ACCSU Executive Committee Retreat  
CSU Stanislaus  
July 11, 2014  
Minutes

Present: Julie Chisholm, Steven Filling, Susan Gubernat, Diana Guerin, Chris Miller, Praveen Soni

1. Approval of Agenda: Approved as amended.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 17 teleconference: Approved.

3. Announcements: Gubernat announced an update on the PFD (planning for distinction) processes at East Bay that were completed in June and that involve recommendations for reallocation of funds among instructional programs, based on a four-part ranking system, which could result in program changes and/or eliminations. Sacramento State having gone through the same exercise recognized it as faulty and has made no changes. It was suggested that such initiatives may be related to Trustee Glazer’s repeated requests to hear about program elimination rather than new program augmentation.

4. Reports
Legislation: All but four items on the omnibus resolution from FGA that was approved during the May plenary are now in appropriations until August 4. SB 2324 is on the Senate floor waiting for a 3rd reading and should go straight to Governor Brown. The question was raised: Will there be an official letter of support from CFA? From the ASCSU? From the Chancellor? Guerin volunteered to write a note to Andy and to KYZ asking for guidance about how to proceed. Mid-August? The Chair will write a letter to legislative leadership in support, then follow up in mid-August with a similar letter to the Governor as well as to ask ASCSU Senators to send a standard letter of support to their local legislators. The Chair will supply the wording for this letter. In addition, the Chair plans to speak with the Senate minority leader for counsel on how best to proceed in seeking support and to ask the Chancellor to weigh in with the Governor. It was asserted that the ASCSU might experience a better standing with the legislature if we can register a positive message rather than the usual objections.

The situation of various bills was discussed. We are now in a position of support for AB 2610 because it has subsumed 2153 in a revision. The Chair will issue an email to the body asking if there are any objections to changing to this support position, with an explanation of the change. Likewise, SB 1325 is now AB 46, and this will be noted as part of the aforementioned email, together with a reminder of where the ASCSU stands on our four “priority” bills: 850, 1196 2092, 202 in order to “close the loop” on current legislation.
Jay Swartz (CSU Pomona) has been appointed Legislative Analyst for this year. The Chair will consult with him about the letters of support he will provide the legislative leadership and the governor (see above). The current Legislative Analyst description will be placed on our next agenda; the Chair will then share it with past Legislative Analyst Tom Krabacher and with Swartz for advice about any needed changes. It was suggested that the three get together to discuss the description after the Executive Committee reviews it, as determined by the bylaws, and in light of the evolving role of the position as the ASCSU has begun to pass omnibus legislative resolutions and of the fact that the analyst is not now, nor necessarily will be in future, based in Sacramento.

Office staffing/procedures: There is a need for more written documentation on activities and procedures, and for documentation on available resources and agreements made within the CO. More detail on last year’s ASCSU budget needs to be available; with an eye to this year’s budget, the Chair would like access to Peoplesoft. At the very least, a monthly budget report of where things stand for the ASCSU budget seems in order. The Chair will also seek clarification on reporting relationships and roles and responsibilities. He will install videoconferencing software in the Senate office in order to conduct weekly meetings with the office staff.

NEA/AAUP Conferences: The Chair attended the recent NEA conference and cited as a highlight the vilification of Obama’s Education Secretary Arnie Duncan by those assembled. Next week (July 16-19) the Chair will attend the summer institute of the AAUP in New York, along with Faculty Affairs Chair Manzar Foroohar. A major part of the program will be devoted to academic freedom issues as well as to campus violence against women issues.

Calendar: The “agenda-setting” meeting with the Chancellor has been scheduled for Monday, July 21, 1-2 PM. Filling, Guerin, and Soni plan to be present and will meet an hour earlier at noon in the Senate office; others can join via videoconference. The intent is to discuss the responses to May resolutions and this year’s priorities with the Chancellor. Also, July 21, 3-5 pm: The first meeting of the Commission on Online Education, which had been postponed earlier. The Chair, who is ex officio, will attend, as will the senators on the commission. It is unclear if there will be the usual meeting with the CSSA before BOT.

Schedule of BOT Attendance for the year for the Executive Members, who will attend along with the Chair:

July 22: Guerin (in the pm)
September 9-10: Gubernat
November 12-13: Chisholm
January 27-28: Miller
March 24-25: Soni
May 19-20: Guerin

Other calendar dates for the Senate Chair:
July 24- Meeting on Smarter Balanced (web-based).
July 28-9 Colorado WICHE (Western Interstate Commission on Higher Ed). Chair will share the agenda with Exec. Mark Van Selst will also attend along with Ken O’Donnell.
August 2: CSSA meeting in Sonoma. Chisholm will attend in place of the Chair.
August 7-8 Extended Exec Retreat at the CO, Long Beach. Meeting to include Standing Committee Chairs, all of whom, except for the Chair of FGA, can attend as well as committee liaisons, EVC Smith, etc. Exec will convene at 10 AM on August 7; will plan for dinner with committee chairs.

August 29: System Budget Committee/Long Beach. Chair Filling, Vice Chair Miller, and Chair and Vice Chair of FGA attending.

Executive Committee members are requested to email their summer vacation schedules and fall teaching schedules to the Chair along with cell phone numbers and acceptable contact times. Please check email daily.

**Budget Information:** There is no information about the final 2014-15 ASCSU budget; the Chair will speak with Ron Vogel when Vogel returns from vacation to inquire about when the budget numbers will be released. Pressing issues such as release time for those third senators requiring it and summer stipends for Exec remain unresolved. The Chair will consult with the Chancellor about the senate’s need for timely information on the budget.

**Newsletter:** Gubernat reported on the last June issue, including some irregularities that made editing difficult and urged everyone to read it and be involved. (Subscriptions are automatic for senators.) Chisholm will take on the newsletter responsibilities this year and will pursue ways to enhance its processes.

5. **Old Business:**

5.1 **Academic Conference:** There is a pressing need to clarify assumptions about the ultimate costs of the event and who will bear such costs, including campuses’ responsibilities to pay for their team’s travel and registration fees—assumptions about those fees also being an issue that needs to be clarified with the Chancellor. The Chair will discuss with the Chancellor during a meeting on 7/15 what the expectations for funding are as well as to establish the Chancellor’s direct involvement in the conference. Guerin reported on the history of the development/reinstatement of the Academic Conference, including shared assumptions about its purpose and funding. She noted that the Chancellor had earlier committed $150,000 over a three-year period, $50,000 per year. The first year was skipped due to time pressure for organizing an event so quickly, thus, there should be $100,000 to be counted on for this year’s conference. In a series of meetings that involved then-Faculty Trustee Cheyne it was decided that, instead of a yearly meeting, the ASCSU should have the first under our belts before proceeding and planning for, perhaps, a biannual affair, divided between north and south locations, etc. The understanding was that those involved, including campus presidents, the trustees, and the Chancellor himself would be present for the entire conference, which would run from noon on Thursday, immediately following the BOT meeting to accommodate the trustees, in particular, until noon Friday. The Chancellor emphasized that there should be ample time provided for conversation and relationship-building. The issue is now raised: If the Chancellor himself now cannot be present, is there a conference, as originally conceived and planned? And who is bearing the various costs? Miller suggests she’s estimated a back-of-the-envelope final figure of about $131,000 needed to fully fund it. The Chair will present a bottom-line figure of no more than $150,000 to the Chancellor and will ask for clarification of the above plans and assumptions.

5.2 **CO Responses to May Resolutions:** AS-3166: Requires clarification and discussion of the process by which exception request are proceeding since the Chancellor had agreed that exception requests from campuses would not be blocked by presidents. AS-3167: On the formation of discipline councils: The Senate needs to respond perhaps through establishing a task force; following up on SB 1440, how can faculty be organized around discipline-centered issues endemic to transfer, for example? This could be referred to a committee to move forward on the issue as well as to discuss how to proceed with Ron Vogel. (It was also suggested that the senators be asked to revisit the Pasternack/Nelson paper on how to write effective resolutions.) AS-3169: Online modalities: a joint task force with CO membership needs to
be established and should include Senators Chisholm and Eudey to represent the ASCSU. AS-3171: The CO response is disappointing. More consultation with graduate deans/provosts and graduate faculty on the Title 5 language is in order. It was suggested to send it back to the distribution list with a reminder to respond. AS-3172: Reiterate position, with actions as noted earlier. AS-3173: RSCA eligibility: Resend especially to campus senate chairs to raise the issue of eligibility for lecturers; also, raise the issue at the Chairs Council in September.

5.3 The Mallon Report: The report notes “Suggested strategies for reducing units”—what are these? It is important to remind the CO that no decisions are to be made during the summer through prior agreement. Need to schedule a phone conference with AA Chair Eadie re. this report. The Chair will also distribute the report widely (to ASCSU senators and senate chairs), together with a copy of AS-3166 and the CO response to that resolution, with a request that senate chairs forward it to Engineering deans and department chairs. Meanwhile, the Executive Committee needs to weigh in on this process: who is the group reviewing exceptions? Trustee Stepanek, and others mentioned by the Chancellor, were supposed to be on a task force. Who are the discipline faculty reviewing the requests?

7.2 Quarter-unit campuses: Since quarter-unit campuses often do not use the full amount budgeted to them, it was suggested that the ASCSU send to such campuses only the amount of units that can be used. Can we then find a way to reserve such units for future use? Also, what would it cost the ASCSU to round out the quarter units in order to grant quarter-unit campus faculty who serve on committees one course off per term? Do we have the budget? The Chair will explore alternatives and will also determine the amount of assigned time for the Legislative Analyst.

7.3 Excom Tasks: New Senator Orientation: Soni will take the lead on this and make the determination about how to structure orientation sessions. Slide presentation and other materials are available for him to use and should be updated. Another focus for his efforts might be on ICAS’ relationship with the legislature, LAO, etc.

6. Appointments: Sustainability/The Living Lab project: The Chair will put out a call to the ASCSU for a volunteer and a follow-up if none is forthcoming. Senator Aloisio is to be formally appointed; the call is for a second senator. There will be a conference in October so it is important to have representation by then.

7.1 ASCSU Assigned Time: Assigned time involves responsibility for interim committee teleconference work as well as for attendance and participation at plenary sessions. Committee chairs might discuss how to engage their membership. (Past chairs have actually called senators who did not show up.) Could expectations for service be laid out more specifically? This could be part of the orientation. For example, there is a need to clarify who is to do a report on their committee assignments. Should such be put in the written contract that senators sign for their release time? Also: the Chair will look into which 3rd Senator may need assigned time for this year.

9. ExEx/CO Liaisons Retreat: See discussion above. The Chair will send out an email detailing the schedule to all involved.

10. Priorities: For Excom: There will be an opportunity to brainstorm on line and have a teleconference before the event of August 7. Enduring priorities are those that have existed already: shared governance, quality, and communication; performance-based metrics might be added. The Executive Committee is asked to consider: What are the burning issues to be addressed? In light of that, it will be important to
obtain Committee Chairs’ reports from last year and to direct committees to base some of their plans on priorities identified in the reports.

11. Agenda for July 21 meeting with Chancellor and Cabinet: A short teleconference will be scheduled through a Doodle poll to discuss the agenda-setting meeting with the Chancellor on July 21.

Note: Please add anything that I missed by leaving early including time of adjournment. THANKS!