

Executive Committee Minutes
May 2, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Present: Karthika Sasikumar (Acting Chair), Stephen Perez, Julia Curry, Ravisha Mathur, Vincent Del Casino, Patrick Day, Kathleen Wong(Lau), Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Charlie Faas, Brandon White, Kimb Massey

Present Via Zoom: Anoop Kaur, Stefan Frazier, Tabitha Hart

Absent: None

Recorder: Eva Joice, Senate Administrator

1. There was no dissent to the Executive Committee Agenda of May 2, 2022.
2. There was no dissent to the first consent calendar of 2022-2023.
3. The Executive Committee approved the Executive Committee Minutes of April 25, 2022 (14-0-0).
4. The Executive Committee discussed two nominees for one seat on the Athletics Board. Shawn Fletcher was nominated for the seat. The nomination was seconded. The committee voted and Shawn Fletcher was selected to be recommended to the President for appointment to the Athletics Board. (10-0-4). The committee discussed the remaining vacant seat on the Athletics Board. According to the Athletics Board Policy, F07-2, the remaining seat must be filled by a tenure/tenure-track faculty member. The remaining nominee is not a tenured/tenure-track faculty member and is therefore ineligible for the seat.
5. Updates from the President:
Lisa Millora, the Chief of Staff, will be responsible for the duties of the Vice President of University Advancement. Some of Lisa's Chief of Staff duties will be distributed to others as Lisa assumes the new duties.

We are reviewing suggestions for the 2nd Annual Weeks of Welcome in Fall 2022 for students, faculty, and staff and want to have a very enthusiastic, community building event. The Weeks of Welcome event has been very successful for students as noted by the Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA).

Inside Higher Education had an interesting article on the practice of "Ungrading." The committee briefly discussed this.

Questions:

Q: Is it too early to talk about commencement?

A: [Interim President Perez] It isn't too late to discuss future commencements, but it is too late for this year. We want to make commencement as celebratory as possible. We need more volunteers to staff the event.

Q: I've been a part of 11 commencement events and I've seen a dramatic drop in faculty attendance. What are the student/faculty perspectives on the number of commencements, and is there any feedback on the way commencement is being conducted now?

A: [Interim President Perez]

I totally agree about the need to discuss this. Why did more faculty show up at the football field for university commencement than they do now?

C: For one reason, the event was on the weekend and faculty weren't still grading papers.

C: My understanding was that the change was a top down discussion from the previous president. My department really misses the departmental celebration. Could we come back as a team and talk about this?

A: [Interim President Perez] Agreed. However, it must be after commencement is over.

A: [VP Faas] When we had commencement at the stadium it was horribly attended. We need to find out exactly what faculty and staff want.

C: When we conducted commencement as a college, we had a much higher faculty participation rate. When commencement was at the football field, student names were not called. This makes students feel like they are not valued. Each student needs to walk across the stage and get their diploma and have their picture taken.

C: I came to SJSU in 2000. My first commencement was in 2001. Commencement was very important to the parents and families. What got lost when it changed from the stadium was community. At the football stadium, we came together as the SJSU community. The other issue is what happened to staff. Staff no longer have a role in commencement. Their hard work with students in their department is lost.

C: [CDO] Until we went to this model, we had complaints from parents that would contact us in tears. They had spent so much money coming to attend graduation and there were complaints of name readers being flippant and of gender policing. It was unprofessional and lacked any standardization.

C: [VP Day] We need to talk to other universities and see what contemporary models they are using.

C: [Interim President Perez] It is too late for this year but not too early to start the discussions for next year.

Q: I understand that Lisa Millora will be running Institutional Affairs and also be the Vice President of University Advancement. Will there be a merging and moving around of these divisions?

A: [VP Faas] We are still in the silent phase of the capital campaign.

Q: [Interim President Perez] Yes, you typically remain in the silent phase until you reach 60% of the goal. It has been percolating for some time. We are looking at how to move forward, and we are always looking at how we organize things.

C: A few years ago, prior to Theresa becoming the VP of University Advancement, a previous interim VP presented to the Senate on the fundraising campaign, and here we are two years later still waiting. Is there going to be a reorganization?

A: [Interim President Perez] We will analyze, regroup, and move forward.

6. Updates from the Policy Committee Chairs:

a. From the Organization and Government Committee (O&G):

O&G will be bringing a Senate Management Resolution regarding modality to the next Senate meeting.

O&G is considering asking for a special committee or task force to be set up to study Senate expansion.

b. From the Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):

C&R will be working on two degree program reviews. C&R will also be bringing two policies back to the Senate for final reviews, the GE Guidelines and amendments to the Certificate policy. The Chancellor's Office updates are in alignment with the amended policy for Internships (S16-14) that we sent to the president [President Mary Papazian] last year that is still pending in the President's Office. It was asked to remain pending until the updates from the Chancellor's Office were completed.

Questions:

Q: We need to revisit the internship policy and get this revised. Will C&R be working on this?

A: C&R brought this up to Thalia Anagnos, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education. The policy is still sitting on the President's desk.

C: [Provost] I've talked to Thalia Anagnos. The practices we've put in place are good. We will look at this policy again over the summer.

c. From the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):

I&SA will bring three things to the Senate next week. The add/drop policy will come for a final reading. The grading policy will come for a first reading, and there will be an amendment to the waitlist policy that will come as a final reading.

Next semester C&R will be working on the Academic Integrity policy, and calculating grades for probation purposes.

d. From the Professional Standards Committee (PS):

PS will be bringing an amendment to the RTP policy, S15-8, regarding academic assignment as a final reading at next week's Senate meeting. PS is planning an amendment to F15-7 for next Academic Year.

7. Updates from the Administrators and CSU Statewide Representative:

a. From the Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA):

The good news is as of May 1st we are hitting our enrollment targets. We have 4,126 Frosh and 3,460 Transfer students. Frosh are right in line with where we were last year and ahead significantly from where we were in Fall 2019 and Fall 2020. We are down 400 transfer students from last year, but it is no big surprise.

Our COVID rate is up slightly. We went from .86% two weeks ago to 2% last week. However, we are still at only half the county rate. One week doesn't show a trend, but we will be keeping an eye on it. Forty-three percent of the cases are off campus.

We are seeing a lot of students that are disengaged and are hard to reach, but at the same time they want hybrid classes. We will have to think about some way to re-engage our student population. Remember that incoming frosh students have spent the last two years of high school virtually.

Questions:

Q: Is there any talk about expanding Orientation for transfer students?

A: Every single year. We expanded Orientation when VP Day came. It includes parent programming now. There is an open invitation for ideas and suggestions of

ways to engage students after Orientation.

b. Update from the CSU Statewide Report:

The ASCSU has been discussing Presidential Searches and the Board of Trustees (BOT).

The ASCSU is considering revising/revoking Naming policies if they violate equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) policies. For example, if the person, the building, or other facility is named after someone that has spoken out against immigrants or people of color.

The ASCSU is discussing whether faculty get any credit for leading RTP searches under the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). This comes as a result of a lawsuit filed at CSULA.

Questions:

Q: Is only the AB 928 internal report going to be received by May 6, 2022?

A: The ASCSU will see and report to SJSU.

[Senator Curry] The Chancellor's Office has an Equity Portal for Student Success. They are asking for participation by Senators. Senator Curry is not sure if it is only for ASCSU Senators or all Senators. They are looking for best practices by faculty regarding student success. It is in the pilot stage. One of the test campuses is CSU East Bay. As soon as Senator Curry gets more information, she will send it out.

c. Update from the Provost: No report.

d. Update from the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO):

There is a Biannual Juneteenth Celebration to be held in-person at Dominquez Hills. The CDO has 25 tickets and hopes to take about 10 people to the event.

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will convene a group to install a mural at Uchida Hall. Associated Students passed funding for the mural.

Management Personnel Plan (MPP) training is almost done. There were 16 microaggression training sessions.

There is an Undergraduate Research Project headed by Andrew Carter and Jahmal Williams, where students work on community-based projects with faculty members and are paid an hourly rate for their research. They hope to expand this to 30 students.

The Campus Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CCDEI) co-chairs, Angee Ortega-McGee and Monica Allen, are working on the strategic framework. A call for nominations for vacant committee seats will go out soon.

The Committee on Professional, Productive, and Ethical Expectations in Work Relations had a meeting, but is waiting for Alison to return to resume major projects.

The CDO's Office will be taking 17 people from UPD and Academic Affairs to a conference in Oregon. The CDO is very excited. There are tons of workshops that the attendees can participate in.

8. Acting Chair Sasikumar thanked Past Chair Mathur, Senator Wynn Schultz-Krohn, AVC Kimb Massey, and Eva Joice, Senate Administrator. She could not have gotten through the semester without all their help.

The minutes were edited by Acting Chair Sasikumar on May 11, 2022.
The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on June 10, 2022.