ca.gov/LAOEconTax

9.6 Legislative Monitoring Strategy for 2015
- Bills will be introduced after the January plenary. FGA will prepare a resolution on bill positions for the March plenary.

9.7 Vice Chair Browne will be on sabbatical in the spring. The committee will discuss who might serve as his replacement as vice chair in January.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00

Minutes taken by S. Browne, Vice Chair