

Academic Senate CSU

Faculty Affairs Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

Friday, October 7, 2011

Teleconference

Members present: Brodowsky, Foroohar, Gubernat, Guerin, Klink, Lessow-Hurley, Monemi, Nelson, Sabalius

Guests present: Van Cleve

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

M/S/Approved as amended.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of September 7, 2011 were approved as amended. (Additional detail was added regarding the source of the agenda item on faculty international travel.)

4. Announcements

Beth Ambos will have the "Campus Reports on RSCA Grants 2010-11" report ready for our November meeting.

5. Chair's Report

Guerin discussed international travel communiqué with Leo yesterday. Regarding concerns about who bears the cost of the insurance, it seems that the cost is to be borne by each university unless there are external grant dollars available. Leo is checking into whether the policies vary by campus, but what is required is Traveler's Assistance. Guerin sent a copy of the Traveler Assistance Card issued by her campus (FUL). If funding for travel is provided by the university or administered

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through the campus (through a grant), then the policy cannot be waived by the faculty. Campus senate chairs discussed this yesterday. Members stated that when junior faculty are hired because of their international expertise/focus/research (which necessitates international travel), making international travel time-consuming to arrange may impact their ability to complete RTP process successfully.

Guerin summarized a conversation with Beth Ambos concerning RSCA. Ambos says factors favoring success in achieving external support for RSCA include high the density of faculty involved in seeking grants, using grant money to leverage more money, getting federal grants for undergraduate research, developing faculty affinity groups, and incorporating RSCA in the curriculum. Ambos suggested that faculty consider conducting research on student learning development.

Members discussed whether RSCA funding should be from the CSU or campus. We need to advocate for keeping RSCA funds as a permanent budget item.

Guerin will send her running notes from the Executive Committee meeting this morning to members.

6. Resolutions

6.1. Academic Freedom and Faculty Rights Pertaining to Sponsored Research

This is a carry-over item from last year. This relates to academic freedom and who controls research topics and dissemination of findings. Senator Filling had taken the lead on this when he was on FAC. Monemi has volunteered to take the lead on this and will have a conversation with Steve Filling about continuing to work on this important issue. Guerin will ask Ambos for advice.

7. Discussion Items

7.1. Best Practices with respect to Garcetti v. Ceballos Decision and Academic Freedom (Feroohar)

Guerin reported from Executive Committee meeting this morning that Ron Vogel is examining the steps the CO will need to take to complete the ASCSU Constitutional amendment on academic freedom. It should go to the BOT as an information item in November and then for approval in January. Feroohar suggested that we wait for the BOT approval of the ASCSU constitutional amendment first before we bring forward a resolution on best practices. Six campuses have yet to report on adoption, but the threshold has been met to move forward. Feroohar will send AAUP-recommended templates so we can discuss this in January. Nelson will work with Feroohar on the

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draft. Tentative goal is a first reading item at the plenary in March.

7.2. Faculty International Travel – Refer to Chair’s Report

Members raised additional points needing clarification. What is meant by "university" responsibility in terms of paying for the insurance? Will payment be made at the department level? Campus Risk Management Level? Issues pertaining to approval of travel and requirement for insurance should be treated separately. Van Cleve reported that the policy is the same at all campuses and forwarded, via email, a copy of the policy to FAC members. Members decided that a good place to start is to get clarification from the Chancellor’s Office and ask Van Cleve and Charlene Minnick to report to us at our next meeting before we decide how to proceed, either with a memo, resolution, or white paper. Questions we would like clarified include: What is covered, who is covered, whether it is campus by campus, and who approves.

7.3. Update of FA-Related [ASCSU Reports](#) - Faculty Productivity (Guerin)

Measures of Faculty Productivity in Florida and Texas – are we hearing any rumblings that this is coming to the CSU? We could look at this through the lens of accountability outcomes listed in Access to Excellence. This is a proactive type of approach. ASCSU had a position paper on this early on. Thobaben was a co-author on this report. Thobaben advises that we renew our proactive stance. How does this relate to CFA workload bargaining issues? What about issues of mode of learning as related to discipline related needs? Shouldn’t faculty retain the role of choosing delivery methods and modes appropriate to their disciplines? Thobaben and Guerin will report back to the committee next time.

7.4. Extended University/Self-Support Programs (Brodowsky)

Brodowsky prepared a list of concerns regarding moving courses and programs from state support. Committee will take a look at this paper and add their input and comments to complete it. In November, FAC will decide on which areas are of interest and within its charge, and then share it with the Extended Exec Comm to see if there are areas they might like to see worked on or that other standing committees might want to tackle.

7.5. Long-term and Short-term Implications of Continuing Erosion of ASCSU Budget for Faculty Governance at Statewide Level (Gubernat)

Tabled.

7.6. Implications of Suspension of RSCA for Faculty in the RTP Process

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Gubernat has volunteered to take the lead on a resolution to restore RSCA as a permanent budget item. She would like to shine the light back on RSCA funding at the system-wide level so that RSCA is a permanent budget item and not in play on a year-to-year basis. This goes along with the Access to Excellence goal of recruiting and developing the best possible faculty. RSCA is important for probationary faculty to develop their research programs. Also, another important point is to emphasize the extent to which RSCA funds have been used to facilitate faculty–undergraduate student research collaborations. Klink will work with Gubernat.

7.7. Coded Memo on Definition of the Credit Hour (Sabalius)

Sabalius provided a brief background leading up to the need for this definition. Guerin noted that Chair Postma mentioned that this was sent to Academic Affairs for discussion before Academic Affairs acted on it with a coded memo. Romey's view is that this was handled well, the system is in compliance, and we need to make sure faculty are aware of this throughout the system.

7.8. Higher Education Data Research Assistance

Chair Postma has indicated that President Alexander is willing to assist ASCSU committees in accessing data pertaining to higher education. Senators recalled the presentation made to the ASCSU last year as quite comprehensive. Guerin asked what kinds of data on higher education would we want to access. Krabacher (FGA Chair) and Guerin are polling committee members as to which data would be most useful.

8. EXCOMM Liaison Report (Baaske)

8.1. Presidential Task force on executive compensation will be meeting soon, according to a report from our Faculty Trustee. Contact Trustee Cheyne if you would like her to schedule a visit to your campus.

8.2. ASCSU has received a resolution from a senator about the bulleted list of choices for the distribution list that will be debated at the next plenary.

8.3. The FAC chair often talks about the Chancellor's comment that BOT actions are guided by Access to Excellence. Should ASCSU take a more active role in its implementation, especially vis-à-vis faculty turnover and how it affects accreditation? What is the appropriate mix of assistant, associate, and full professors on campuses? This may be useful for hiring decisions if and when funding is restored and hiring resumes. FAC members expressed concerns about being guided by strategic plans like Cornerstones and Access to Excellence that are implemented when they require additional faculty

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initiative, innovation, and workload, but are abandoned due to budget constraints when requiring “reinvestment” in faculty. Guerin will follow up on this and add to FA agenda.

- 8.4.** Academic Reorganization on Campuses – What are the definitions of college, school, department, and division and how does this affect restructuring on campuses? What is the role of faculty in such decisions and policies?

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:36.