

Academic Senate of the California State University
Faculty Affairs Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, September 5, 2007, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, September 6, 2007, 9:00 a.m.
Room 210

Members: Baaske, Bordinaro, Brodowsky, Cheyne, Foroohar, Goldwhite, Guerin, McNamara, *Messer, Sabalius, Vanterpool*

Guests: *Gail Brooks*, Ron Kroman, Margy Merryfield, Lori Roth, John Travis, Mark Van Selst

1. Agenda approved as submitted

2. Minutes approved as submitted

3. Announcements

3.1 Campus practices regarding governance

Still waiting for responses from a few more campuses. Once compiled, to be distributed to senate chairs, with possible comment from ASCSU.

4. Reports

4.1 Gail Brooks: Vice Chancellor for Human Resources

- Changes in HR – bargaining unit: addressing system issues up front
- Grievance issues will be addressed in partnership with CFA
- Training for deans
- Redoing website (moving from passive information to website more accessible and informative)
- Interim person in administration unit (benefits, policies, etc.)—this unit involved in 21st Century project using SAP by 2009, including payroll

4.2 Margy Merrifield: Senior Director, Academic Human Resources

Discussed issues that FAC was working on last year including:

- Gauging faculty satisfaction, faculty recruitment, attrition
- Retention data on ALL faculty, vs. tenure/tenure track
- Need for better data on faculty recruitment
- Newly hired faculty receiving paycheck in October and lacking insurance
- Need for exit interviews

- Security of personal data

4.3 John Travis: CFA

- Discussion of budget activities (including lobbying Senate) during summer.
- Compact not sufficient
- CFA support for AB 1413—Executive salaries and representation of ex officio members of BoT
- ACR-73 ---needed to reduce workload levels of faculty; is there a role for CFA, ASCSU and CSU administration to ensure accountability in making certain ACR-73 is a budget priority for the CSU
- Faculty hired with tenure---not part of the CBA, yet traditionally has been discouraged by CFA
- Arbitration panels – specifics still being discussed on elections for these panels, yet campuses encouraged to develop their own election rules; CFA is encouraging disputes to be settled locally
- Sabbatical language in new contract discussed (1/2 year v. 1 year) – change related to previous contract language on number of sabbaticals awarded per year and formula for determining how many faculty eligible
- Notification of SSI eligibility an issue on campuses – CFA not privy to data on individual faculty eligibility
- Procedures for distributing money among campuses for the equity program – concerns about this process expressed
- Faculty attendance issues (restrictions) being imposed by deans – faculty governance issue or CFA issue? (both)

- 5. Information and Discussion Items/Resolutions:** Note that on all deferred resolutions, it was decided that prioritization would continue via e-mail.

5.1 Report of the CSU Textbook Affordability Taskforce

- Concerns about texts from “preferred providers”
- Concerns about lecturers having texts chosen for them (ATI, late hires)
- Concerns about the ‘general’ nature of the language in the report
- Concerns about resolution ‘supporting’ report
- How much ‘new’ in the report (versus earlier 2006 resolution on textbook affordability)?
- Changes to Textbook Affordability resolution to be discussed with AA---following discussion with AA, changes to resolution suggested by FA liaisons

FA will co-sponsor the resolution prepared by AA. A few changes were suggested, including adding a rationale. It will go forward for a first reading.

5.2 Value and Importance of International Programs (with AA)

Discussion of “Resolution in support of internationalization of CSU educational programs” from International Planning task force; report from task force will be forthcoming. Resolution presented as a draft to begin discussion on this issue, to be revisited in October and prepared for first reading; AA will be invited to co-sponsor.

5.3 Protection of Campus Autonomy

Cheyne will ensure that Messer, Foroohar and Baaske get copies of the draft resolution prepared by Fred Hornbeck and the matter will be discussed at our next meeting.

5.4 FERP faculty rights and responsibilities

This was perceived as an important issue that will be taken up at the next meeting.

5.5 Strategies for gauging faculty satisfaction

Deferred to next meeting.

5.6 CO reports on faculty attrition

Deferred to next meeting.

5.7 MPP hiring practices

Cheyne will investigate previous Senate resolutions on this topic and bring them to the next meeting for discussion.

5.8 Graduate Fee Differential (per Excom—with AA)

- Draft report (CSU Executive Council) reviewed and discussed.
- Suggestion that recommendation go forward to BoT to “postpone” this item until there is more discussion on campuses
- Strong reservations expressed , including:
 - Why should this apply only to MBA? Many programs are impacted;
 - This is a “public” university; we cannot keep raising fees;
 - There are alternative means for business schools to raise funds;
 - Will new fees really go to faculty salaries?
 - Would this impact requests from the legislature for new funding?
 - Following discussion with other committee members, there appears to be divisive/contentious views on this issue;
 - Questions about assumptions in report (e.g., employers may offset costs)—data needed;
 - Who will be eligible for financial aid?

Arguments made that CSU business schools need to be made more competitive --- something needs to be done;
 Urging the BoT to address this issue within the larger context—beyond just business school

A resolution developed by FGA—Call for Consultation on Professional Fee for Graduate Business Degrees—will be co-sponsored by FAC.

5.9 Protocol for responding to votes of No Confidence (per ExCom)

McNamara and Baaske will draft a resolution for consideration at our next meeting.

5.10 Issues of Academic Freedom within the context of system-wide initiatives such as LDTP, etc. (per ExCom)

Deferred to next meeting.

5.11 Procedure if an Academic Senator is unavailable for a semester (e.g. sabbatical, etc.) or is unavailable for committee work (per ExCom)

Deferred to next meeting.

5.12 FAC liaisons to other ASCSU standing committees

Deferred to next meeting.

5.13 Faculty hiring practices (McNamara)

Deferred to next meeting.

5.14 AAUP re Outside Speakers and Academic Freedom

Deferred to next meeting.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 5, and at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 6.