Teacher Education and K-12 Relations Committee

Minutes

March 5th, 2008
Office of the Chancellor: Room 410, 10:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Otto Benavides, Fresno, Curriculum and Instruction;
Bob Buckley, Chair, Sacramento, Computer Science;
Calvin Caplan, East Bay, Kinesiology and Physical Education;
Marshall Cates, Los Angeles, Mathematics;
Kathleen Kaiser, Chico, Sociology;
Barbara Swerkes, Northridge, Kinesiology;
Lillian Vega-Castaneda, Channel Islands, Language, Culture & Literacy Education;
Jim Wheeler, Vice Chair, Maritime, Chemistry

Members Absent:

Ex Officio: Dr. Beverly Young, Assistant Vice Chancellor or Teacher Education and Public School Programs (presenting at an AACTE conference; California’s teacher performance assessment requirements).

Time-certain: 10:00 a.m. Members of the Committee joined with members of the other three standing committees in a meeting with the Executive Committee to discuss the impact of the Chancellor’s proposed 10% cut to the ASCSU budget and Senate’s response. Each committee was asked to discuss various budget cutting scenarios and to prepare recommendations for consideration by the Executive Committee

TEKR convened, officially, at 10:45 a.m.

1. The Committee reviewed budget-reduction documents provided by the Executive Committee. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee voted to forward recommendations to the Executive Committee. The vote was unanimous but for one abstention. The recommendations were subsequently conveyed to the Executive Committee by the Committee chair.

   At 11:45, the Committee continued with the March 5th, 2008 agenda.

2. Open Forum (no major issues were raised).

3. The regular agenda was approved as presented.

4. The minutes of the February 8th, 2008 meeting were approved as amended.

5. A brief follow-up report was made by the Chair of discussions at the meeting of the four Committee chairs and the Executive Committee.

   The Committee discussed the “Troops to College” initiative. There was unanimous support for its intent, but the Committee expressed concern over the lack of funding to support this effort and
consequently the impact that pursuing this initiative would have in light of the significant budget reductions facing the CSU.

6. The Committee approved unanimously the proposed Bylaws revisions, which included the name change and the clarification of the revised charge of the Committee.

The Committee unanimously approved the following: “The committee shall evaluate and make recommendations on matters effecting and influencing 1) students prior to matriculation within the CSU system and 2) programs in the CSU that provide for the professional development of public school teachers, administrators, and counselors. In addition, the committee will maintain liaison relationship with CSU colleges and schools of education, community colleges and K-12 schools.”

7. Review of Second Reading resolution:

AS-2834-08/TEKR: Support for the California State University (CSU) Request to Delay Implementation of the New State-Mandated Teacher Performance Assessments

No additional changes had been suggested at the January Plenary and no changes were made.

8. Other Business for consideration:

A. The Committee briefly discussed the comments forwarded to the Executive Committee related to the final draft of the Access to Excellence report.

The Committee spent the remainder of the day preparing the following First Reading resolutions for presentation to the Senate:

B. EAP Assessment – With just two years of EAP history, the resolution calls for an assessment of EAP efforts within the CSU in order to better understand its effectiveness in decreasing the remediation rates of students entering the CSU as first time freshmen. Drafting pair: Cal and Otto.

C. Remediation: Recognize the current documented success of remediation efforts at the campuses throughout the CSU and the apparent lack of such recognition in the report presented to the Board of Trustees, the resolution would formally recognize these successes and recommend continued support for campus-based remediation efforts and have this resolution forwarded to campuses. Drafting pair: Kathy and Lillian.

D. Based upon a request from the CCC, ICAS gave approval for the CSU to join with UC and Community College colleagues to update the State’s high school mathematics competency statement. Given the contentiousness of the previous work that developed the current statements, the Committee strongly recommends close oversight over this process and close collaboration with the faculty representatives from the CSU that will be involved in this latest effort. This enterprise is fraught with difficulties that only those familiar with the history of the promulgation of the mathematics competency statement could be expected to appreciate. A goodly number of mathematics initiatives, including the EAP, the ELM testing program, commentary and guidance offered through Focus on Mathematics, and the California State High School Mathematics Standards, all were crafted to be compatible with the mathematics competency statement, and would be fundamentally impacted by and revisions to the statement. Drafting pair: Marshall and Bob.
9. Committee response to the request from the Executive Committee to consider requiring all transfer students to have successfully completed the equivalent of two years of a single foreign language in high school. *Deferred.*

10. Follow-up concerning TEKR’s recommendations to Academic Affairs regarding high school graduation requirements and the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). The Chair reported that the Committee’s recommendation had been conveyed to the Chair of Academic Affairs; namely, that the CSU has no authority over setting of high school graduation requirements and consequently the Senate should take no position on this issue.

11. **Updates/Ongoing Business**
   
   (a) Office of the Chancellor Updates and Anticipated Issues for 2007-08 (deferred)
   (b) Tracker-scout reports on TEKR related issues (deferred)

12. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m., with a follow-up session schedule for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday to finalize language of new resolutions.