THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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June 3, 2020

Members present: Thomas Holyoke (Chair), Raymond Hall (Vice Chair), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-Large), Tinneke Van Camp (At-Large), Jennifer Miele (At-Large), Hisham Qutob (ASI Executive Vice President), Lisa Bryant (Universitywide incoming), Susan Schlievert (Statewide), Saul Jiménez-Sandoval (Ex-Officio), Joseph Castro (Ex-officio)

Members excused:

Guests: Venita Baker (Academic Senate), Bernadette Muscat

(Interim Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Bryan Berrett (Center for Faculty Excellence), Daniel Bernard (Continuing and Global Education), Debbie Adishian-Astone (VP for Administration, CFO), Kelly Russell (Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships), Laura Yager, (University Registrar), Malisa Lee (Office of the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management), Scott Moore (Continuing and Global Education), Marshs Baum (Faculty Affairs), Xuanning Fu (Interim Vice Provost)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 11:04 pm on Zoom.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC (with changes- postpone climate)

1. Approval of Minutes from 5.4.2020

MSC

4. Fall Semester Task Force Report 2020

The Provost brought the committee up to date on plans for the Fall. He mentioned that the screening process should be complete which will include wristbands/stickers to be deployed and an education campaign for compliance. Faculty are allowed to come on campus to offices but only with mask and following other protocols, but would not require using the app and would not need to have a temperature screening. Research students thought also not to be part of screening. The Student Cupboard and other resources (Tech ect.) would also be accessible but not require screening. An interesting fact noted: in Fall 2019 40% of course sections were offered online (Digital Campus).

Dr. Baum informed that faculty are now being consulted on the current list of potential face to face courses.

Dr. Raya-Fernandez asked about the methods of testing and tracking. The Provost indicated a point contact type system.

Dr. Bryant asked about SSD issues such as closed captioning of posted video course content and the Panopto app with a concern about intensity of labor. Dr. Berrett stated that close captioning will be done by Tech Services.

Mr. Qutob inquired if student helpers will still be a component of SSD. Dr. Berrett confirm that note taking is still in place.

The Provost mentioned that all face to face activity should be designed (if at all possible) with activity front end loaded, in the event that a second wave might induce a statewide lockdown.

Dr. Baum alerted the committee that faculty need to know rather urgently if day care will be in place for the Fall.

Dr. Bryant asked about Spring 2021. The Provost told the committee decisions about Spring 2021 will be made in the Fall.

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5. Proposal to use three instructional days as student training for fall semester.

Dr. Baum outlined a proposal that would suspend class meetings for the first three days of Fall 2020, and students would instead be invited to voluntarily participate in an online campus wide orientation that could foster student inclusion and provide training for virtual tools (Zoom, Canvas, etc.) In addition Dr. Baum felt a 3 day delay of teaching could be a means to compensate faculty for the additional workload that virtual preparation will entail.

Dr. Hall expressed concern about losing up to two teaching days, especially when we are asked to front-end load our courses. He worried that if the orientation was not made to be mandatory that there would be no guarantee that students will acquire skills concerning Zoom or Canvas etc. In addition many courses have content with respect to accreditation and missing two days can actually impact coverage of required content, especially for engineers and scientists.

Dr. Bryant expressed support for an orientation that could assist students in becoming comfortable with Zoom and other online tools and technology.

Committee members in favor: Dr. Van Camp, Dr. Miele, Dr. Bryant, Mr. Qutob

Committee members expressing concern: Dr. Holyoke, Dr. Hall, Dr. Raya-Fernandez

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6. Grading Plan for summer sessions and fall semester.

The Provost advises to keep policy in place.

Ms. Russell and Ms. Yager reported on the logistics of the Spring NC instead of F policy (and change grade requests). They cautioned that the process involved a lot of manual labor, and that the issue of W and WU exemptions was still pending.

Dr. Fu reminded that we will need to get approval from Chancellor’s Office for this extension. The provost indicated that this was very likely to come.

Chair Holyoke: Motion to extend Covid-19 grading policy to Summer and Fall 2020.

Dr. Muscat asked that we clarify with the Deans once again to make sure that appropriate Summer courses are opted out of the grading policy. Dr. Moore emphasized that we do need to make sure we did not miss any courses that would fit exemption that were not offered in Spring 2020.

Ms. Lee asked if we can we vote to extend just for Summer for now.

The committee accepted this revision to the motion.

Revised: Motion to extend Covid-19 grading policy to Summer 2020 only.

MSC

Zoom chat communiqué:

From Scott Moore to Everyone: 12:52 PM

Thank you to the Executive Senate for your leadership on grading! FYI: big summer this year: 4,582 enrollments! I am leaving this meeting.

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The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 1:28 pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be as needed and conducted remotely.

Submitted by: Approved by:

Raymond Hall Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate