THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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September 18, 2023

Members present: Raymond Hall (Chair), Amber Crowell (Vice Chair), Jennifer Miele (At-Large), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-Large), Susan Schlievert (Statewide), Lisa Bryant (At-Large), Xuanning Fu (Provost), Aaron Stillmaker (University-wide), Jim Schmidtke (AVP of Faculty Affairs), Karen Carillo (ASI rep)

Members excused: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval (President)

Guests: Venita Baker (Academic Senate), Bernadette Muscat (Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Nicole Walsh (Chair of Academic Policy and Planning Committee), Kelly Russell (AVP of Student Financial Resources)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hall at 3:03 pm.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

*MSC*

1. Approval of the Minutes of 9.11.23.

*MSC*

1. Communications and Announcements.

Communication from Provost: Quick update on WASC reaccreditation process. This week we are sending a survey on feedback on themes and subthemes. Scheduled to present to ASI for student feedback on Wednesday. We welcome visit of WASC Vice President on Sept. 26. She will meet with executive committee and WASC executive committee.

**Action Items**

1. Email dated August 28, 2023 from Jim Schmidtke, Interim Associate Vice President of Faculty Affairs Office to Raymond Hall, Chair of the Academic Senate re: APM 355 Policy on Assigned Time for Exceptional Levels of Service. Email has been received.

**Chair Hall:** Would rather expedite this process and send to Personnel Committee.

Suggestion: Sent to University Personnel Committee, *MSC*

1. Memo dated September 14, 2023 from David Low, Chair of the University Personnel Committee to Raymond Hall, Chair of the Academic Senate re: Craig School of Business Articles of Governance. Memo has been received.

**A. Stillmaker**: There should be a two-week comment period. APM 113, Section E states that Executive Committee shall notify interested parties for two-week public comment period.

**Chair Hall**: We will make sure we are in compliance with APM and decide if APM is need of revision.

Suggestion: Move to agenda

1. Resolutions from the CSU Academic Senate

Suggestion: Review resolutions, determine if any resolutions need to be discussed in Executive Committee

1. Nominations for Faculty Representation: CSU Academic Council on International Programs (ACIP)

Athletic Corporation Board of Directors

Suggestion: Move to executive session

1. New Business.

*None*

1. Academic Calendar Proposal 2024-25 and 2025-26. Second Reading.

**Chair Hall:** Think bigger about this issue of consultation days. Most campuses do not have consultations, and a minority only have one consultation day. If we need one, why do we need another one? Faculty should be brought into the conversation since it relates to pedagogy and student success. brings up questions about what guides the committee that determines academic calendar. Does Dean Muscat chair the committee?

**Dean Muscat**: I did not serve as chair. We have not met in a few years. We will convene the group again for the next two-year cycle.

**Chair Hall**: When did the committee for this two-year cycle meet?

**Dean Muscat**: Before COVID. Issues include balance across semesters with work days. All of those were taken into consideration for what was presented here. Moving forward, as soon as this gets approved, we’ll reconvene the committee and go through the regular process.

**Chair Hall**: So committee decided two years ago, but we’re just now hearing about it?

**Dean Muscat**: Yes, that is correct.

**Chair Hall**: Confused that decision was made two years ago but is only just getting to us. The executive committee should be notified with the recommendations that the committee makes, not just when the proposal is ready.

**J. Miele**: The last time this happened, we discussed the executive committee being consulted sooner. I hope going forward it is a thing.

**Chair Hall**: Are we comfortable to pass off on the removal of a consultation day?

**R. Raya-Fernandez**: Your recommendation that there should be faculty consultation was appropriate.

**L. Bryant**: This is an indefinite change?

**Dean Muscat**: This is just for the next two years. Depending on how the cycle goes for the next two years, depends on pay calendar and when we can have our first day. A lot is out of our hands. It is possible we could put in a consultation day at a later time.

**L. Bryant**: For the duration of time I’ve been at Fresno State, we’ve always had two consultation days. It is a large change, or the perception of a large change. The perception among faculty is that this is going to be a way to add in another instructional day. There should be faculty consultation.

**Chair Hall**: I’m uncomfortable that TTH classes get extra day, but MW classes don’t.

**Dean Muscat**: The total number across semesters is almost identical.

**Chair Hall**: Perception will be that TTH get stuck with extra class.

**J. Miele**: There is also a shift, starting earlier in the week and adding a whole week of work that could add more meetings rather than more teaching preparation. Faculty may take it as a significant change.

**R. Raya-Fernandez**: While other universities have one or none, it is a pretty significant change here. If one day is removed, it will be hard to get that back.

**Chair Hall**: If faculty do object, do we have any recourse? Could we change the calendar?

**Dean Muscat**: I don’t know.

**Chair Hall**: Who is in charge of that?

**Dean Muscat**: It goes from our office, goes to EC, goes to Chancellor’s Office for approval, then to President for approval.

**Chair Hall**: Who is most in charge of version handed to us?

**Dean Muscat**: You can put me in charge. Much of it is set with the Chancellor’s Office, which doesn’t give us a lot of flexibility.

**Chair Hall**: Campuses do it so differently, there is some flexibility. Like how Chico State has no consultation days and gets more days off for Thanksgiving. This would affect student parents who don’t have daycare during Thanksgiving week.

**Dean Muscat**: Send me a memo.

**L. Bryant**: Consutlation days are for 1-1 meetings with students

**J. Miele**: Gives students more time to study.

**Chair Hall**: My impression is that faculty would want another instructional day rather than consultation day where students don’t show up. We need faculty input. Do we have a deadline for this calendar?

**Dean Muscat**: Have requested this information, have not heard back.

**Chair Hall**: Would we like to pursue a dialogue?

**J. Miele**: Can we bring it to Senate?

**Chair Hall**: If we bring it o Senate, we should have a list of proposals. Does anybody want to think about what that proposal should look like?

**L. Bryant**: A proposal of the status quo versus this adjustment?

**Chair Hall**: It should be more expansive, considering other campuses and issues of students and holiday weeks. If we could determine the impact on our students and what would be beneficial for students.

**L. Bryant**: I would be happy to work on a proposal, look at the calendars, maybe work with somebody on the committee.

**Dean Muscat**: I will work on getting deadline to this group from Chancellor’s Office. Please have a few choices for how to change the calendar.

**Chair Hall**: We could do this incrementally.

**Dean Muscat**: We could temporarily do a one-year calendar, but this would not be preferable because so much planning relies on two-year calendar.

**R. Raya-Fernandez**: No other departments have been notified of this change?

**Dean Muscat**: I think it just went to us.

*Begin executive session: 3:29 pm*

*End executive session: 3:42 pm*

1. Nominations for Faculty Representation

Matthew Jendian is selected as faculty representative for Athletic Corporation Board of Directors

Alex (Shi-His)Liu is selected as faculty representative for CSU Academic Council on International Programs

Aaron Hoskins is selected as faculty representative for Richter Center Advisory Committee

Adjourned: 3:42 PM