Present: Davis, Foroohar, Norman, Ornatowski, Pasternack, Roberts (acting Chair), Sabalius, Swenson (Recording), Van Cleve (CO)

Absent: Gubernat, Kensinger

Guest: Harold Goldwhite

Called to order 10.04 AM

Announcements
  Ornatowski: He has been appointed to the Vice Chancellor for Research search committee.

Approval of minutes
  Minutes for 4 November 2015 meeting approved as amended.

Chair’s report (Roberts)
  Chico’s troubles around shared governance continue. President is retiring. In light of conflicts over budget, Senate is considering votes of no confidence for CFO, Provost, and President.

  Background checks: Chancellor’s Office convening group to conduct fact-finding on new background check policy. ASCSU will have two representatives. Roberts will be one.

  Senate chairs meeting: Senate Chairs met 12/3/2015. Discussed Chancellor’s response to calls for open presidential searches. Also discussed tenure density and tendency of campuses and central administration to boast about new hires without talking about net gains. Considering developing system for collecting and sharing information about hires and separations.

  CFA: Fact-finding continues. CFA reiterating Race to the Bottom materials. Last best offer from Chancellor and any subsequent labor action expected in late January.

  Academic Affairs Committee: Continuing to look at upper division GE and other issues connected to articulation, transferability of courses among CSU’s and new Community College BA degrees. Also looking at conflict of interest issues around textbooks.
APEP: Members attended Learning Works conference focused on mathematics education. CSU is doing well at remediation. Community Colleges are not.

FGA: Karen Y. Zamarripa (Assistant Vice Chancellor CSU Advocacy and State Relations) is retiring. Committee is working to be involved in the selection of her replacement.

Discussion
Math faculty member reprimanded for using non-approved textbook at Fullerton

NB, the following synthesizes comments made in three different discussions of this issue.

Pasternack reported that a hearing panel had been convened on the reprimand. The panel could not agree on a recommendation. Citing this, the campus President refused to remove the reprimand. The Fullerton Senate Faculty Affairs committee continues to work toward a policy or best practices document.

Foroohar: This raises three issues for us: (1) The potential for conflicts of interest in requiring materials authored by a faculty member; (2) The academic freedom of individual faculty members to select materials versus role of departments in maintaining a common and coherent curriculum; (3) This has become a political issue with media attention. The legislature is considering getting involved. The ASCSU may need to respond to avoid legislative interference.

Sabalius: This seems like a local campus matter, which ASCSU should not be involved in.

Duties of Senate appointees to systemwide committees and groups

Roberts: How does a senator who has been appointed to a systemwide committee or other group report to the ASCSU?

Foroohar: Usually the person writes a brief report and sends to the Senate Chair who distributes it to the ASCSU.

Suggestion floated that Faculty Affairs might create orientation materials for new senators, which include instructions on such minor but important duties and procedures.

Chancellor’s Office and Academic Freedom

Foroohar: When last asked EVC Loren Blanchard about this, he had said that there would be some collaborative action on academic freedom, probably in January. Recently
the GC, Fram Virjee, sent the ASCSU Chair a message saying that the CO cannot work with faculty on academic freedom because it is subject to bargaining. What is going on?

Van Cleve: The CO has been conducting internal discussions to better understand the issues involved. Those discussions have led to more involvement of Human Resources and the General Counsel’s office. The discussions continue. EVC Blanchard still plans to address this at the January plenary. As for the recent email from Fram: the CSU’s General Counsel has a responsibility to prevent unfair practices under HEERA. He has concluded that there’s an issue. Note that the end of Fram’s message does leave the door open to wider discussions later on.

AB 798

Bill creating program for incentivizing the adoption of open source textbooks was passed and signed into law. ASCSU Chair is working with CSSA to develop an advisory document for campus senates. CSSA would like the ASCSU to consider a resolution urging campus senates to participate. CSSA representatives will meet with the committee at our next meeting to press for this.

Swenson: Speaking as a faculty president, whether campus senates take this up will depend on local conditions and concerns. A resolution from the ASCSU probably won’t do much to motivate campus senates to take this up or help them do so. Nor is there probably much danger that it will discourage participation.

Pasternack: If we do pass a resolution, we should be very careful not to discourage or disparage students.

Chancellor’s Office responses to resolutions

Background check (AS-3323-15/FAC)

Chancellor’s Office convening group to conduct fact-finding on new background check policy. ASCSU will have two representatives. Roberts will be one.

Van Cleve: The participants have been identified. CO is working on the process. Not sure of the timetable yet, but imagines they will want to move quickly.

Discussion ensued over whether to hold firm to principles or adopt pragmatism in writing such resolutions in the future. Several committee members advocated always standing on principle. Some committee members advocated pragmatism. One committee member claimed that this is not the correct distinction and that casting the debate in this way leads to poor strategic decisions.
Addition of retired faculty member to BOT (AS-3328-15/FAC)

Goldwhite: The response was as expected. But the language was objectionable. The Chancellor’s Office referring to itself as “The CSU” (e.g., in language like ”The CSU is content”) is redolent of Louis XIV. The CO is not the whole of the CSU. Other members echoed the sentiment.

Van Cleve: Will take this back to the people who write the responses, including himself.

Sabalius: The language of the response implies that the ASCSU’s longstanding request for a second faculty trustee is also opposed by the CO.

Van Cleve: The intent in this response was to respond to the current request, the CO has already taken either a neutral or opposed stance to the previous requests.

Foroohar: Hopes that ERFA will also respond.

Goldwhite: Will take the response back to ERFA. Expects they will respond.

Second reading resolutions

Including lecturers in orientation programs for new faculty
Alterations and improvements discussed.

Shared governance
Discussion deferred until next meeting.

Executive committee liaison report

Academic conference
CSU Maritime is happy to host. However, couldn't do 'Day on the Bay' cruise using the Golden Bear. In the process of reconsidering the timing and activities of the conference.

Sustainable budget task force
Task force meets next week. Is expected to have new draft, which takes into account concerns raised to the first draft. ASCSU Chair will report.

Campus Chairs meeting
[Most of Liaison’s report duplicates Chair’s report above]. Executive Committee will be working on ideas for tenure density matrices. Suggests that Committee also start thinking about this.

Quantitative Reasoning Task Force
Executive Committee working to ensure more and better balanced faculty representation.

Tentative agenda items for January meeting
- Shared governance resolution
- Lecturer orientation resolution
- CSSA representatives visit
- Matrices for tenure density
- Ornatowski may work up some resolution language on RSCA

**Adjourned** 1.00 PM