THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

5200 N. Barton Ave ML 34

Fresno, California 93740-8014

Office of the Academic Senate FAX: 278-5745

TEL: 278-2743 (AS-9)

November 23, 2015

Members excused: O. Benavides, J. Giglio, D. Helsel, A. Liu, C.K., Leung, R. Maldonado, A. McKeith, R. Raya-Fernandez, B. Roberts, M. Schettler, S. Schlievert, M. Thompson, R. Thornton, W. Wu

Members absent: P. Cornelio, B. DerMugrdechian, C. Perez, J. Therkelsen, J. Whiting

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 4:03pm in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 16, 2015

An amendment was made to the minutes.

MSC approving the Minutes of November 16, 2015 as amended.

1. Communications and announcements
2. Provost Zelezny

Dr. Saul Jimenez-Sandoval has been appointed as the new Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities.

The search has begun for a new Dean of the College of Science and Math, with the search committee being chaired by Dr. Constance Jones (Psychology).

Equity II letters for staff went out last week, and the letters for faculty are going out this week. Over 400 have been helped by Equity I and II.

The provost was joined by VP Lamas (Student Affairs) to discuss impaction. At the moment our applications are down from last year, so there may be no need to change admissions criteria, but there are 4,500 applications pending and if they are submitted by the November 30 deadline, we would then need to discuss changes in admission criteria.

VP Lamas noted that it is the state legislature and the governor who determine if and by how much we can grow. If we are not funded for more growth, we are going to have to do things like raise minimum GPA and SAT requirements for first time freshmen and transfer students. He noted that admitting first time freshmen with GPAs around 2.0 often is not the best option for them; their graduation rate is only 19%. But if we re-direct them to the community colleges and then they transfer to Fresno State their graduation rate rises to 70%. We have been raising admission standards (GPA and SAT) for students outside of our service area, but some programs, like those in Jordan College, want to admit more of them because there are so few agricultural school options for higher education in California. This is also true of the Lyles College of Engineering. Information will be going out to high school counselors about possible admission criteria changes at Fresno State.

Dean Witte (Jordan College) and Associate Dean Larralde (Lyles College) discussed specific programs in their colleges that may change admissions standards (like increasing math requirements for admission to the Lyles College), and in some cases are seeking to increase enrollments in their programs. Senator Forgacs (Mathematics) expressed concern over the idea that some programs might be increasing enrollments during impaction. Dean Witte explained that in Jordan College any program increases would be in under-enrolled programs and would probably be offset by managed decreases in over-enrolled programs.

VP Lamas then introduced Malisa Lee and Frances Pena who have been working on this issue. Ms. Pena is retiring from Fresno State after 36 years of service.

1. CIO Leon

Talked about EduRoam, which is a guest wireless service being implemented at many institutions of higher education around the world so scholars from anywhere can get on-line with log-in credentials from their home university. Most of the campuses of the University of California already have this, and most of the CSUs will have it next year, including Fresno State. Senator Hall (Physics) asked about the program’s cost. CIO Leon explained that it was fairly cheap since it was mostly just software and licensing.

1. Senator Slagter (Women’s Studies)

Asked about pushing back the date grades are due this semester. Vice Provost Nef said that he would pass on the request to Dr. Fu, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) added that every semester we have this problem of a decreasing amount of time for faculty to finish up their grading.

1. Senator Williams (Agricultural Business)

Noted that he had enjoyed the debate over lecturer voting rights and feels that one problem on this campus is that we have too many lecturers. Also, he noted that it was about three years ago that he hurt his head in a fall and that the Academic Senate helped him by providing the “normal” environment he needed for his recovery.

1. Chair Ayotte

Noted that next semester the Academic Senate will return to meeting every other week. If the agenda becomes too long, we will return to weekly meetings. He also noted that the Senate will meet November 30 and December 7 of this semester.

1. New business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

1. APM 132 Policy on Consultation Regarding the Implementation of California State University Executive Orders. Second reading.

A friendly amendment changed one more “should” into “shall”.

MSC approving new APM 132.

1. APM 206 Interim Policies and Procedures on Technology Mediated Courses and Programs. Second reading.

Senator Durette (Art and Design) suggested that we needed some clearer language on the form that will be used to route and approve hybrid and on-line courses. The form was shown and discussed.

Senator Ram (University-wide) pointed out that all of the signature lines on the form were not required by the policy for hybrid courses. She noted that the terms next to the check boxes at the top of the form were also inconsistent with the policy.

Senator Karr (Music) asked what the term “technical review” of courses actually meant. Dr. Bryan Berrett (Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies), speaking on behalf of TILT, explained that it means a review of hybrid and online courses to make sure they comply with the QOLT standards adopted by the CSU.

Senator Bryant (Political Science) pointed out a missing word in the form. Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) suggested that the form should just use the same language as APM 206 to be consistent. Dr. Berrett said that TILT would revise the form appropriately.

Senator Ram (University-wide) pointed out that the last section of the policy had a paragraph that repeated a paragraph in Section III, paragraph B, of the policy.

MSC approving the removal of the first paragraph in Section IV of APM 206 and changing the title of the section to reflect the remaining contents (1 abstention).

Senator Ram (University-wide) argued that Section III, paragraph B should be changed to reflect the fact that some departments do not have curriculum committees and that chairs approve courses instead. Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) said that she felt the language as is was flexible enough to accommodate that concern.

Senator Ram (University-wide) pointed out that the first sentence in Section III, part B of APM 206 regarding the approval process indicates that, according to the definition of “web facilitated courses” in the policy and the website it refers to, even courses that simply use Blackboard to post a syllabus or grades must be approved by department curriculum committees. Was this intended? Both Senator Durette (Art and Design) and Chair Ayotte argued that this was not the intention.

Senator Williams (Agricultural Business) moved to close debate and call the question. The motion was seconded. Several senators argued against the motion, saying that there was more to discuss. The motion failed on a voice vote.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:16pm.

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on November 30, 2015, at 4:00pm in HML 2206.

Submitted by Approved by

Thomas Holyoke Kevin Ayotte

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate