Academic Affairs (AA) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 10, 2014, Virtual Meeting

Agenda
1. Call to Order at 10:00am
   - Present: Bill Eadie, Darlene Yee-Melichar, Simone Aloisio, Catherine Nelson, Jim LoCascio, Chris Mallon, Rob Collins, Jodie Ullman

2. Approval of Agenda
   - Addition to Agenda: Praveen Soni, Executive Committee Liaison report at 11:30a.m.
   - Agenda approved.

3. Approval of Minutes (May 2014, September 2014, and virtual special meeting September 2014)
   - D. Yee-Melichar had the following corrections to the minutes:
     1. AA Committee Minutes for May 15, 2014
        * page 1, should read as Minutes (not Agenda)
     2. AA Committee Minutes for September 3, 2014
        * page 1, should read as Minutes (not Agenda)
        * page 1, item 2.e.ii, Van Selst (not Van Seltz)
        * page 2, item 5.1, bullet 3, Yee-Melichar (not Melichar-Yee)
   - Minutes approved as amended.

4. Pending Business

4.1 Referral from Executive Committee regarding EO 1065.

Discussion: Minimum grade for CSU General Ed Breadth “Golden Four” Requirements

   - DYM: Her recollection from GEAC is that there is a systemwide preference of 2.0 for the minimum gpa. At SFSU some departments want to use C-. Why does the CSU expect native students to have a 2.0, but transfer students only a 1.7?
   - JLC: At Cal Poly it’s possible to move from one level of calculus to the next without a C-.
   - CN: Since campus senate chairs and GEAC agree, ask the administration to use 2.0.
   - SA: We need to clarify “may” for campuses outside of the CSU.
• CM: She agrees “may” is unusual language.

• JU: This is a double standard; a C should be required across the board.

• BE: We’ll seek clarification from GEAC in November and bring this back on the AA agenda then.

4.2 Access to Excellence Strategic Plan - Active Learning and Student Success

• D. Yee-Melichar reported that an email with the work the subgroup completed at our last meeting was sent to the chair. She provided a summary of the report. Goals specific to AA in A2E include closing the achievement gap, active learning, global awareness and post-BA graduate education. Perhaps the achievement gap would be relevant to the Ethnic Studies subgroup as well. The subgroup is interested in active learning as a focus. They brainstormed about a possible 6-8 page report to include a definition of active learning, constituent perspectives, existing opportunities not well known outside the system, campus based best practices, and the creation of a web-based road map for students. The subgroup will confer with Ken O’Donnell and Chris Mallon for data.

4.3 Assessment project - Compare Institutional Learning Outcomes.
11:00am Marilyn Korostoff, Faculty Consultant, Curriculum and Assessment, CO

• J. Ullman reported that the subgroup’s goal is meaningful assessment. They will look at the landscape for assessment with the goal of providing faculty-driven tools for campuses to use. The final format is undecided.

• M. Kristoff discussed her view of assessment. A systemwide perspective on assessment is needed and it should be built in during program development. Right now assessment is all over the map. There is growth in individual programs; the question is how to replicate that. Assessment is a cottage industry and colleagues across the US are making lot of $, but no one has the time to do it the way they suggest. She is weighing in on new degree proposal assessment plans and will send us the plan template – the focus is on fill in the blanks to get away from long-winded narratives. Faculty should do themselves a favor and simplify the process; concentrate on fun “signature” assignments that relate to program goals and use those to report on success. There is a “Tips” document for the template. It shows how to relate ILOs (campus) to PLOs (program) to S LOs (course). Access to the documents is via the CO website, under the APP resources link.

• C. Mallon will send us the links. She also pointed out that in the search for a new ITL director one of the qualifications is demonstrated leadership in assessment. WASC has a clear idea of what they want, but there is still a struggle on campuses to define SLOs. The goal is to help folks do assessment that will help student learning and not take over faculty lives.

B. Eadie invited M. Korostoff to update us at our November meeting.

4.4 Ethnic Studies project – to be determined following the task force
• C. Mallon reported that the taskforce is still data gathering and should report by the end of November.

• B. Eadie suggested the subgroup brainstorm what kind of issues may arise and how the group might respond.

4.5 Mathematics project.

• B. Eadie reported that this is M. Van Selst’s project. J. Locasio agreed to be on committee. The issue is intermediate algebra as graduation requirement.

5. Chair’s Report

5.1 Task Force on Student Success Fees.

• B. Eadie reported that the Standing committees met and the results were similar. The executive Committee will draft a position statement to submit to the group. The Faculty Affairs committee pushed a vote as the absolute preferred method for adopting fees.

• Faculty Trustee Stepaneck reported to the Extended Executive Committee that the chancellor, in response to pressure from presidents, is going to appoint a taskforce to review the formulas used to allocate state money to individual campuses. Stepaneck will be on the committee. It will meet every other week for the rest of the academic year and will issue a report in May 2015. As far as B. Eadie knows, there are no faculty or students on the task force. He will pass along AA’s preference to push for faculty and student representation.

• D. Yee-Melichar reported on the SFSU resolution passed at their 9/23 meeting. The SFSU Senate is concerned about the lack of parity in academic success for students. The last two whereas clauses address the inequity in the amount of money available to educate students among campuses. All campuses or none should have the same opportunity once the moratorium on the fees is lifted, and the fees should all be the same amount per FTE. The CSU should re-bench the general fund allocation per FTES and look at all fees. J. Ullman suggested that the same amount per FTE is not as important as a cap, or guidelines for the relative percentage with regard to funding as it is.

• C. Nelson provided a brief report on the student success fee forum at Sonoma State University. The chancellor, Trustee Faigin, Student Trustee Talar Alexanian and Cal Poly SLO President Jeffrey D. Armstrong made brief statements (Chancellor White read a statement from Fullerton President Mildred Garcia) and President Arminana gave a brief history of the fee discussion at Sonoma State (the campus did not move forward to formally consider a fee). Comments from the audience reflected the major arguments for and against the fees. Some argued the fees allowed campuses to hire more faculty, provide more student services and enhance athletic programs. Others argued the fees were a hardship for low income students. Concerns were also raised about the impact of such fees on campus general fund allocations and budgets. There were student delegations from several SoCal
5.2 Academic Sustainability Plan (report on October 8 conference call).

- B. Eadie reported on AB 94 and the Academic Performance Plan the CSU is required to submit to the legislature. The legislature is still in flux regarding what it wants. The mandated measures are not exactly what we’d want. The legislature sounds open to discussing other measures that would provide a more accurate picture of what’s going on. The plan is primarily geared toward the fiscal aspects of CSU performance. Ryan Storm, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget is taking the lead in developing the plan. It is mostly a report on how the CSU spends its money. The measures the CSU is proposing to use make the CSU look pretty good. Graduation rates are the most controversial aspect of the document; stem degrees have to be broken out.

- S. Aloisio asked if tactics regarding how to improve graduation rates, time to degree and retention rates in the current climate were discussed? B. Eadie responded that projections are modest, but no one asked that question on call the call.

- See Executive Committee Liaison Report for discussion of ASCSU feedback on performance measures.

6. Liaison and Systemwide Committee and Task Force Reports

6.1. Chancellor’s Office Liaisons

a) Chris Mallon, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs and Faculty Development

Report:

- The CSU will respond to and encourage assessment through program proposals and campus 10-year degree plans. The CSU is providing examples of how to do assessment and report more simply. There is the hope that with the expanded focus on assessment in ITL, the system will see better results.

- The Ethnic Studies Task Force is changing the way it is asking for data on its survey. There was a low response rate when the questions weren’t electronic.

- Nathan Evans, Director, Enrollment Management Services, is issuing a report on e-advising pilot projects. He can be reached at nevans@calstate.edu.

- The call for honorary degrees has gone out. The Academic Senate Executive Committee on each campus approves who sits on the nomination/selection committee. Campuses need to confirm that that process was followed in their letter regarding nominations. The chair and vice chair of the ASCSU are on the recommending committee for full Board approval, which takes place in January.
The call for updates to campus academic master plans has gone out. The plans include degree programs offered and planned over the next 10 years. New planned programs are proposed to the Trustees during this process, including each program’s purpose, the need for it and where else similar programs are offered. After that step campuses can plan degree proposals. The information needs to be to the CO by January, and will be forwarded to the Trustees in March.

Discussion:

- J. LoCascio asked for a report on the 120/180 unit limit soon so campuses can resolve the situation.

- J. LoCascio asked about the quarter to semester calendar conversion process. C. Mallon hasn’t talked to the CO about that.

- D. Yee-Melichar asked about meetings of the CSU/UC joint review committee on graduate curriculum. C. Mallon responded that the Academic Senate agreed to a change in the committee’s bylaws that the committee will only meet if they don’t agree on a joint program going forward. The CSU is thinking of the same pattern for CCC degrees, especially for programs or curricula already offered by the CSU/UC. The point is to try to avoid the gaming of program titles. She has received calls from CSU faculty concerned about the CCCs offering the same degree with a different title. This process would move forward at the same time as the common identification of what the state needs.

b) Ken O’Donnell – not at meeting

6.2. Executive Committee Liaison: Praveen Soni

- P. Soni reported that on 10.15 campus presidents, provosts, senate chairs, VCs for student services, ASCSU Chair Steven Filling and Faculty Trustee Steven Stepanek met regarding graduation rates, targets and closing the achievement gap. The ASCSU Executive Committee senate has taken up closing the achievement gap as priority item for ASCSU. Fiscal and Governmental Affairs will look at the gap and MBA fees, and their impact on underserved minorities. Regarding input on student success fees, Soni reported that AA’s input was one of the best. Chair Filling will draft recommendations to the BOT task force based on committee input. The Executive Committee met with the chancellor on 10/6. They talked about outcomes from the student fee forums. There will be an open meeting 10/21 at the CO. There will be a call from Chair Filling for representatives to a discipline council workgroup the chancellor is putting together. There will also be a call for participants in a “modes of instruction” workgroup; CO staff will include Chris Mallon and Sheila Thomas. The 120/180 engineering unit limit issue was also on the agenda for the meeting with the chancellor; he hasn’t gotten to it, but he would not take action without input from the ASCSU. Chair Filling is calling for campus specific issues to report back to chancellor so he gets a complete picture of what’s going on throughout the system. SB 850, the community college BA degree bill, was also on the agenda with the
chancellor. The Executive Committee has referred this to AA. The chancellor says he will get feedback from faculty, level 1 (titles, program descriptions) and level 2 program contents/quality of programs to determine similarity. AA should look carefully at evaluation criteria.

Discussion:

- **BE:** AA would like the Executive Committee to push for faculty and student representation on the BOT fee taskforce;

- **CN:** Where do we find information on the 850 criteria? Soni: look to minutes of meeting with the chancellor, SB 850 and check with Chris Mallon.

- **JLC:** In a letter to campus senate chairs there was no information about the 120/180 discipline faculty committee selection process. C. Mallon said it sounds like an ASCSU letter to local campuses. She is not aware of anything coming from the chancellor's office. P. Soni heard about an advisory group that may be formed.

  JLC asked when that was going to happen. The chancellor's office said in May that it will be resolved by October. JLC wants to know how the faculty will be selected, how many and whether they will be chosen by department or college. C. Mallon said that from beginning, if the chancellor couldn't approve a waiver request, before further action a discipline group would be formed that would include faculty and appropriate experts (per Title V). The chancellor told her to have the work done by 9.30. There were 100 waiver requests; only one didn’t get the blessing of their provost, that was Cal Poly. She provided the chancellor with the request from Cal Poly; it was passed along with everything else.

- **DYM:** What is the membership of the funding distribution task force and its specific charge?

- **BE:** What are P. Soni’s impressions on the Academic Sustainability Plan phone call? Soni responded that his take is that the CSU is doing it because of legislation. The CSU did projections on a number of things, including enrollment, graduation rates, degree production, Pell eligibility, least number of units and expenditure per degree (entire expenditure/number of degrees). The legislature is focusing on outcomes. It is a priority of the Executive Committee to look at the measures, or propose those that more accurately reflect what CSU does. The ASCSU was not really asked for input. BE: We weren’t asked for input because the process is pretty far along, but the CO wanted us to know what they are doing. The strategy is to report in an accurate way, but to put the CSU in the best possible light. The CSU is making rounds with the information before a report is taken to the trustees in November.

- **Discussion about an ASCSU resolution:** J. Ullman suggested that B. Eadie and P. Soni get more information for the committee on the path to consultation, and tell the Executive Committee that AA seeks the Executive Committee’s guidance. AA would like to comment but would like to first consider the
matter more carefully. B. Eadie noted that the legislature will reassess what they’re doing after first round and will look at alternative measures that more accurately reflect how the system is performing.

6.3. Academic Conference Implementation Committee: Catherine Nelson, Darlene Yee-Melichar

- The Academic Conference Implementation Committee met on October 7 from 3-4pm via conference call/elluminate. The conference has been moved to the Chancellor’s Office. The committee finalized the conference schedule, discussed room arrangements and heard reports on the break out sessions and student poster session.


6.5. Early Assessment Program (EAP) Advisory Committee: Mary Ann Creadon: No report.


6.7. Institute for Teaching and Learning Board: Judith Lessow-Hurley, Jodie Ullman, Darlene Yee-Melichar

- We have some good news; nine 2014-15 FLC Abstracts were funded as follows:
  - Californian Maritime Institute: Assessing and Developing Ocean Literacy as an Element of Global Stewardship in an Undergraduate Population
  - CSU Los Angeles: Chairs are faculty who lead: Building departmental leadership
  - Cal Poly SLO: Exploring Pedagogical Thresholds
  - San Jose State University: Professional Development and Support for Department Chairs and Directors
  - Cal Poly Pomona: Continuing to “Grow Our Own” Vibrant Faculty Leaders
  - CSU Sacramento: Grant Writing for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
  - CSU San Marcos: Using TurnItIn and GradeMark Comment and Rubric Data to Facilitate Writing in GEW Courses
  - CSU Long Beach: Department Chair Leadership Fellows: First-Year Experience for New Chairs Development
  - CSU Sacramento: Program Assessment: Critical Thinking and Intercultural Competence

- The ITL Advisory Board meeting will meet on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 from 10-2:30pm at the Chancellor’s Office.


6.11. Student Health Services Advisory Committee: James LoCasio: No report.

6.14. Sustainability - Campus as a Living Lab: Simone Aloisio, Darlene Yee-Melichar

- As part of the 2014 CSU Facilities Management Conference, there will be a Sustainability/Campus as a Living Lab Meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2014 from 1-5pm at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento. Vi San Juan (Assistant Vice Chancellor) and Meaghan Smith (Principal Planner), CSU Office of the Chancellor, will facilitate the following meeting agenda topics: 2013-14 CALL Case Studies; CALL Draft Survey/Feedback on 2013 CALL Program; 2014-15 CALL Request for Proposals; E-Portfolios; meeting discussion and wrap-up. Simone Aloisio (Channel Islands) and Darlene Yee-Melichar (SF State) will attend and represent the Academic Senate CSU at this meeting.

- We will also attend and represent the Academic Senate CSU at the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) meeting on "State Policies to Transform Undergraduate STEM Education," with Cathy Middlecamp, Melvin George, and Judith Ramaley in Annapolis, Maryland, on November 2-4, 2014. SESYNC’s current project aims to deepen and broaden the work currently underway by the leadership group with a set of teams from 5 states (CA, CO, MD, ME, and NM) to significantly increase the amount of sustainability-related material embedded in undergraduate gateway STEM courses. SESYNC’s primary objectives are to support the development of partnerships within a diverse set of states to develop education policies that increase the use of sustainability content in STEM classrooms, and to characterize the state education policy landscape related to sustainability and improving STEM outcomes.

6.15. Other

7. Member Items/Campus Reports/Potential New Projects

7.1 Legislation on faculty prerogatives in professional graduate degrees

- There was a discussion of legislative initiatives related to professional graduate degrees.

7.2 Hidden costs of electronic resources in libraries

- J. LoCascio asked if J. Lessow-Hurley wanted the committee to take action based upon the article she forwarded to the ASCSU list regarding the hidden costs of electronic resources in libraries. D. Yee-Melichar suggested that B. Eadie bring the article to the Executive Committee and ask them to share it with ICAS as the governing body of COERC. B. Eadie indicated that the library deans have received reports on this. They have tried a couple of things but haven’t been satisfied with what they’ve got.
7.3 Trustee visits to campuses

- J. LoCascio reported that a trustee visited Cal Poly SLO. The trustee got an earful regarding student success fees and SUGS. His impression of the trustee’s position was that the legislature said they would cut back CSU funding, so campuses raise tuition to compensate.

- B. Eadie reported that Trustee Glazer visited San Diego. In his meeting with their senate Executive Committee Trustee Glazer made it sound like he understood that the CSU is not being funded well enough, but that the solution is with the governor, who is not interested in a funding increase.

8. Adjournment: 12:55pm

Respectfully Submitted by Catherine Nelson