Academic Affairs (AA) Committee

Minutes
Friday, February 12, 2016, 10:00am-1:00p

Agenda

1. Welcome; Call to Order; Introductions
   Called to order 10:06 with a quorum. Sheila Thomas representing Chris Mallon was present from Chancellor’s Office

2. Approval of Agenda  Approved

3. Approval of Minutes (January 2016; Dropbox)  Approved

4. Chair’s Report
   4.1 Extended Executive Committee
   Quant reasoning task force will meet in Feb in Sacramento. Bill and Catherine will be there.

   Issues at BoT meeting include: time to degree, super senior and SUGs.

   Two potential state legislative bills may be of interest to Academic Affairs and are worthy of watchful attention
   1. State Senator Glaser – 4 year graduation rate bill. He looking at campuses with 4yr promise/guarantee programs. He estimates that these programs if ramped up could save the state $40 million
   2. Another potential bill would prohibit faculty from using extra software and limit additional fees. The idea is faculty should not use extra software if the feature is available in Blackboard or Moodle. We will check if this is a textbook bundling issue.

   Background check – VC Lori Lamb has met and will continue to meet with relevant ASCSU committees. VC Lamb doesn’t think concerns are much of a problem after checking with campuses, most concern is coming from students. The CSU has changed providers.

5. Pending Business
   5.1 How to Distinguish Between Masters/Bachelors Degrees (Glen, Jodie, Cliona; November Dropbox)

   This is on hold.
5.2 AS-3245-16/AA Selection of Faculty to Serve on Campus Honorary Degree Committees (First Reading Follow up, Simone; Dropbox)

Discussed input from first reading.

5.3 Tracking Associate Degrees for Transfer (Draft Resolution, Kevin; January 15 Dropbox)

5.4 Discipline Councils (Cliona)
Revive and promote discipline councils.

We had a helpful discussion about the variety of ways discipline councils meet and are formed. There seems to be much variability in methods and procedures. Cliona will continue to explore this issue, especially the alternative methods to meet. This is an important issue but doesn’t rise to level of a resolution at this point.

5.5 Measuring Graduation Rates
There is a need accurate data IPEDs data is inaccurate in graduation rates. Now we have 4-5, 5-6 year grad rates. We graduate a lot in 5 years and not so many in 6. Maybe we need a resolution sent to IPEDs. Adding our voice to the national conversation would be helpful.

We would contact Ed Sullivan for IPEDs issue of data accuracy. We will ask him for discussion during our March meeting.

http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/

6. Liaison and Systemwide Committee and Task Force Reports
http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Committees/SystemwideCommList.shtml

6.1 Chancellor’s Office Liaisons
1) Sheila Thomas representing Chris Mallon, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs and Faculty Development

Sheila – Kudos to Glen for valuable input at the Commission of Extended Ed meeting

Master's Degree Requirements: Analysis taking longer than expected. We just discovered that some campuses reported the same program more than once (such as entering the program as a thesis option and non-thesis option). This is being cleaned up and is expected to have some impact on the analysis conducted so far. From what we see, however, there seems to be a small proportion of programs that require less than half fully graduate courses. One was entered as requiring no graduate-only courses.

Health Reports due March 1st for all degree, certificate, and credential programs that require students (as part of their education) to provide health-related services (as in nursing and athletic training programs). In answer to an audit report, campuses are
required to distribute related policy to the affected programs and to verify policy compliance—or make corrections as necessary.

Faculty Development Centers and ITL are looking at alternative dates for the CSU Teaching Symposium, which had been scheduled for the dates now identified for CFA strike.

The California Pre-Doctoral Program has received 60 summer-research applications from its 2015-16 scholars. The director would be happy to give a presentation on this program, if the committee wishes.

We are working on redesigning the Degrees Database to work as a PeopleSoft product. At the same time, we are working on redesigning the related Search CSU Degrees website, to achieve improved search capabilities. We need help getting the word out that campuses can post recruitment videos in the Degrees Database, which them makes the video available to users of the Search CSU Degrees website. Links directly to programs are also underutilized, with many campuses having simply inserted links to the campus rather than to the specific program.

2) Ken O'Donnell, Senior Director, Student Engagement and Academic Initiatives and Partners – **Time Certain: 11:30am**

Comments on the SB 1440 Resolution. Perhaps the last 4 or 5 lines are an overstatement. The data on incoming students is not as solid. Also, the CSU is bound by law to produce by law to produce the kind of report we are asking for. Does this requirement make resolution moot? Maybe not. We may want to insert language that this is consistent with law.

New AVP of research replacing Zed Mason in position. Comes with engineering background. Doesn’t start until June. Zed is returning on a halftime basis from retirement. The new AVP believes research and teaching are mutually supportive. We will invite him for one of our next meetings.

3) Ex Comm Report
Potential Strike – ICAS advocacy days are during this time. They will see if they can change the date.

CSU and CFA still working on academic freedom issues

RISCA – yes, it will be a line item on CSU budget

Tenure density – moving forward with a task force

Gates Foundation looking at the cost for a degree at the UC?
14) Commission on Online Learning
Lots of discussion on a variety of shared governance issues. There may be a perceived lack of sensitivity to faculty. Many issues at campus level despite campus level policies.

8. Member Items/Campus Reports/Potential New Projects
Graduate Rates we need accurate data. IPEDs data is inaccurate in graduation rates because we have 4 year and 6 year rates when actually we graduate a lot in 5 years. IPEDs misses the 4-5 and 5-6 range. We may need a resolution about this issue sent to IPEDs, adding our voice to the national conversation would be helpful.

We will contact Ed Sullivan for IPEDs issue of data accuracy. We will ask him for discussion during our March meeting.

7. Adjournment