THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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November 20, 2017

Members excused: N. Akhavan, A. Alexandrou, Q. Chen, M. Dangi, R. Maldonado, A. McKeith, J. Smith-Warshaw, C. Sullivan, A.M. Tawfik

Members absent: P. Adams, D. Cady, B. DerMugrdechian, M. Golden, C. Henson, K. McBee, B. Zante

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:02pm in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda.

MSC approving the agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 6, 2017.

MSC approving the Minutes of November 6, 2017.

1. Communications and announcements.
   1. Provost Zelezny

Wished the senate a good break. Provided information about level B funding. Noted every college received a slightly higher amount, though not as much as they would like to have provided. There was an increase in staffing in Academic Scheduling and Faculty Affairs. OIT, Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies are not in the formula and were handled under central funds.

Vice Provost Nef noted there was a $4.6 million increase and $2.4 million of that was in student success funding. The large increase in central funding was in two main categories. $500,000 was held for increased class sections and $300,000 was used to bring new faculty on two weeks earlier to get them started sooner.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) asked what percentage this is of the total budget.

Vice Provost Nef replied the information was in the level A presentation but it is about 67.8%.

Chair Holyoke noted the senate is still awaiting additional budget information from Vice President Adishian-Astone.

1. Installation of New Senator

The senator was not present and was not installed.

1. Election – Nominations – Nominating/Elections Committee

Chair Holyoke relinquished the floor to Don Austin (Chair Elections Committee)

* 1. Exectuive Committee – One At-large Position (Nominations from the floor)

Jennifer Miele elected by acclimation to At-large Senator – Academic Senate.

Chair Holyoke noted the position would begin at the start of the Spring 2018 semester.

1. New Business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

1. Consent Calendar
   1. Graduation Honors for Transfer Students

Katie Dyer (Chair, Academic Standards & Grading Subcommittee) presented information on the request to remove the 45-unit completion requirement for receiving honors cords.

The consent calendar was approved by unanimous consent.

6.) Governing Documents – Constitution for the Academic Assembly. Second Reading.

Senator Ram (University-wide) motioned to replace 30 days with “the first agenda item of the next scheduled senate meeting”. She included the replacement of the word “After” with “Once”.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) proposed a friendly amendment to insert “Academic” before “Senate”. Senator Ram (University-wide) accepted the friendly amendment.

Senator Gilewicz (English) asked the reason for removing 30 days.

Senator Ram (University-wide) responded 30 days seemed too excessive given the seriousness of the situation.

Chair Holyoke noted the chair would not be in a position to unschedule a meeting because senate meetings are prescheduled at the beginning of the academic year.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) stated his concern about relying on prescheduling because there is no policy that states the chair has to preschedule meetings.

Senator Kensinger (Women Studies) noted the senate never before had the ability to remove a chair and meetings have consistently been prescheduled. She shares the concern but does not think that situation would happen.

Senator Gilewicz (English) asked if the next paragraph would need to be changed because it too states 30 days.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) noted the senate should be particular about the wording because once this revision goes to the Academic Assembly, they will vote it up or down with no alterations. He asked if the request for a vote were presented in early April, would that mean the vote would not happen until the next academic year.

Senator Waldman (Theater Arts) suggested extending Senator Ram’s amendment to apply to the next paragraph.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked for clarification if there are two votes.

Chair Holyoke replied there are two ways to initiate a vote.

Senator Ram (Universitywide) proposed a secondary amendment to remove the next paragraph and move one sentence into the preceding paragraph.

Senator Karr (Music) stated his concern that the change loses the sense that there are two methods to initiate a vote.

Senator Brady (Earth & Environmental Sciences) stated she feels it is clear based on the previous paragraph.

Senator Sanchez (Chicano and Latin American Studies) stated he does not think it is clear if there are two steps.

Senator Schettler (Africana Studies) spoke in favor of the amendment, noting eliminating the 30 day requirement in both paragraphs would make it the same.

MSC secondary motion to amend the motion.

MSC primary motion. 3 abstentions.

Senator Jenkins (Statewide) moved to amend “two-thirds” to “majority vote”.

Seantor Schettler (Africana Studies) spoke against the motion stating a 2/3 vote is more appropriate for the removal of the chair.

Senator Jenkins (Statewide) noted the change affects the call for a vote but the vote itself will still require a 2/3 majority.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) speaks against the motion because 50% will allow too much politicking. He noted a person could go to the body if 2/3 of the senate cannot be achieved.

The motion failed. 3 abstentions.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) moved to change “laying out” to “identifying”.

MSC change of “laying out” to “identifying”.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) moved to remove “two” before the word “separate”.

MSC removal of the word “two”. 2 abstentions.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) stated a concern with the wording of the second paragraph.

Senator Brady (Earth and Environmental Sciences) moved to replace “has been taken” to “occurs”.

MSC replacing “has been taken” to “occurs”. 2 abstentions.

Senator Ram (University-wide) moved to change “once the” to “once a”.

MSC replacing “once the” to “once a”.

Senator Bryant (University-wide) moved to add “to order” after “call the meeting”.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) spoke against the motion because calling a meeting is to schedule the meeting, whereas calling a meeting to order is to start the meeting.

Senator Ram (University-wide) suggested removing the first sentence instead.

The amendment fails.

Senator Ram (University-wide) moved to remove the first sentence of the paragraph.

MSC removal of the first paragraph. 3 abstentions.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) moved to remove the word “actual”.

MSC removal of the word “actual”.

Senator Gilewicz (English) moved to remove the comma after “committee” in the second paragraph.

MSC removal of the comma.

Senator Yun (Literacy, Early, Bilingual and Special Education) inquired who presides over the vote if the chair is being removed.

Chair Holyoke replied the Chair of the Nomination and Election Committee.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) moved to insert “called and” before “conducted” in the next to the last paragraph.

MSC insertion of “called and”.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) moved to change “for or against” to “to”.

MSC change to “to”.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) moved to remove “all currently serving” in the last sentence.

MSC removal of “all currently serving”.

The original motion to revise Section 9, Removal of the Chair and/or Vice Chair of the Academic Assembly was approved.

Senator Jenkins (Statewide) initiated a call for quorum.

Quorum was achieved.

Chair Holyoke reviewed Section 2, Membership of the Academic Senate.

MSC revisions to Section 2. 1 abstention.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) asked to return to Section 2 and moved to strike “in the spring semester” of item B.

MSC removal of “in the spring semester”.

Senator Martinez (ASI) moved a friendly amendment to add “Incorporated” after “Associated Students”.

The friendly amendment was accepted.

MSC revisions to Section 2, Membership of the Academic Senate.

Chair Holyoke reviewed Section 3, Responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate. He noted the changes for the Vice Chair were only things the Vice Chair has traditionally been doing anyway.

Senator Bryant (University-wide) moved to relocate “(when considered necessary)” to after “Senate Executive Committee”.

MSC relocating “(when considered necessary)”.

MSC revisions to Section 3, Responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:16pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, November 27, 2017.

Submitted by Approved by

Paula Durette Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate