Minutes
ASCSU Extended Executive Committee
Interim Meeting
Zoom/Teleconference
5 December 2014
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order: 8:37 a.m.

2. Attendance
Julie Chisholm, Bill Eadie, Steve Filling, Denise Fleming, Manzar Foroohar, Susan Gubernat, Diana Guerin, Tom Krabacher, Chris Miller, Praveen Soni, Steven Stepanek

3. Approval of Agenda
Approved

4. Approval of Minutes, November 5, 2014
Approved

5. Announcements
None

6. Reports
6.1 Academic Affairs—Bill Eadie, Chair
Eadie reported that the committee will be short a number of people who had other commitments; he expected that not many decisions would be made, given that as many as ½ the members could be absent. His plan was to review past actions. On the agenda are the recent changes to EO 1065 and advice to the Chancellor on SB 850, that is, how to review the baccalaureate proposals from community colleges for the pilot project.

The committee will review members’ individual projects—the farthest along being those related to active learning and to assessment. The committee is still waiting to hear the results of the Ethnic Studies task force as well as to learn more about the intermediate algebra requirement currently under discussion. CO Liaisons, including Ken O’Donnell, will be present at 11; he expects to hear
quite a bit from both O'Donnell and Chris Mallon on a number of issues. He also expects that the committee will be done quite a bit early, as early as noon.

6.2 Academic Preparation and Education Programs—Denise Fleming, Chair
The committee will be meeting at 11 a.m. They will consider sharing responsibility for the January social with AA. Eric Forbes will report on the Early Start implementation group; Fleming understands that there is a significant increase in the number of conditional exempts and will get some clarification on that. There could be a policy shift and the numbers could go up quite a bit. She has been in contact with English Council members to discuss their perspectives on possibly resetting the grade of the ERWC from “C” to the original “B” that expert faculty had proposed. There are also disagreements, she has found, among English Council members as to whether that course should serve as a vehicle for exempt status. The committee will also talk about the ACT report, and the recommendations just coming in pertaining to preparation in K-12. She will call Bev Young to see what the liaison possibility is to discuss preparation and entry for secondary teachers. Does the CO have any money for such?

The committee will discuss the REAP reading institute for academic preparation: grant-based, campus projects providing training for secondary teachers in content areas in literacy methods and critical thinking; the institute seems to have been a good vehicle, successful.

6.3 Faculty Affairs—Manzar Foroohar, Chair
Though a couple of people are not able to join, Foroohar expects a full meeting. Most of the time is scheduled to be spent on revising two resolutions, one on the need for a system-wide policy on academic freedom, and the other on the role of non-tenure track faculty in shared governance. Both resolutions have been revised by their authors, and the revisions are in dropbox. She wants to ensure that comments from the floor at the last plenary and via email have been implemented. There is a possible draft for a first reading that would be requesting more resources for recruiting t/t faculty. The committee has tried unsuccessfully to find some data on recruitment and retention of MPP positions, in order to compare those data with data showing the recruitment of t/t faculty. Margie Merryfield did not have access to such data, nor did CFA, according to Andy Merrifield. Data is available only up to 2009, with some data for 2011. Another issue: revisiting the 1987 report on RSCA. Funding is supposed to be based on a formula in that report but has not been recently; the committee want to analyze the formula based on new data. The committee may also be interested in exploring, in a new resolution, the impact of corporate interference on academic freedom in the CSU. This is just a suggestion, and more needs to be done to see if it is even feasible. Again, a lot of data collection is required, and it’s not clear if such a resolution is even feasible at this point.

Foroohar posed a question to Exec: The Chancellor is changing the presidents’ review process – do we have any idea about the details of this process? Trustee Stepanek said that he will try to see what the Chancellor has put together about the presidential review. Every year, presidents are supposed to put together a two-year plan and to update it yearly for the Chancellor’s review. This is just now being phased in with campus presidents expected to come before the BOT in closed session.

Foroohar also inquired about what is being done for Senator Frehlich and his family; Chair Filling said he would send out a call to the ASCSU list soon.
6.4 Fiscal & Governmental Affairs—Thomas Krabacher, Chair
Krabacher also acknowledged that his committee would be short some people for most of the meeting. There are no second-reading items currently on the agenda. A first reading item for January plenary will thank those who were key in getting AB 2324 (trustee legislation) approved and signed. Krabacher suggested that Chair Filling also write with thanks to key people, including Das Williams, Karen Yelverton-Zamarripa, the Chancellor, etc. Krabacher emphasized the importance of such gestures as letters of thanks and a formal resolution of commendation in establishing and maintaining good working relationships.

The committee will review the 2015-16 legislature membership and proposed legislation; it was very useful to get the list of new committee chairs in the legislature. FGA will be monitoring key items, particularly SB 850, where the CCCs are being especially aggressive in establishing baccalaureate programs. It will be important to start monitoring legislative reaction to the implementation process; if there is a big success there may be a temptation to go further. Krabacher plans to be in the Capitol to talk to members about it and has discussed strategy with Chair Eadie of AA to see if they might coordinate the two committees’ efforts on both SB 850 and SB 15, both being Block bills. There is some interest, too, in following the talk about amending UC’s independence.

Possible “homework” assignments for the committee include a legislative scorecard (CSSA has already done one). Originally, FGA and Exec had found this undesirable for a number of reasons but it may be worth re-examining. Other possible issues: the use of campus foundation funds; MBA fees and the achievement gap; implications for higher ed and Internet access of the Time/Warner merger. As they go forward planning for January and preliminary advocacy, the committee also must start working on an omnibus resolution on bills in the legislature for the March plenary. Chair Filling requested that the committee add Cal Facts to their agenda and put in in their dropbox.

6.5 Chair’s Report
Chair Filling reported on the Commission on Online Education meeting. While they are making noise about becoming a major force, they don’t seem to be meeting much. According to Gerry Hanley, by next fall, any online course anywhere in the CSU will be in CourseMatch; the system is “almost here,” for fall 2015 in fulfilling the requirements of AB 386. He would like this put on the agenda for AA. There are implications for campuses and for students.

At yesterday’s campus chairs meeting there was an animated conversation about GE issues and the morass campuses are in about the “menu” approach to GE. Other significant issues were 120/180 processes and shared governance, in general.

Finally, regarding the task force on Financial Sustainability on which he and Trustee Stepanek serve, he directed people to the website where their work products will be posted.

7. Old Business
7.1 Attendance at Interims
Filling discussed his concerns about senators missing interim meetings—though not always for reasons within their control—but he urged chairs to emphasize their responsibility to attend. He said he wanted to hear from chairs why senators could not make meetings, or at times have asked to rearrange a set schedule, for example, as happened in October. Are the reasons based on some other, one-time professional commitment? A family emergency? Committee chairs’ answered sometimes the absences were circumstantial; FA always has had a quorum, for example, but
meetings are too short and not as much gets done as can get done face to face. Some senators have responsibilities for meetings in other committees of the CSU, e.g., the Extended Ed Commission scheduled while committee meetings are going on, so it is important to have better coordination of scheduling with the CO to avoid such overlaps in senators’ responsibilities. The CO may show some disregard for our set schedule, as is happening now with scheduling the Financial Sustainability task force during committee meetings/plenary. And the committee liaisons from Exec all need to be scheduled in at roughly the same time, or they too will have to be in two places at once, since the Exec committee is meeting all day as well. It was suggested that existing technology beyond teleconferencing, such as Zoom, might make the interims more productive.

7.2 Liaison visit time noon; 12:15 for FA

8. New Business
None

8.1 Other
None