

## Faculty Affairs Committee

### MINUTES

Approved February 18, 2011

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Chancellor's Office, Room 210

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

**Committee Members:** Cheyne, Davis, Filling, Foroohar, Lessow-Hurley, Snell, Thobaben

**CO Representative:** Leo Van Cleve

**Executive Committee Representative:** Diana Guerin

**Guests:** Beth Ambos, Gail Brooks, Eileen Klink, Margy Merryfield, Barry Pasternack, John Travis

#### 1. Approval of the agenda and prioritization of discussion items

#### 2. Approval of the minutes for December 3, 2010

Approved by consensus

#### 3. Announcements

Chair met with EXCOMM and had a conference call after December FAC meeting.

some concerns were expressed about CLA and how it may affect CSU. EXCOMM will meet again tomorrow to put together a working group from all committees to respond to the report on the first two years of CLA. Cheyne and Brodowsky will represent FAC.

There is no follow-up information concerning movement on the Faculty Trustee. New Slate of candidates will be presented at March Plenary. Four names have already been put forth and will be announced tomorrow at the plenary.

#### 4. Review of Chancellor's Response to November Plenary Resolutions: Available at the following URL:

[http://calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/co\\_response/documents/CO\\_Response\\_November\\_2010.pdf](http://calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/co_response/documents/CO_Response_November_2010.pdf)

The Chancellor's response was discussed briefly.

#### 5. Reports

**5.1 Gail Brooks (CO):** HR is engaged in the collective bargaining with multiple unions, including CFA. A meeting with CFA is scheduled for the end of this month. Will be sunshining proposals for all new contracts. In the process of gathering information on key issues.

On Jan 15 the pension law changed for new hires into the system relative to years of service and retirement percentages.

In response to questions regarding the budget, noted that there is ongoing uncertainty and cannot make any predictions. Noted that a substantial portion of the budget is devoted to

salaries and benefits. The Chancellor remains committed to providing a quality experience for students and promoting their academic success.

- 5.2 Beth Ambros (CO):** Offered a report entitled “Building Technology-Transfer Infrastructure in the CSU.” The purpose of this initiative is to allow the CSU to comply more fully with federal mandates and to create more opportunities for marketing faculty, staff and student inventions and innovations.

The committee asked about increasing the RSCA grant monies. We did not get a budget until 100 days into the fiscal year. Each campus is handling the current RSCA monies differently because of the late budget with respect to local campus cycles of awards. CO says all campuses are going to use the monies, but not all will be expended in the spring of 2011 (some in the summer and fall). CO suggests more discussion on local campuses. The Chancellor has called for all expertise to be called upon to assess the current budget climate. It is not likely the pot of monies will grow next year. It is critical to follow up to make sure reports have been submitted for the grants awarded two years ago as well as in the future in order to demonstrate the significant return on the RSCA investment. They are hoping to do a second study of impacts between March and May. FAC will await the results of that study before deciding whether any action on its part would be appropriate.

- 5.3 Margy Merryfield (CO):** She and Brooks worked together in articulating the current status of contract negotiations.

- 5.4 John Travis (CFA):** A budget cut of the magnitude being considered is of great concern to CFA. Noted that the overall cut may be somewhat less than \$500 M. When you calculate in student fee increases with backfill monies, it will more likely be about 4-5% as opposed to 18%. The compensation percentage of the budget according to CFA about 68%, as opposed to the 85% suggested by the CO (with approximately 38% for instruction, depending upon how you define instruction).

Bargaining resumes next week. Protecting the rights of 3-year lectures is a topic of considerable concern. CSU has served public notice on which articles will be reopened next week.

The CFA has called a faculty-centered national conference (With SUNY, CUNY, and Penn State) on public higher education. Approximately 75 faculty will meet this weekend in Los Angeles to discuss where public higher education is going what the faculty role will be.

There was some discussion about the growing control of upper administration over issues that in previous times might have been in the hands of faculty.

- 5.5 Barry Pasternack (see item 7.2):** Regarding self and state support summer sessions, the fee buy down would not work for faculty or staff if offered as self support. We don't know if there is going to be any change in compensation.

The CSU has set a base fee for all campuses with the possibility that local campuses may impose an allowable surcharge on top of that base.

Several FAC members expressed concerns about compensation and faculty control over curriculum, as well as the issue of extended education supplanting state supported programs.

Cheyne will send a memo on behalf of FAC to ExCom to request that they consider a taskforce of senators or a subcommittee to look at the many-pronged issue of non-state-support programs.

**5.6 Diana Guerin (ExCom Liaison):** ExCom met with Jackie Doneth (Sacramento) and Ralph Wolf of WASC, to discuss changes in the WASC accreditation processes. Currently four initiatives/tracks are being investigated. In 2001, much of the accreditation process was shifted to assessment of student learning outcomes. The question was raised of how we maintain faculty engagement in assessment. Four initiatives were discussed:

- Initiative 1: Reviewing graduation rates - beyond deliverology - they want regional benchmarks that will include feedback on graduation rates.
- Initiative 2: No longer are units completed or GPA useful. There is to be a new “levels of learning” task force for identifying multiple measures of student learning. They will introduce local benchmarks that are aggregated.
- Initiative 3: Deals with transparency - only a “yea” or “nay” as to accreditation. They will now publish team reports.
- Initiative 4: Use of multiple metrics for the purpose of advocacy.

On the agenda for plenary - there is a committee of the whole discussion concerning the appointments of committee chairs, specialists, etc.

**5.7 Other:** There were no additional reports.

## 6. Resolutions

**6.1 Implications of the U.S. Supreme Court’s Decision in Carcetti V. Ceballos [Second Reading]:** The URLs were removed from the rationale. One of the suggestions was moving the parentheses to the rationale.

Kaiser suggested this be sent to the CSU legal team. Campuses do have their own policies concerning the issues brought forth in Garcetti v. Ceballos. Others asked why not address this on a systemwide basis. But the issue remains: which attorneys represent which constituencies? Thus, does it make sense for the faculty to consult with the CSU's attorneys? It might be best to keep the discussion attorney free. Or should this be subsumed within a broader discussion of academic freedom? One thing we can accomplish in the short run is to call this issue to the attention of campuses with the resolution as written, and subsequently work on a resolution with best practices. FAC agreed to move this resolution, as amended, to the Plenary.

In the meantime, FAC suggested that we request a time certain at the next meeting of the campus chairs to begin the discussion of local and systemwide policies relative to academic freedom.

- 6.2 Investing in Faculty Resources to Ensure Quality Education in the CSU [Second Reading]:** Title was changed from the original to the above. References to both ACR 73 and Access to Excellence were added and other minor revisions were made as per suggestions from senators after the first reading.
- 6.3 Sale, Distribution or Publishing of Class Materials for Commercial Use [Second Reading]:** The URL was moved to the rationale. The resolution will be sent back to Plenary for a Second Reading with minor editorial changes as suggested.
- 6.4 Endorsing the ASCSU-CSU-CFA Joint Report on Student Opinions of Teaching Effectiveness [First Reading]:** The title was changed to “Recognizing the Joint Committee Report on Student Evaluations of Teaching.” A number of other adjustments were agreed upon by the committee before forwarding for first reading.
- 6.5 Amending the ASCSU Constitution to Include a Commitment to Academic Freedom [First Reading]:** The amendment to the constitution will go forward as stated with the other elements moved to the rationale. It was suggested that an additional resolved clause be included encouraging Academic Senates, including the ASCSU, to keep abreast of current issues and developments that affect the evolving understanding of academic freedom. Cheyne and Filling will take on the lead on completing and forwarding the resolution for first reading.
- It was decided that pending the outcome of the constitutional referendum FAC will take up discussion on writing academic freedom policy.
- 6.6 Additional Support for Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities (RSCA) within the CSU [First Reading]:** As per our discussion with Beth Ambos, this item will be deferred until campus reports are received regarding the second round of RSCA grants.
- 6.7 Resolution Regarding Consultation about the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ (AASCU) Red Balloon Project [possible co-sponsorship with FGA].** This item has been removed from the agenda by FGA.
- 6.8 Other:** There were no additional resolutions.

## 7. Discussion Items

- 7.1 Response to recent and current legislation:** There was no discussion on this item.
- 7.2 Self-Support Summer Sessions/Graduate Programs and integrating summer into the curricular structure of the CSU – Systemwide Taskforce on the Extended University [Barry Pasternack]:** See 5.5 above.
- 7.3 Repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” vis a vis ROTC:** After discussing a number of issues surrounding this topic, the committee decided not to take any action at this time.

## 8. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.