Academic Affairs (AA) Committee
Friday, February 15, 2013; 10am-1pm
Via Conference Call/Elluminate

Meeting Minutes

Present:
Darlene Yee-Melichar, Chair San Francisco
Patricia Kalayjian, Vice Chair Dominguez Hills
Simone Aloisio Channel Islands
Buckley Barrett San Bernardino
Bill Eadie San Diego
Shane Frehlich Northridge
Susan Gubernat East Bay
Ofer Meilich San Marcos
Barry Pasternack Fullerton
Andrea Renwanz-Boyle San Francisco
Mark Van Selst San Jose
Brian Wilson Sonoma

Liaisons:
Christine Mallon Chancellor’s Office Liaison
Ken O’Donnell Chancellor’s Office Liaison
Christine Miller Executive Committee Liaison

1. Welcome; Call to Order; Introductions
Chair Yee-Melichar welcomed members to the Academic Affairs Committee meeting with a special greeting to Senator Shane Frehlich; she called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. Approval of Agenda
Approved as amended to add Draft EO 1047 on Extended Education; Draft Legislation; and Title 5 admissions requirements language.

3. Approval of Minutes for January 16-17, 2013
Approved as submitted. On behalf of the committee, Chair Yee-Melichar thanked Senator Kalayjian for her comprehensive note-taking.
4. Campus and Member Announcements

- Senator Pasternack (CSUF) notes that, if there is a mistake in a student’s grade, the error stays on his/her permanent record /transcript; intersession is extremely short, and the campus is thinking about moving it to May and starting spring early in January; the campus will survey the faculty, but they have only an advisory capacity in regard to the academic calendar.

- Senator Van Selst (SJSU) reports that his campus is moving forward with an earlier deadline for 120-unit target than required by the Title 5 action. The temporary policy passed at their Monday meeting (not yet signed by the president) is an attempt to pull some of the pressure off of "eliminate GE" as the quick and dirty solution to getting down to 120 units. The policy ties together discipline, GE, and other campus and system requirements into a more holistic review/proposal development process. There is an important differentiation made in the policy between what has been called a waiver (elimination) of a GE requirement for a program and the movement to assess (possibly resulting from curricular change) how a GE (or other) area is being met within the program itself (this is a waiver of the assessment requirement for one year rather than a waiver of the learning outcomes associated with that area of GE).

- Senator Gubernat (CSUEB) reports that the campus is undergoing program reassessment and is pulling some control back into its purview; $50m will be expended to explode an earthquake-vulnerable building—a complex and expensive process.

- There will be a pair of COMPASS meetings March 7 ($25, The Campus as a Living Lab: Connecting Facilities & Curriculum for Sustainability, near Canada College, Redwood City (SF Bay region)) and March 8 & 9 ($95, The Future of General Education: Context, Collaboration, and Competencies, Cañada College, Redwood City). details at: http://www.calstate.edu/app/compass/documents/2013_Compass_Conf_Invitation.pdf. The meetings are targeted toward helping "the California State University and California Community Colleges systems explore ways to make the General Education (GE) transfer curriculum more engaging, assess our progress to date, envision our future, and work together to plan for change."

- Senator Yee-Melichar (SF State) reports that SF State is hosting a site visit by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) on March 6-8, 2013, in connection with its accreditation. There will be a campus celebration on March 9-15, 2013 as SF State marks the Investiture of the University’s 13th President, Leslie E. Wong. Activities throughout the week will focus on accelerating progress on campus, and will culminate with a Celebration Dinner Honoring President Wong and 2013 Inductees to the SF State Alumni Hall of Fame.

5. Chair’s Report
Chair Yee-Melichar reported that ASCSU Chair Guerin has asked us to bring our questions and suggestions to the ASCSU standing committee and/or systemwide committee process, and not directly to the CO. There may be an explanation for the delay in the CO responses to ASCSU resolutions; the ASCSU timeline for CO responses did not call, for example, for a response until late this month, too late for this meeting. Chair Yee-Melichar sought committee input on the priorities of the ASCSU budget. Suggestions include a return to in-person interim meetings, and rethinking the funding for campuses with three senators. Senators agreed that in-person interim meetings are very important. Also, add a
third day to the September meeting, and placing new senators on standing committees during their first year.

6. Liaison and Systemwide Committee and Task Force Reports

6.1. Chancellor’s Office Liaison – Dr. Christine Mallon

- Report is coming on Libraries in the Future.
- $10m in online funding: interest in redesigning courses by faculty to help with bottleneck courses.
- MOOCs: there is a joint committee on which Chair Yee-Melichar serves; there could be a challenge getting this large committee together.
- EO on Extended Education: it is much more helpful when she can work with the senate as a whole rather than individual campuses. CO is looking for input on the big picture, not details of grammar, etc. This EO went out for review, and it is surprising that it has generated so much interest when the changes are relatively small.
- Baccalaureate unit limits of 120/180 units: concern voiced by ENGR faculty, and they will be surveyed to see what is preventing accommodation. They are gathering data.
- Three EOs on International Programs: the CO will be holding open houses so campuses can learn how to proceed, share templates, deal with risk management, etc.

6.2. Chancellor’s Office Liaison – Dr. Ken O’Donnell

- STAR Act: work on curricular side is mature for the most popular majors; looking at ways to help students utilize these options. Hard to find out how well they are being used because that data often doesn’t appear until students are finished.
- COMPASS: meetings in March (see item 4 above); we’ll hear about the six projects.
- Graduation Initiative: four areas of concentrated effort [most campuses have provost and enrollment management VP heading the teams]: 1) Regional workshops through spring semester (who attends depends on campus teams to decide); 2) Exploration of systemwide tools to facilitate eAdvising (degree audit, class scheduling, etc.); 3) Ongoing connection to national best practices in student success; 4) Webinar at the end of the academic year to report on broad findings from the regional workshops, likely to include comments and advice from Chancellor White.

6.3. Executive Committee Liaison – Senator Christine Miller

- Special Committee on MOOCs charge has been established, and will be meeting face-to-face in March.
- ASCSU 50th Anniversary--please pass on the invitation as appropriate.
- It appears that the AA resolution on smoke-free campuses may receive a positive response from the Chancellor’s Office, or at least more positive than has existed in the past, including expansion to "tobacco".
- March plenary will start earlier than is usual on Thursday, to accommodate Faculty Trustee nominating process. Interviews of candidates will take place before lunch, and voting will take place on Friday morning, with clickers.
• Also, Exec will be inviting Ben Quillian and Ruth Black to discuss CalState Online (e.g., the business plan), and Karen Yelverton-Zamarippa to discuss legislation being considered.
• There will be an orientation for Senators regarding the charges and purview of various ASCSU and statewide committees will take place at lunch.
• Please file travel expense claims ASAP.
• Please help distribute electronically the Faculty to Faculty newsletter on campuses, and encourage people to subscribe.
• The call for participation on the California Open Educational Resources Council (the intersegmental group who will coordinate the development of open educational resources for 50 lower division courses taught by all segments) appears in the newsletter; please call attention to the call on your campuses.
• Trustee Cheyne reported that the procedure for potentially converting interim president positions to permanent status will be similar to the procedures used in the past.

6.4. Academic Technology Advisory Committee
Senator Pasternack reports the committee has not met.

6.5. Commission on Extended University
Senator Wilson reports that the committee will meet next week.

6.6. General Education Advisory Committee
Senator Van Selst reports that the next meeting will immediately proceed our next plenary. There is continued progress on a number of fronts including (a) the development of the 120 unit review process around GE, (b) COMPASS initiatives, (c) formalizing communication around the intermediate algebra prerequisites, (d) oral communication, and (e) WASC and upper-division GE. On Smarter Balance: He has been attending webinar meetings and will be in Sacramento next Friday to provide input to the Smarter Balance assessment consortium. Smarter Balance (http://www.smarterbalanced.org/higher-education/) is the agent through which K-12 school based testing will take place including the EAP.

6.7. Institute for Teaching and Learning Board
Senator Meilich reports that the committee will meet in May.

6.8. SB 1440 Implementation Oversight Committee
Senator Van Selst reports they haven’t met recently. However, the SB 1440 Associated Intersegmental Operating Committee next meets on March 11 (Sacramento) and March 28 (Orange County). One of the difficulties of showing "success" in terms of numbers of students is that, as Ken O’Donnell points out, to show up as a AA/AS-T degree entrant to the CSU, the student has to (a) have completed the coursework at (b) a campus (CCC) offering the degree and (c) declare the AA/AS-T at application on CSU Mentor. What this means is that the current low numbers are largely a coincidence of fate rather than likely deliberate action on the part of the students. The Central System office for the California Community Colleges have pushed compliance with SB 1440 and that, in the near future, all AS/AA-T degrees will require C-ID approval for those appropriate courses within the degrees. Some CCCs have embraced
AA/AS-Ts whereas others have met the minimum required standards (i.e., at least two AS/AA-T degrees offered by the college). There is a shift in the CCC system as they increasingly "get into" the degree granting, rather than course offering, business. Tracking, degree declaration, and electronic transcripts are all becoming more important. The language on GE credit associated with C-ID courses that appears on the Transfer Model Curricula (TMC) descriptions needs to be improved (implies associated GE credit where no such approval necessarily exists).

6.9. Service to Students with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Senator Melich reports the committee has not met.

7. Review of Chancellor’s Office Response to ASCSU Resolutions
See Chair Yee-Melichar’s report above.

8. Review of Board of Trustees Agenda for February 2013
AA will review two items: Support for Student Mental Health and Counseling Services; Coded Memorandum AA-2013-02: Implementation of Trustees Title 5 Changes to Baccalaureate Degrees

9. Discussion Items
9.1 Coded Memorandum AA-2013-02: Implementation of Trustees Title 5 Changes to Baccalaureate Degrees; Discussed process for Request for Exception to Baccalaureate Unit Limits
Dr. Mallon notes that there have been no campus reports. Issues about comparisons with institutions outside the system have been raised; these might be useful in the case of some majors. If a campus decides to ask for an exemption, who are the faculty who will be reviewing? Even the exempted programs will have to report on why they are over 120. There are campus misunderstandings about the directive; Dr. Mallon reminds us that it has been the standard procedure that any 120+ program has to explain why they need to exceed the 120/180 limit.

Every program—even the ones with validated exceptions—must report annually on why they exceed 120. Senator Van Selst was asked to report briefly on the SJSU move to suspend GE reportage for a year, with a waiver. See his report above in campus reports.

9.2 A2E commitment/goal on reducing existing achievement gaps
Senator Eadie referred the committee to the circulated document “Reducing Existing Achievement Gaps” drafted by the AA subcommittee. Consensus is that the report should be short, maybe five pages, and so focus is important. Chair Yee-Melichar suggests we should look at and distill the available data and make it useable. As a committee, our next step is to decide what we should write about and who should do the writing. Senator Boyle notes that there is a great deal of data. Since the system is progressing well toward the graduation rate goal but is not closing the achievement gap, should we be focused on that? We looked at the VSA CSU Comparison Report. Should we look at grad rates vis-a-vis the URG information? Dr. O’Donnell says the campuses will have some of these data; he may have that information for 2012 but it might not be sharable yet because it hasn’t been scrubbed. He could ask for permission to share it in draft; it could be used as the basis for future reportage or action. These figures do not look at gender or socio-economic status. Q. What is our purpose in doing this? Ken will check
about sharing data, and we can check with Bettina Huber at CSUN. HIP and Closing the Achievement—is there a useful intersection and a way we can add to the conversation? Senator Eadie said we heard from SDSU about how they were successful; could we come up with a list of best practices in reducing achievement gap to share among campuses? Senator Gubernat points out that each campus is different, and, as a system, we have to be aware that one size doesn’t fit all when we consider approaches to improving grad rates or reducing the achievement gap. Do we need further information from campuses and then look at that as a systemwide committee? Hope we can come up with an action plan by March. Dr. Mallon reminds us that recent cutbacks in student enrollments led to stronger students being admitted.

9.3 Online Education Initiatives
   a) Cal State Online (CSO)
      • Three campuses have launched or are beginning: CSUF (BA in Business); CSUDH (Applied Studies BA, MBA, and MPA); CSUMB, MS Instructional Design and Technology
      • Pearson eCollege is using Inside Track as a subcontractor, handling marketing and coaching. They are gathering data on applicants, including where else they are applying (the most common answer is other CSUs); many are returning CSU students. They are pleased with the number of inquiries, considering marketing has not started.
      • Inside Track also “coaches” students, much like for-profits do, on time management, etc. (though not apparently course work).
      • Thanks to the technical advice of CSUF AVCIT/CO Amir Dabarian, both DH and F’s systems “talk” with e Pearson and Inside Track.
      • Three preliminary cash flow models were reviewed (see Senator Ullman’s report for these details); they illustrate conservative, moderate, and strong growth potentials
      • More data will be gathered on projections of attrition, growth rates, etc.
      • Several EOs are in process. It was noted that the term “self support” was removed from Title 5 language. Chair John Welty said that there are currently no plans to involve state supported programs.
   b) Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs)
      Chair Yee-Melichar reports that the Joint Committee on MOOCs will convene its first meeting on March 1, 2013 via conference call/elluminate. Members of the Joint Committee will meet again during lunch at the ASCSU’s 50th Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, March 14, 2013. She has sent us the revised committee charge via email.
   c) SJSU and Udacity
      No questions or updates at this time.

9.4 Referrals to Committee
   a) Grading Structures for CSU Golden Four
See AS-3020-11/APEP/AA, Grade Minima for CSU General Education Courses in the Golden Four (http://www.calstate.edu/acadsen/Records/Resolutions/20102011/3020.shml) GEAC and AA have contributed input to addressing this item. The wording on this item needs to be very carefully handled so that it eliminates confusion.

b) Quality (value added) metrics

10. Resolutions (see attachments)
10.1 AS-3110-12/FGA, California State University (CSU) Action on Environmental Sustainability We will not cosponsor; several members have sent suggestions for improvement.

10.2 AS-3111-12/APEP, Support for the Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID) Decisions We will not cosponsor; members will send suggestions for improvement as needed.

10.3 AS-3112-12/FGA, AB 67 (Gorell) Post-Proposition 30 Freeze on Systemwide Student Fees and Tuition Increases
No input offered at this time.

10.4 AS-3113-12/AA/FGA, Request for a Task Force to Study California State University (CSU) Student Tuition Fees and Financial Aid Support
Senator Pasternack reports that he is in communication with Senator Locascio about what FGA input of such a resolution might be.

11. New Business
11.1 Discuss possible resolution on Reaffirming the Importance of Graduate Programs and Access to Those Programs
Senator Yee-Melichar will assume the lead on refining this resolution; anyone with input should offer suggestions to her. Senator Van Selst offered his assistance.

11.2 Discuss possible resolution on Support for Student Mental Health and Counseling Services
Chair Yee-Melichar thanked Senator Meilich for drafting this resolution for our consideration. Perhaps add commendation for EO 1053? Senator Boyle updated us on why ASCSU never commended this back in 2010 when it was passed; these mental health issues are ongoing concerns and need to be acknowledged and services supported. Senator Gubernat notes that cutbacks in recent years have pulled resources away from both police and mental health services; we can encourage funding. It may be difficult to recruit mental health professionals because there is a shortage of people in these areas, especially psychiatrists. Anyone with input should offer suggestions to Senators Meilich and Barrett.

11.3 Draft EO 1047 on Extended Education
Not new policy; it is a consolidation of EOs, etc. so that the policies are clear and unified. Graduate deans were consulted regarding how many units can be taken through EE and apply to graduate degrees. The word supplant is replaced; new word is “supplement.” Dr. Mallon says there were inquiries from campuses to see if courses and programs may be allowed to migrate from state to self support; Chancellor Reed said no, but Chancellor White will be looking at it. We should do a resolution to defend against supplanting.

The Bureau of State Audits is concerned about supplanting. Is it illegal if a stateside program dies and its self-support corollary thrives? Senator Boyle has offered to work on a resolution, perhaps on communication issues.

11.4 Draft legislation
Assemblyman Levine’s draft legislation: FGA is going to wait to see if this legislation is introduced. These bills have strong applications to us. We will keep this on the back burner, but will respond if the bills move forward.

11.5 Title 5 admissions requirements language.
These come from Eric Forbes. We should read through the language and see if anything adversely affects academic standards. Committee should send all comments to Chair Yee-Melichar who will collate and forward committee input if any.

12. Adjournment
Committee adjourned at 1:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Kalayjian