

Faculty Affairs Committee

MINUTES

Friday, February 18, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Conference Call

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

CO Representative: Leo Van Cleve

Executive Committee Representative: Diana Guerin

1. **Approval of the agenda:** Approved as presented.
2. **Approval of the minutes for January 19, 2011:** Approved as amended.
3. **Announcements**
 - As per SenX request, committee members were reminded that volunteers are being solicited for the Ad Hoc Task Force on ASCSU Bylaws.
 - Lessow-Hurley attended the Teacher Preparation Summit along with representatives from APEP. Linda Darling-Hammond was the keynote speaker; it might be worthwhile to have a video of her talk made available to the ASCSU. Noted that K-12 has a dramatic impact on how we operate.
 - Brodowsky attended the AAC&U annual conference where globalizing education was a major topic. All provosts seemed to speak the same chilling language. Accountability and projects such as Red Balloon are not unique to California but reflect global trends.
4. **Review of Chancellor's Response to January Plenary Resolutions:** Currently not available; held over to the March meeting.
5. **Reports**
 - 5.1 **Diana Guerin (ExCom Liaison):**
 - SenX was speaking with EVC Ephraim earlier today. He estimated that current FTES systemwide is 328K students. The estimate for next year is 331K students. When asked about Chancellor Reed's comments about consolidation, responded that individual campuses need to look at whether they can offer very small classes. Regarding the impact on students of cutting small programs at remote campuses, he responded that the legislators are interested in cutting budgets, not the particulars. When asked about the ASCSU budget, he indicated that the CO will be cut more than the campuses will be cut. Currently

they are not filling vacancies in Academic Affairs. In terms of whether individual campuses can determine budget reductions, responded that everything is on the table, and that campuses are being given suggestions, not directives. Regarding concerns with communication on SB 1440, indicated that there are some problems given that this is a new process, but a website is in the works. He has visited over half of the CSU campuses in reference to the graduation initiative and will report to the BOT in July; next year they will be developing a strategic plan on High Impact Practices (HIP), and might consider requiring mandatory HIP for freshmen. At its next meeting the BOT will address fees for doctoral programs, which are capped at UC levels. When asked about Extended Ed supplanting state-support programs, indicated that this may become a reality since some expensive programs cannot be offered through state support because of high cost (nursing, for example).

- Today is the deadline for submission of bills to the legislature. There was some discussion about SB 1440 issues, including the process to be followed if CSU faculty say no regarding the similarity question.
- Regarding Early Start, Postma and Ken O'Donnell have put together webinars; believes that invitations have been sent to all senators. Postma reported that the implementation group has met, the fee should be \$160 across the entire system, and each campus should offer at least one 1-unit ES experience course. Campuses should have gotten feedback regarding their plans. Once those are resubmitted they will be posted and available.
- Fairly soon Postma will be announcing the membership of the Ad Hoc Task Force on ASCSU Bylaws. Additional volunteers have been solicited. Currently Filling, Lessow-Hurley, Soni, Goldwhite, Baaske and Benavides have volunteered. The charge of the committee will be the one contained in the plenary minutes from January.
- A report on the replacement of the ITL Director led to a number of questions from committee members that Guerin will take back to SenX for further discussion.
- There was no new information regarding the faculty trustee appointment.
- Discussion with Guerin regarding the budget with a number of concerns expressed regarding disproportionate cuts to the ASCSU over the past 10 years.
- There was discussion regarding the most efficient means of structuring virtual meetings to ensure that the necessary work gets done. Were urged to consider Elluminate, Sharepoint, or other meeting tools.

5.2 Gail Brooks (CO): No report.

5.3 Other: No additional reports.

6. Resolutions

6.1 Recognizing the Joint Committee Report on Student Evaluations of Teaching [Second Reading]: The committee discussed the concerns expressed at the January plenary (via e-mail). It was agreed to include a link to the report. Brodowsky will make adjustments and submit a revision.

6.2 Amending the ASCSU Constitution to Include a Commitment to Academic Freedom [Second Reading]: No feedback was received on this resolution. There was discussion of

resolved clause #3 and it was decided that it was out of place in this particular resolution so it will be removed. It may be used in the future in a “best practices” resolution regarding academic freedom.

6.3 Other: There were no other resolutions.

7. Discussion Items

- 7.1 Response to recent and current legislation:** There was discussion of the situation at Idaho State where the Academic Senate was suspended by the State Board of Education. It was agreed that Lessow-Hurley and Sabalius would draft a resolution of support for the ISU faculty. We will request a waiver.
- 7.2 Extended University: state support versus self support:** Discussed concerns expressed by a senate colleague regarding Extended Ed practices on his campus. Chris Mallon will attend our March meeting to discuss this issue in greater depth. Cheyne will contact the CFA (Travis) and CO (Merryfield) regarding concerns about tenure track faculty hires through Extended Ed. Beyond that the committee will defer the issue until we hear from SenX as to whether they will convene a task force to address the issue.
- 7.3 Academic freedom in a more “sponsored” higher education world (background at <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/ppubsres/academe/2011/JF/Feat/wash.htm> [Filling]:** Concern was expressed regarding the impact of private donors on research and curriculum. Filling will draft a resolution that references one passed last year on the same topic and broadens the references to include current circumstances and issues.
- 7.4 Governance policy and practice within the ASCSU:** Concern was expressed that the charge of the Ad Hoc Task Force on ASCSU Bylaws does not speak to how SenX “does business” and how information is disseminated. It was noted that some significant concerns are less about formal structure and more about an inclusive set of attitudes and leadership style. Many special assignments should be pushed out of SenX and into the body since everyone there already is up to speed on governance. Would like to see greater SenX outreach: more engagement with junior senators, creating informal succession plans, building a common value structure across the ASCSU, etc. The committee will return to this topic for further discussion.
- 7.5 RSCA grants – outcomes reporting:** This item remains a placeholder pending a report from Beth Ambos on the data from the last cycle of RSCA grants.
- 7.6 Other:** Regarding the budget, it was noted that there are questions as to whether funding will be available for face-to-face committee meetings in April. Hopefully this will be clarified during the March plenary.

8. Adjournment: The conference call concluded at 1:00 p.m.