ASCSU Faculty Affairs (FA) meeting minutes of 4/17/15

Attendees – Manzar Foroohar (Chair), Romey Sabalius, Loretta Kensinger, Deborah Roberts, and John Yudelson (for Karen Davis).

1. Approval of the agenda – At the time of the meeting, there was not a quorum, so Manzar stated the committee would vote by mail on the approval.

2. Approval of the Minutes - At the time of the meeting, there was not a quorum, so Manzar stated the committee would vote by mail on the approval.

3. Announcements – Romey discussed the WASC visit at San Jose State. There was to be a review of the campus president with a March 9th feedback deadline. The original feedback session at the BoT was supposed to be in May but was delayed until the June BoT meeting.

Manzar discussed a mini-rebellion at San Luis Obispo over the equity money issue. There was an email about raises from someone in the College of Liberal Arts which discussed the higher salaries and rates of raises of administrators. Her president had “listening sessions.” The faculty were both angry and vocal. The response from the president was that there was no money for faculty.

Romey discussed how the equity pay plan was being implemented at SJSU. The president stated that there would be no more inversion of faculty salaries with no more outlier in pay.

There was a further discussion about FA bringing a resolution to the ASCSU about best practices of distributing the equity money from the various campuses that have decided how to allot the money. Romey stated that there was always money for athletics but not for faculty salaries. Manzar suggested that CFA be consulted about it.

4. Chair’s report – Deborah talked about meeting with 28 legislators during Lobby days. Discussion about funding for the CSU. Legislators said that Gov. Brown was stonewalling. His message was that the CSU needs to become more efficient.

Manzar had talked to Steven Filling about the Task Force for Sustainable Resource Financing. Most members of the task force are administrators. They will file reports, like restructuring SUGs. There was also discussions by the task force about campuses bringing in more non-resident students because it brings in more money.

Loretta – Report of her Ethnic Studies task force. Loretta did convey FA concerns about inclusion of Middle Eastern/Jewish studies inclusion to the Taskforce. Taskforce is still working
on final draft report. Loretta reminded us the plan is that a draft report will be sent to various stakeholders for feedback, including ASCSU, on content before final report is finalized. The Taskforce is aware of the date of the last senate meeting, and is working to try to get this draft done before the last ASCSU meeting of the year. It hopes to elicit feedback from stakeholders so final draft can be completed over summer.

The next discussion was on the CO’s responses to ACSCSU resolutions. On the resolution about Academic Freedom, the CO wants to wait until the new Executive Vice-Chancellor gets here before commenting on it. So far, no senate follow-up to the resolution on non-tenure track faculty in shared governance.

The new resolution on tenure density was discussed. Manzar went through the changes requested by the Senate, and FA members made comments and suggestions on wording. There was a long discussion on tenure density and possible budget incentives tied to campus presidents’ performance evaluation.

The committee was joined by Chair Filling who discussed tentative positions of support for various bills in the legislature. They were SB 634 on interstate acceptance of on-line instruction, SB 462 for alcohol location exemptions on campus, AB 819 on an alumni affinity program for credit card use on campuses, and AB 798 for funds for faculty development dealing with IT. He then discussed that the legislators he talked to will push for the supplemental funding of $97 million. Chair Filling talked about the community college push for providing Bachelor’s degrees. He stated that the UC people he talked to had told the community colleges that most likely the UCs would not accept the CC Bachelor’s degrees as being adequate for admission into UC graduate programs. Lastly, Chair Filling discussed the CSU Academic conference that would most likely be in spring 2017. He mentioned that the website should be up soon.

5. The last round of discussions were about several action items that originally were on the agenda, but the people responsible for the updates were not on the call. A few items were discussed. There was a question about how many campuses included non-tenure track faculty unit employees in a new faculty orientation (Yudelson to follow up). There was a question about a Faculty Spotlight award (Foroohar to follow up). Lastly, there was a discussion on why administrators chose who the faculty reps to the various CO committees would be. Shouldn’t that be the purview of the Senate?

6. Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by J. Yudelson on 4/23/15