Minutes
ASCSU Executive Committee Plenary Meeting
November 5, 2014
Munitz Room, CSU Chancellor’s Office

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

1. Call to Order: 8:09 a.m.

2. Extended Executive Committee
   2.1 Times Certain - 8:30-10:00 Extended Executive Committee
       Standing Committee Liaisons 3:30-4:00

3. Approval of Agenda: approved with addition of time certain (with Senator Krabacher)

4. Approval of Minutes
   F2F Sept 3-4, approved as amended
   October 16 teleconference approved
   October 10 deferred until afternoon to give time for review

5. Announcements
   East Bay is holding a celebration on Friday, March 13, 2015 of the AAUP’s 100th anniversary and in honor of former Senator Hank Reichman's retirement. Guest speakers will be announced. Details to follow. All invited.

6. Reports
   6.1 Chair’s Report
   The Search for EVC is on track with an expectation of an offer and acceptance by year's end. Because of confidentiality requirements, per the General Counsel, no further details can be forthcoming.
   Academic Conference: The Chair talked with Jessica yesterday about the revised closing panel, as suggested by the planning committee: It will consist of the Chancellor, BOT

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominquez Hills
East Bay
Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy
Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego
San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus
Chair Monville, Chair Filling, CSSA President Daniel Clark, and guest speaker Suzanne Mettler. Each participant will have a two-minute opening statement; index cards will be provided attendees to offer questions in writing for panel to address. To eliminate duplicates, Julie, Steve, and Jessica will sort through them initially. Chris will moderate the panel. There were about a half-dozen recent additions to the registrants, including two provosts and more students; Trustee Glazer will stay until 2:45. BOT agenda is now so full that the meeting likely will not be done as timely as usual; there may be a need to shift activities around. The Dumke will not be available for a start until 2 pm. Diana complimented those involved in the conference planning, Chris and all, for a great team effort, and expressed the hope that the conference goals will be accomplished.

6.2 Vice Chair’s Report

Chris reviewed the changes to scheduling of the Academic Conference necessitated by the timing of the upcoming BOT meeting.

6.3 Other: n/a

7. Old Business

7.1 Academic Conference update: see above

7.2 Modes of Instruction Workgroup [Chris Mallon, Sheila Thomas]
Senators appointed:
Julie Chisholm (Maritime)
Robert Collins (San Francisco)
Deborah Roberts (Sonoma)

7.3 Discipline Councils Workgroup [Eric Forbes, Gerry Hanley]
Senators appointed:
Cliona Murphy (Bakersfield)
Kevin Baaske (Los Angeles)
Mark Van Selst (San Jose)

7.4 Working as a group [time certain 13:00]
- dropbox
- f2f interim meeting
- various email lists

Dropbox: Not always clear how to use it: an archive? A place of first resort? And what to do about outdated files that make it difficult to distinguish among many similarly named folders? It has become hard to navigate. Members suggested that email is a more direct, efficient way to communicate: Why are we complicating people’s lives further? Could folders in Dropbox be better organized, with levels that could make them more useful? Some felt Dropbox was particularly useful for larger documents, but versions of resolutions for the plenary need to be time-stamped, and there should be a single place to
find plenary resolutions. In general, Dropbox needs to be curated better. Otherwise, people are just “dumping” material into it. We need to make rules about using Dropbox; it requires an “administrator.” Right now, it is not always possible to assume that everyone is looking at the same folder at the same time. One suggestion was to use Dropbox for the plenary only. Further thought needs to be given to better uses of Dropbox. Julie and Steve F. will give further thought to how to make the use of Dropbox better and report back.

Email lists: Questions were raised about the proliferation of these lists. One answer is that requests from committees were not to include CO liaisons and staff in all lists. Faculty-only lists have been therefore designated as such. To clarify: the Excom Faculty list does not include Tracy or Trustee Stepanek. It was suggested that the full Excom list be used administratively, not when there is a substantive issue and/or some need for confidentiality among Excom members. But there has been a problem with not knowing who is getting the email on a particular list; shouldn’t members merely construct their own lists when they want to be selective in determining who’s receiving the correspondence? It is important to make clear who is, and is not, part of any dialogue. Former senators, for example, can read the ASCSU list, but cannot respond. (Meanwhile, it was noted, there are a number of lists for administrators that do not include faculty.) When office staff need to be part of a conversation, it was suggested, they can be directly included. And it is further a given that Excom lists are not to be forwarded. It was suggested that Steve S. should be included in the faculty listing for Excom.

The group discussed, in general, Excom’s working relationship. The Chair urged the group to consider that members are really trying and to assume people are doing their best to fulfill their obligations. Our work this year seems to be expanding, so let’s try to be more positive in how we communicate, and be helpful to one another. Also, the Chair drew attention to the matter of tone in email communications among ourselves.

Face-to-Face Interims: Perhaps we need to schedule these for Excom, as we seem to have difficulty getting through all our agenda items. If a face-to-face meeting with the Chancellor and his cabinet could dovetail with our face-to-face interim, it would make sense and not be seen as a privilege that Excom provided itself while other committees do not have the same opportunity. We seem to be doing more than ever before on Excom; a regular one-hour phone meeting weekly may be in order, as necessary, as would getting the minutes of meetings out more quickly.

7.5 Debrief on Chancellor Meeting /Timing

Having shifted the so-called agenda-setting meeting to the month in between the plenary and interims, do we want to continue to schedule such meetings, given that the Chancellor is unable to meet with Excom the same week as the BOT meets, as was past practice? A significant loss, some felt, has been experienced in Excom’s not being able to meet regularly, face to face, with the Chancellor and cabinet; video may not be a solution in all cases. Given the change in timing of such meetings, Excom cannot now apprise the Chancellor of what to expect from the resolutions passed at plenary and may thus lose
whatever influence Excom might have over his perception of the resolutions. What has also been missed is meeting with CSSA immediately following their meeting with the Chancellor; we are no longer able to message with the students, or have the kind of cross-talk essential to our engagement with them on matters of mutual concern. While we are being accommodating of the Chancellor’s schedule, we are meanwhile experiencing a certain communication deficit. Members felt it was important to meet with the entire cabinet and to have a conference call with CSSA. The Chair noted some difficulty arranging for the latter as the leadership in CSSA has changed; while trying to respect their schedule, the Chair will attempt to re-establish a Monday teleconference with CSSA and Excom in future.

7.6 120/180 update

There was initial discussion on what to do in response to the materials obtained re. Siegall’s consultancy for the CO, in particular, his 120/180 final report dated 15 October 2013, which describes the fact that the size of programs over 120/180 seems to have had no impact over time to graduation. There are also requests for unit exceptions, other than those from Engineering programs, mentioned in the documents. More discussion will follow.

7.7 Monthly Budget Reports
defered

7.8 Financial Sustainability Workgroup
defered (Stepanek and Filling meeting with the group from 10-12).

7.9 A2E outcomes resolution follow-up
defered

7.10 Outstanding Faculty site [Diana]
The CO designers want to add a button at the top to point to those awards for an overall “outstanding professor.” They would like those faculty designated in this general category to choose for themselves which of the three categories (teaching, research, service) they want to be identified in. This self-identification request was made in order to preserve the current design structure of the website. There was discussion about the problems this would create, particularly among faculty whose awards are for all categories. Members asked if the designers could create four, rather than three, defined categories/columns on the website’s initial page. All agreed that the designation “overall” should be used. If the designers cannot accommodate a change to four columns/designations, it was suggested that the designers meet with Excom in January to discuss Excom’s concerns and perspective.

8. Old Business
8.1 ITL Director search committee
Volunteers/appointed:
Diana Guerin (Fullerton)
Praveen Soni (Long Beach) (if needed)

8.2 Hanley online QA proposal review committee member
Otto Benavides (Fresno)

8.3 Search committee member - Associate Director, Academic Programs and Policy
Chris Miller (Sacramento)
Praveen Soni (Long Beach) if needed

8.4 Resolution Summary [for CO and ASCSU senators]
This involves a matter of timing: it used to go out the Monday after the plenary and
for the same reason as the publication of the Faculty to Faculty newsletter, that is, to keep
campus senates apprised of the actions of the ASCSU. These summaries also used to be a
regular part of the newsletter so that, in fact, the summaries appeared in both places: a
one-pager to be provided to the BOT and as summaries in the newsletter, with a link to the
website for the full texts of resolutions. Could the original timing be re-established?

8.5 Academic Affairs funding faculty consultants through ASCSU
deferred

8.6 Attendance at virtual interims & alternative meeting days
- role of liaisons [CO] [ExEx]
deferred

8.7 Newsletter
There was discussion about how to move the newsletter forward from here on out,
and to find ways to make it something people look at, to make it “more readable.” An
update on the progress of the newsletter should be included in every meeting of Excom. As
in the past, it was discussed that is an important goal to try to get the newsletter out before
every interim; otherwise, it was suggested, there could be a communication vacuum
between the campus senates and the ASCSU. Additionally, the bylaws require a newsletter.
As was done in the past, but hasn’t been happening recently, there is value in laying out a
timeline to set expectations of what is due, and when. A calendar of dates is most helpful
and should be reinstated. Meanwhile, the next issue of the newsletter should move
forward.

8.8 Erosion of Shared Governance [system and campus issues]
deferred

8.9 Capitol Visits in November
deferred
8.10 Academic Performance Measures [response?]
defered

8.11 Veterans Affairs Task Force [pending reply from Swartz]
defered

8.12 ASCSU Travel [Susan]
defered

8.13 AS-3191 [Diana]
defered

Additional discussion off the agenda on the referral to AA re. the changes to EO 1065: Need to clarify this referral since there was disagreement over whether or not the changes were substantive and needed to be reviewed by that committee.

9. Adjournment: 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Gubernat
Secretary, ASCSU