THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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May 1, 2017

Members excused: P. Adams, B. Buckner, M. Dangi, N. Delich, P. Garcia, C. Langer, A. McKeith, M. Raheem, W. Skuban, S. Shinn, G. Thatcher, J. Wakabayashi, C. Yun

Members absent: B. Dermugrdechian, M. Golden, C. Henson, S. Lankford, B. Ong, B. Singh, J. Wenger, T. Wilson, W. Wu

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:02pm in ED 140.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 24, 2017

MSC approving the Minutes of April 24, 2017

1. Communications and announcements
   1. Provost Zelezny

Commended the presentations given by Arts and Humanities students in Washington D.C.

* 1. Senator Youn (Biology) inquired about training for next year’s faculty searches.

Provost Zelezny related that she will reach out to those that are in need of training.

1. New Business

No new business was presented.

1. Liberal Studies Proposal. Second reading.

Dr. Cady was acknowledged and addressed concerns that were raised about the proposals. He reinforced that structurally the current model does not work well and the move to cohorts had improved the class and teaching experience.

Senator Mullooly (Anthropology) inquired how classes are brought into liberal studies. Dr. Cady replied that classes will not leave their disciplines, but it is expected there will be greater collaboration and buy-in with departments.

Senator Ho (Physics) related concern if the formulation of the new department will effect changes in the hiring of new faculty outside of Liberal Studies. Dr. Akhavan said no.

Senator Ayotte (Communication) related that the consultation process of curriculum requires approval from departments, and the scheduling of faculty is determined by the original department chairs.

Senator Sullivan (Sociology) indicated concerns there may be new commitments to mentoring and service. He inquired how the new department will handle mentoring, advising and administration and if it will fall onto faculty in other departments. Dr. Akhavan replied there is an advising center. The formation of a department in Liberal Studies will give students a location to go and would not be an additional burden on other faculty.

Senator Ram (Universitywide) expressed concerns about the role of the Liberal Studies Committee in this process. Dr. Cady replied it he felt it should have been more transparent but the proposal should be moved forward with a commitment for a more transparent process.

Senator Benavides motions to call the question. Seconded.

The question is called with 17 in favor, 14 opposed, 2 abstentions. Motion fails.

Senator Mullooly (Anthropology) expressed concerns about where the control of content will reside, not just FTES. Dr. Cady indicated the content experts are within the individual departments, but faculty are encouraged to think about how the content effects teachers.

Senator Maldonado (Philosophy) raised concerns about a course being terminated and who is overseeing curriculum.

MSC approving the creation of the Liberal Studies Department with 7 abstentions.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:15pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, May 8, 2017.

Submitted by Approved by

Paula Durette Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate