Minutes Academic Affairs (AA) Committee  
Wednesday May 13, 2015, 11am –5pm  
Coronado Room, CSU Chancellor's Office, Long Beach, CA

Agenda

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m.

The Chair thanked the members of the committee for their service the past year.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair reviewed the agenda.

The Executive Committee asked if AA wanted to comment on the adoption by some campuses of a portfolio as a culminating project in Masters Degree programs. The question will be added to Agenda Item 4.4.1 Masters Degree Requirements.

Advice to Speaker Atkins on Trustees’ Educational Policy Committee Agenda will be added to the agenda as new Item 4.1. The remainder of the agenda will be renumbered accordingly.

Senator Yee-Melichar is not a member of the Mental Health Committee and requested that her name be removed from the list of members.

The agenda was approved with the above additions.

3. Approval of Minutes (April 2015)

Several Senators suggested that ad hoc comments about colleagues should not be included in the minutes. The committee agreed.

The minutes were approved with the above edits and revisions provided by Senators via email.

4. Pending Business

   4.1 Advice to Speaker Atkins re: Trustees Ed Policy Committee Agenda Items

At the request of the Executive Committee, members of AA suggested the following bullet points for Assembly Speaker Atkins regarding Board of Trustees Educational Policies Committee Agenda.
• State underfunding to the CSU has led to a reliance on external funding, which has led to decrease in quality.

• Library catalog standardization can result in one large, bland library instead of campus libraries that reflect the character and focus of each unique university.

• The report fails to acknowledge the Cal State Online advisory board, which includes faculty input, and its charge to anticipate future trends and best practices and respond to needs of the system.

• While we appreciate the advocacy for resources for faculty and student research, there are internal deficiencies that need to be addressed. For example, existing formulas for designating research space are out of date and need to be re-examined.

• In the Academic Effectiveness and Efficiencies Report, flexibility in unit pricing and online delivery formats can drive a race to the bottom in terms of the balance between cost vs. quality.

• Regarding Item #7 in the Online Education agenda item, please note that the report assumes that online education is successful, but does not provide an evaluation or assessment mechanism other than getting the number of students in online education up. We need systemwide data online education effective or not.

• Past legislation would have benefited from more consultation.

• The report has no indication that any problems exist. The report would be stronger if it adequately addressed emergent and historic problems.

4.2 Second Reading Resolutions

4.2.1 AS 3211-15/AA “Expectations for Upper Division General Education” (Mark) (See updated version of this resolution in the committee dropbox)

The committee discussed revisions to the resolution and settled on a second reading draft to forward to the plenary.

4.2.2 Resolution AS-3209-15/AA Towards a Culture of Assessment in the California State University System: A Call for Faculty Professional Development (Rob, Jodie)

The committee discussed the resolution and possible revisions. The committee will request that the resolution be withdrawn for further revision.
4.2.3 Resolution AS-3206-15/AA CSU Participation in WICHE Transfer Process (Mark)

The committee discussed revisions to the resolution and agreed to a second reading draft to forward to the plenary.

4.3 Executive Committee referrals - review discussion from the April meeting

4.3.1 Duplication of degrees.

In April the committee concluded that there is no need for the ASCSU to define duplication. Campuses have well-developed processes to determine what duplication of degrees would be; faculty review is the key.

4.3.2 Upper Division GE residence requirements

See Item 4.2.1 AS 3211-15/AA “Expectations for Upper Division General Education” Addressed above.

4.4 Review of Our Year-long Projects

4.4.1 Active learning/High Impact Practices in the CSU (Mary Ann and Darlene)

The preliminary report is drafted, will be forwarded to the committee for review. Senators Creadon and Yee-Melichar concluded that any advice going forward on active learning should emphasize faculty involvement and the need for adequate data to assess the adequacy of active learning/high impact practices. Issues the report address included: 1. Course Classification: There is a need to determine if courses are classified correctly (lecture, internship, supervision), which in turn affects enrollment and contact hours; 2. Workload: Faculty do supervision that doesn’t count toward course load; and 3. Space Management: There needs to be appropriate and sufficient space for this type of learning/practice.

Senator Van Selst commented that the benefit comes when there is a good fit between a high impact practice and the student engaging in the practice.

4.4.2 Assessment (Rob and Jodie): No report.

4.4.3 Mathematics (Mark and Jim): No report.

4.4.4 Ethnic Studies (Catherine and Judith)
The Draft Ethnic Studies Taskforce Report will be made public and sent out for widespread review this week.

4.5 **Committee discussions:** All 4.5 items deferred.

4.5.1 Master’s degree requirements (Chris, Mary Ann)

4.5.2 Mental Health report (Jim, Jodie)

4.5.3 System-wide sustainability minor (Simone)

4.5.4 Other

5. Chair’s Report:

5.1 **Contents of AA committee year-end report:**

Chair Eadie will forward his draft year-end report to the committee for feedback.

6. Liaison and Systemwide Committee and Task Force Reports

6.1. **Chancellor’s Office Liaisons (Chris Mallon, Ken O’Donnell) (times certain tbd):** No report.

6.2. **Executive Committee Liaison: Praveen Soni - Time certain: 3:30pm.**

Report

1. The Executive Committee is asking for donations for a gift for Senator Kathy Kaiser (Chico), Faculty Trustee Emeritus and long-time member of the ASCSU.

2. The following committees/positions are available for Senators’ systemwide service for the 2015-16 year: Academic Conference Planning Committee, Parliamentarian, Veterans Affairs Liaison

The next Academic Conference is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2017; the Academic Conference Planning Committee might be meeting in the summer

3. AA is co-sponsoring resolutions with Fiscal and Governmental Affairs (FGA) regarding CCC BA consultation and an applied baccalaureate degree for public higher education in California.

Note: On Wednesday, 5/13, the committee discussed the CCC BA consultation resolution and agreed to edits to recommend to our partners in FGA. And after FGA declined to sponsor a resolution on an applied baccalaureate degree, on Thursday 5/14 the Executive Committee asked AA to consider offering a similar
resolution. The committee discussed the matter during the plenary lunch break and decided not to go forward with the resolution given the short amount of time to consider the matter.

4. There is a link to the meeting minutes of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) meetings in Chair Fillings’ March Report.

5. Chair Filling will telephone WICHE representatives regarding the misleading portrayal on the WICHE website of ASCSU involvement is the Passport Project. He will report on the call tomorrow at the plenary.

6. Commendations for Senators leaving the ASCSU are not agendized; Chair Filling will call for commendations to be read as time allows.

7. The Executive Committee has established the following priorities for the ASCSU budget for 2015-16: inflation adjustments for hotel and travel expenses; reassigned time for the third senator from large campuses; and honoraria for Executive Committee members for service over the summer.

Standing committees were asked to rank three other items in order of priority: funding for the entire Executive Committee to attend Board of Trustees’ meetings; assigned time for first-year senators (1 course per year in the Spring); one “on the ground” interim meeting (perhaps April); and other priorities senators might have.

Decision

There was general agreement among committee members that first-year senators should receive at least some assigned time (barring that, Senator Van Selst suggested funding hotel expenses for first-year senators to attend committee meetings) and that an in-person interim meeting would be beneficial. Senator LoCascio suggested using funds to replace retiring faculty.

Further Discussion

Senator Creadon suggested that Thursday socials be “lightened up” to include drinks only.

Senator Yee-Melichar asked the Executive Committee to make sure that the Taskforce for a Sustainable Financial Model report is sent to the ASCSU and to distribute a digital copy of the Ethnic Studies Taskforce Report when it becomes available.

Senator LoCascio asked if there was any report on the governor’s May budget revise. Senator Soni indicated that he, FGA Chair Krabacher and Senator Hood will listen to the May revise press conference and report to the plenary tomorrow.
6.3. CSU Summer Arts Advisory Council (Bill):

The Council held its spring meeting on Friday, May 1, 10:00am – 3:00pm, in the Munitz Room of the CSU Chancellor’s Office. The council consists of faculty and administrative representatives from various arts disciplines, representatives from CSU, Monterey Bay, the current host campus, Chancellor’s Office staff, and arts and entertainment professionals. ASCSU is represented by Bill Eadie, San Diego State University, and Karen Davis, CSU, Monterey Bay.

The morning session was spent reviewing the history and successes of the Summer Arts program, as 2015 marks its 30th anniversary as a CSU system activity. Two previous directors of the program were present to be honored for their service. It was announced that CSUMB will continue to host the Summer Arts program.

The afternoon session was devoted to discussion of fundraising and community outreach efforts for the 2015 Summer Arts program at CSUMB. Reporting were Robert Klevan, from CSUMB, and Aaron Moore, from the CSU development office. Historically, it has been difficult to get the attention of arts supporters and patrons in the Monterey area, as summer brings a wealth of long-standing arts events, such as the Carmel Bach Festival. Mr. Klevan reported progress on forming a committed community advisory board, as well as a number of marketing strategies that have been deployed to attract community patrons to campus to see recitals by the guest teaching artists as well as showings of student work. Mr. Moore reported on the system’s efforts to assist with reaching alumni from previous Summer Arts sessions. There was a lively discussion of ways in which these programs might be made more attractive, even though attendance at Summer Arts evening events has improved steadily over its residence at CSUMB.

The council also reviewed a new syllabus template, the course list for 2015, opportunities for proposing arts study-abroad programs for system-wide enrollment, and the potential for disciplinary meetings of arts department chairs during the academic year.

7. Member Items/Campus Reports/Potential New Projects: No additional items.

8. Adjournment

Chair Eadie adjourned the meeting at 5:10p.m.