THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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September 10, 2018

Members excused: Y. Luo, R. Raya-Fernandez, T. Wilson

Members absent: P. Adams, M. Golden, K. McBee, J. Mullooly

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:08pm in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda as amended to refer item on APM 320 back to the Executive Committee

1. Approval of the Minutes of May 7, 2018

MSC approving the Minutes of May 7, 2018

1. Communications and announcements
	1. Interim Provost Harper

The interim provost shared the recent news about *U.S. News and World Report* ranking Fresno State third among public universities in graduation performance. The university has also moved up several spaces in the overall ranking.

57 new tenure-track faculty are on board this semester. 186 faculty have been hired in the past three years. 252 faculty have been hired since 2013, which is the second highest in the CSU system.

The Provost additionally reported that the budget situation is not as rosy as the university has hoped over the summer. The benefits pool is in dire straits and there is a $13 million shortfall in benefits. As a result, funds were taken from various university reserves. The bottom line was that Academic Affairs is responsible for more than $2 million of that shortfall, and in addition $1.2 million have been allocated for classroom renovations.

Last year Academic Affairs received $99.4 million. This year, it received $100 million. About 80% of that money was given to schools and colleges last year and money was taken off the top for the Provost’s Office and special unit expenditures. This year, the budget model produced $15 million more in expenditure than was available in the available funds. Also, money to some special units was reduced proportionally for the first time, which left about $1.5 million more in the pool for schools and colleges.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) reminded the senate that the $13 million shortfall is because the CSU agreed to absorb some of its benefit costs a number of years ago.

* 1. Senate Task Force on Workload Report - Oscar Vega

Dr. Vega (Mathematics) reported to the senate about the Task Force’s report on faculty workload. The report was submitted to the senate at the end of the last academic year. Two big issues were found: large enrollment classes and TAs/graders; and research expectations.

The task force proposed some possible solutions, but asked the Senate to evaluate the proposed solutions and make suggestions. Several APM sections were identified as using the term “may” in respect to providing graders/TAs, and it was suggested that these should be provided in all cases. In addition, some independent study courses were not being counted the same way across the university, and this should be standardized across colleges. Similar ambiguity (“may” or “or”) was used in some APM sections related to grading as well in large classes.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked whether the committee asked whether GE courses that are being offered at larger enrollments than their caps were considered. Dr. Vega stated that the committee had identified an issue where some APM sections required faculty to give extensive feedback to students, and that this might sometimes be done by a TA or grader.

Dr. Vega stated that on the research issue, the task force had contacted deans, associate deans, and colleagues at San Francisco State to determine how research should be recognized. The task force argued that there should be three tracks for faculty: research, service, and teaching. The first two categories would have built-in release time and a max of 9 WTU, the teaching category was stay at 12 WTU. Dean James Marshall has polled deans around the university about how much this proposal would cost.

Senator Van Camp (Criminology) asked whether the committee had examined the definition of team teaching, and whether this might be used to reduce faculty load. Dr. Vega stated the committee had not considered this.

* 1. Orlando Leon - Spirion

CIO Leon announced the implementation of Spirion on campus. Spirion used to be called Identity Finder, and is a data loss prevention tool. The tool scans disks for confidential information that matches certain patterns. It will not store any files, but will make a record that the file exists. There is a central console that tracks the information found, and only the Information Security Officer will see the resulting data. Periodic audits will be done to make sure the campus is in compliance with relevant regulation. Before the year 2010, the NCAA used Social Security Numbers for all athletes, putting a great deal of data at potential risk. Some of this data may still be sitting on drives in the university, and this tool will help identify that information. Faculty will be notified before anyone else if such data is detected on their university machines. In some cases, faculty with large number of records may be contacted.

CIO Leon added that managers have been using the software since August, and following a 30-day notification window the software will be installed for staff. Faculty will receive a similar notice in the coming months.

CIO Leon concluded by telling the senate that this tool would not be used for disciplinary proceedings, but was merely an informational tool.

Senator Lone (Agribusiness) asked whether the software would be automatically pushed out to individual computers. CIO Leon answered that college IT liaisons have been installing the software on manager computers, and will do the same for faculty. External hard drives will also be scanned by the software.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked how the software identifies false positives. CIO Leon stated that the software would generate false positives, and it would be up to faculty to review those and ignore those cases. However, Peoplesoft numbers will be flagged by the software by default. Training will be offered to all faculty. CIO Leon stated that the main benefits of this software were compliance and personal awareness about what faculty may have on their hard drives.

* 1. Senator Schlievert (Statewide)

Senator Schlievert reported that there was a lengthy statewide meeting in the previous week. 17 pages of documentation were sent out earlier.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked what the main issues for the senate may be, and whether the chancellor is addressing any issues related to GE. Senator Schlievert replied that there were numerous discussions, and will return to the agenda in the October meeting. Most of the discussion revolved around what had been done previously and what might happen in the coming year. A report on GE is expected in November.

* 1. Chair Holyoke

Chair Holyoke introduced the members of the Executive Committee and the acting senate parliamentarian to senators.

Chair Holyoke stated that he has been receiving a number of emails relating to the budget. On November 5, the President and Vice President Astone will be giving a budget briefing and taking questions from senators. Chair Holyoke has shared concerns about the Level A allocation with the president and senior administration.

A reception will be held for the new Athletic Director on September 24 and senators are encouraged to attend.

Chair Holyoke reminded senators that the provost search will be kicking off shortly.

The two student ratings task forces are continuing to meet this semester. At some stage, the task forces may begin combining their work.

Chair Holyoke reminded senators that there will be a Free Speech Forum on September 17.

Finally, Chair Holyoke stated that the Personnel Committee should shortly be issuing guidelines for social media use. These would be guidelines only, not policy.

Senator Gillewicz (English) asked whether Chair Holyoke has requested only the Level B budget allocation, or also Level A. Chair Holyoke stated that he has requested both.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked whether the next report could be more extensive than the previous one the senate received, and include some historical data to compare. Chair Holyoke stated that he would request such a briefing. Senator Kensinger also asked whether information could be obtained about roll-over money that is still available at the end of the budget cycle.

1. New business

There was no new business for the Academic Senate.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:03pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on Monday, September 24, 2018.

Submitted by Approved by

Bradley Hart Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate