Academic Affairs (AA) Committee

Wednesday, March 13, 2013; 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Catalina Room, CSU Chancellor’s Office, Long Beach, CA

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

Excused:
Christine Mallon  Chancellor’s Office Liaison

Guest:
Ray Murillo  Chancellor’s Office, Student Programs

1. Welcome; Call to Order; Introductions
Chair Yee-Melichar welcomed members to the Academic Affairs Committee meeting, with a special greeting to returning Senator Shane Frehlich (CSU Northridge). The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.
2. Approval of Agenda
Approved as amended to add two items: 9.2d, discussion of online education in relation to NY Times article on “California Bill Seeks Campus Credit for Online Study;” and, 9.3, English Proficiency for Graduate Students.

3. Approval of Minutes for February 15, 2013
Approved as amended.

4. Campus and Member Announcements
CSU East Bay is expecting to be forced into semesters; the CSU East Bay senate have done a quick estimate of costs to the university and system. Senator Gubernat will make that estimate available on request.

Senator Yee-Melichar announced that SF State is celebrating the investiture of its’ 13th President, Leslie E. Wong, tomorrow. Activities throughout the week focused 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 this Friday evening. She reported that SF State hosted a successful site visit by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) on March 6-8, 2013, in connection with its accreditation.

5. Chair’s Report
Chair Yee-Melichar reported on the following information:
- ASCSU’s 50th Anniversary Celebration tomorrow will begin at 12:00noon; CSU presidents, provosts, students, alumni, CFA and CO liaisons, and friends will be joining us for discussions about shared governance in the CSU.
- ASCSU’s Sharon Van Steenwyk (Administrative Support Specialist) will be retiring; AA members were encouraged to contribute to tokens of appreciation for all her help, support and work with us. We will miss her.
- EVC Smith and AVC Vogel met with ASCSU’s Extended Executive Committee. They reported on:
  a) sequestration and its effects where some forms of work-study and grants will be affected
  b) servicemen and women on quarter campuses will not be reimbursed for the spring quarter (not all servicemen and women receive such reimbursements; this is a separate program from the GI Bill; we will be updated on this)
  c) bills in the legislature (the Logue Bill on AP credit issues; SB 440/Padilla wants to make SB 1440 law which would put curricular control in the hands of the CCC and undermine the current approach to SB 1440)
Academic Senate CSU

d) applications for Fall 2013 is at 780,000 with 300,000 unduplicated applications (up over 11%, unduplicated ahead by 9%; the number of CSU eligible applicants will be going up this fall)
e) student success initiatives have not been discussed in any detail; there will be an RFP with a focus on closing the achievement gap
f) CO is working with provosts on LOF (libraries of the future) project
g) concern about all of these bills and ACE should be articulated; this is departure from what we've done in the past
h) student visioning committee working on finance, HR, and student visioning; this will be headed by President Rush (CSU Channel Islands) and ASCSU will be represented by Senators Tarjan and Thobaben
i) there are currently 64 programs and 13,000 courses online with the 23 campus CSU.

- AB 386 and 387: FGA will be making a list of bills that are relevant to CSU; we might want to weigh in on any resolutions forthcoming from FGA on these; AA offered to go to Sacramento to discuss curricular issues along with FGA
- ASCSU may be able to stretch September plenary meeting from two to three days
- Reminder to comply with the book order deadlines to keep prices for students low; CSU Fullerton was fined (by the Office of Civil Rights) $30K for lack of compliance.
- Little Hoover Commission: Chair Guerin spoke on ASCSU’s behalf, and her report was made available to us via email attachment.

6. Liaison and Systemwide Committee and Task Force Reports

6.1. Chancellor’s Office Liaison – Dr. Christine Mallon (via email)

    Dr. Mallon was representing the CSU in Sacramento and unable to attend our meeting; however, she provided the following update:

    - Nursing transfer work continues. The ADN-to-BSN pathways website is up https://www.calstate.edu/adn-bsn/ and features advising roadmaps from CCC to CSU programs https://www.calstate.edu/adn-bsn/roadmaps.shtml, as well as nursing student and alumni testimonials https://www.calstate.edu/adn-bsn/testimonials/
    - Additionally, faculty are working on an SB 1440 alternative, a Nursing Model Curriculum, which would feature a 70 unit-to-50-unit transfer package. The Chancellor’s Office opposes a proposal to change Title 5 to allow the CCC to transfer in 80 units of nursing courses.
    - 120-unit programs can now be searched on the Search CSU Degrees website at http://degrees.calstate.edu/. San Diego State University was the first to submit its reports on reducing degrees to 120 units. Three campuses have asked for extensions to the deadline, but the deadlines (already adjusted in response to requests during
consultation period) will remain in place.

- Academic Master Plan updates will be submitted for board action March 19-20. This year campuses were allowed to resume adding state-support programs projections.
- Engineering Disciplines are being surveyed to determine any patterns in high-unit programs. Programs are asked to identify existing and proposed accommodations (like double counting/substitution) that allow a major requirement to satisfy a GE requirement, and are asked to specify any proposed accommodations that were denied. Results will be analyzed to see if there are best practices or suggested strategies for reducing required units in engineering degree programs.
- Extended Education EO has been shared with all interested groups and is going to be sent to the presidents for review. Currently the EO process is in “pause” mode while Chancellor White investigates CSU practice on generating this kind of policy.
- The State Bureau of Audits is conducting a systemwide extended education audit and is particularly interested in the “supplanting” issue. We have shared all requested information, and the agency has offered advice on the revision superseding EO 1047 on extended education.

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

- STAR Act: Relevant bill is SB 440; the move is to more formally embrace the TMC models. LAO report criticized both the CCCs and CSU for not moving forward quickly enough. This bill would force greater compliance. Dr. O’Donnell has been arguing against legislative mandate when we are moving in a positive direction; mandates would likely degrade curriculum. He would like to see the legislature offer some money for advertising and advising.

  Letter from EVC Smith to campuses to look again at BUS; 20 of 23 campuses have agreed, but the options are another issue. Campuses are being asked to look at their really popular options to see if matches can be made.

  As part of the report on STAR act issues, there was a recent meeting of ICW: Senator Van Selst reported that the CCCs may have finally understood that the CSUs need positively to affirm courses, not simply not vote against a C-ID. Looking to regularize the process of approval, but that is a complicated issue.

  On a related issue, the TMC-like process ongoing for Nursing. Currently, NURS at CCCs has an 80-unit transfer package; the CSUs have a 70 unit set. But these don’t necessarily mesh in terms of courses.

- COMPASS: Meeting of Compass last weekend was exceptionally well planned and executed.

- Graduation Initiative: Senator Pasternack noted an article on how online education may actually extend rather than shorten the time to graduation.
6.3. Executive Committee Liaison – Senator Christine Miller

- SB 520 (Steinberg). ASCSU’s Executive Committee likes the idea of AA participating in Advocacy Day on April 9. Chair Yee-Melichar is charged with identifying AA members who might be able to participate. AA members with online teaching experience would also be welcome. Senators Barrett, Boyle, and Pasternack indicated interest in representing AA on this important effort.
- Sign cards, etc. for Sharon.
- CSU presidents, provosts, students, alumni, CFA and CO liaisons, and friends will be here tomorrow; please mix and involve them in our discussion groups.
- Discussion of agenda-setting meetings that ASCSU’s Executive Committee has with the CO to weigh in on the BoT agenda. It has been the recent experience that Chancellor White himself was not in attendance and, thus, summarizing the resolutions passed at the meeting was often unnecessary. The new ask from the CO is to have our agenda five days in advance; that is going to be difficult to provide with any accuracy. So, they are looking at new opportunities with agenda settings. They will be discussing this time the quarter to semester conversion; has it been consultative or merely informational? Shared governance/leadership is also on the agenda; what will it look like with new Chancellor White? What can we expect?

6.4. Academic Technology Advisory Committee

Senator Pasternack reports that the committee has not met.

6.5. Commission on Extended University

Senator Wilson reports that the committee has not met.

6.6. General Education Advisory Committee

Senator Van Selst reported on several committee meetings. These are combined below.

- Smarter Balanced not yet ready for use; Common Core Standards are surprisingly high, but the SB test questions need work.
- ICW believes that about 95% of students are accommodated. SDSU has, indeed, agreed to a TMC for a general BUS degree that has fewer units than their standard BUS degrees.
- “Campus as a Living Lab” was a Northern California meeting on sustainability, especially emphasizing campuses as natural sites for internships in sustainable practices. STARS rating system would count courses with sustainability as a component; could ASSIST offer help for system transfer? This would be good for us to encourage. The Southern California meeting will be held on May 15, 2013.
- Compass III projects were presented at a meeting on March 7-9 at Canada Community College in Redwood City.
• Request from Santa Barbara City College for a time-limited pilot project to reduce the number of LD GEs to 35 from 39 by incorporating Oral Communications and Lifelong learning into other LD GE course sequences. GEAC gave their go-ahead for such an experiment.

7. Review of Chancellor’s Office Response to ASCSU Resolutions

Chancellor’s Office responses were reviewed with appreciation. We had a discussion about the mixed student reception of the Anti-Tobacco Product resolution. We also discussed the response to the “Towards an Evidence Based Culture...” resolution.

8. Review of Board of Trustees Agenda for March 2013

Chair Yee-Melichar directed us to the BoT Committee on Educational Policy’s agenda. There are seven items with two action items: Academic Planning (new degrees proposed/old program discontinuances by campuses) and Compliance with AB 1899. She also directed us to the BoT Committee on Governmental Relations’ agenda with a focus on the 2013-2014 Legislative Report No. 1 which contains numerous bills on online learning and alternative pathways. One bill calls for a minimum of 10% online course offerings in new academic programs. We may offer to co-sponsor resolutions with FGA if they write to these bills; we may also want to craft resolutions from AA if FGA is not responding to these bills. Senator Barrett suggested that AA may want to be included in the April Legislative Lobby Day in Sacramento to speak to curricular issues.

9. Discussion Items

9.1 A2E commitment/goal on reducing existing achievement gaps

Senator Eadie sent us two charts (provided by Ken O’Donnell) that are relevant to the question; Graduation Rates over time and Achievement Gaps by gender and ethnicity. Ken O’Donnell also directed us to a website that has greater depth: www.collegeresults.org. Senator Eadie is attending an AACU conference next month and will bring back additional information. Recent greater selectivity in the system may result in higher grad rates without any other change; however, that may have no impact on the achievement gap. We discussed the socio-economic differences of our campuses and how we might be able to analyze the available data in a meaningful way. After a very comprehensive discussion, we voted on whether we feel a study by us is timely or useful at this point. Five voted against producing a study, three in favor, and four abstentions; we therefore decided to table such a study at this time.

9.2 Online Education Initiatives

a) Cal State Online (CSO)
On March 8, 2013, CSO distributed the following: “Cal State Online Announces Financial Support to Help Launch Programs.”

b) Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs)
Chair Yee-Melichar is our representative to the CSU Joint Committee on MOOCs; for a recent teleconference, all six faculty members, one student, and two provosts called in. They clarified the committee charge (the charge is available in the Drop Box). A report or white paper will be produced by May 23. Senator Eadie (SDSU) reported that his campus had a Stanford representative come to discuss the Stanford MOOCs; Stanford has two intentions—to increase interest in Stanford internationally, and to create supplements to current traditional courses, e.g., to enable flipping classes.

c) Udacity and SJSU
Senator Van Selst reports that he is concerned about the impact of MOOCs and CalStateOnline on GE. So far, CalStateOnline is targeting transfer students. There are 4000 students (plus 50 SJSU students, 50 high school students for SJSU credit) signed up for the Stats SJSU course, perhaps best described as a mini-MOOC. This appears to be a successful experiment, at least for the Stats course.

d) The NY article, “California Bill Seeks Campus Credit for Online Study,” refers to SB 520 (Steinberg). We deferred further discussion in light of the formation of a work group that includes AA representative, Senator Pasternack.

9.3 English Writing Proficiency for Graduate Students
After a brief discussion, we decided against any action on this issue at this time.

10. Resolutions
http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/

10.1 AS-3113-12/AA/FGA, Request for a Task Force to Study California State University (CSU) Student Tuition Fees and Financial Aid Support
We discussed the changes to this resolution suggested by FGA as co-sponsor, and made some additional changes in preparation for second reading.

10.2 We crafted the following resolution for presentation as a first reading item: Reaffirming the Importance of Graduate Programs and Access to Those Programs

10.3 We welcomed Ray Murillo who advised us on elements of a new resolution on Mental Health and Counseling Services. The current chart (not presently to be referenced in the rationale) probably skews higher than reality, though 22 of 23 campuses do not meet
recommended minimum standards (approximately 1 counselor to 1500 students). Systemwide, the ratio is probably 1 counselor to 2500 students. He will report in May with improved data. CalMHSA is the agency that has issued an initiative and provided support to improve the current situation of access to mental health services throughout the California public school system. Funding (from an increase in campus fees) has enabled improvements, but the CSU as a whole is far from the recommended ratio of counselors to students. We drafted a resolution, Support for Student Mental Health and Counseling Services, as a first reading item.

10.4 We improved a draft resolution, Recognition of EO 1047, Extended Education and Self-Support Courses and Programs, for presentation as a first reading item.

10.5 We amended the first draft of a new resolution on Clarifying the Changing Expectations for General Education for presentation as a first reading item.

10.6 We recommended some editorial changes for a new resolution on SB 520 (Steinberg) California Open Education Resources Council that we will co-sponsor with APEP and FGA.

11. **Adjournment**
Chair Yee-Melichar adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Kalayjian