

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
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March 12, 2007

Members Present: Mike Botwin, Jacinta Amaral Michael Caldwell, Jeronima Echeverria, Manuel Figueroa, Kathie Reid, Harald Schweizer, Russel Statham (student), Lynn Williams.

Member Absent: President Welty (excused).

Visitors: B. Agbayani, C. Golston, S. Fulop, S. Hayes, C. Matson, D. Nef, S. Okamoto.

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Chair Botwin in the University Center, Room #203.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the Minutes of 3/5/07.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda as amended to reverse item #5. Request for Senate Resolution and item #6. Executive Session.
3. Communications and Announcements. (Anyone wishing a copy of the items distributed or discussed, please contact the Academic Senate Office).

Senate/Committee Items

- A. President Welty has approved the following: Name Change from Master of Business Administration for Executives to Executive Master of Business Administration, 3/1/07.

Action Item

- B. An e-mail (3/2/07) from Sean Fulop (Linguistics) to Michael Botwin, Chair, Academic Senate, re: Request for Senate Resolution, has been received. (Attachment)

Suggestion: See item 5 on today's Agenda.

Information Item

- C. If anyone has recommendations for changes to the Level A allocation model, please let Chair Botwin know so he can incorporate them.
 - D. Provost Echeverria shared that the first candidate for the Dean of Graduate Programs is on campus today. She also shared that there was a Chairs Retreat last Thursday and Friday that was really well attended. There were two guest speakers, one who talked about diversity hiring and one who talked about immigration issues related to hiring.
 - E. Jacinta Amaral indicated that the Statewide Academic Senate met last week.
 - F. Chair Botwin checked to be sure that everyone received the missive on the strike vote from Pedro Amaral.
4. Policy on Repeating Classes (APM 233) –Academic Policy & Planning (AP&P).

Dennis Nef distributed a handout that summarized various data regarding repeated courses. Currently, our campus is one of eight in the CSU system that does not have any limits on how many times students can repeat a course for credit and a new grade. The proposed policy suggests that there should be a limit of 20 units that can be repeated for units and a new grade; after those 20 units, classes could still be repeated but the previous grade and units would not be replaced.

The following Friendly Amendments were made:

In third paragraph on page 6, strike the word “even” and replace the word “when” with “if,” so that the new sentence reads:
(Graduate/post-baccalaureate students are not eligible for this Policy if the class is an undergraduate course.)

In the first sentence on page 6, strike the word “repeatable” and insert the phrase “that students may enroll in more than once over multiple semesters” after the word courses, so the new sentence reads: This policy does not apply to courses that students may enroll in more than once over multiple semesters (those designated as repeatable for credit by the department).

MSC to approve the Policy on Repeating Classes (APM 233) and forward to the Academic Senate for approval.

5. Executive Session.

MSC to move into Executive Session. (3:35 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.)

Returned to Open Session. (4:16 p.m.)

6. Request for Senate Resolution.

Chair Botwin apologized for a time delay that occurred so a guest could attend the Executive Session.

Chris Golston (Linguistics) briefly summarized concerns shared by the guests, also of Linguistics, Brian Agbayani, and Shigeo Okamoto, through an e-mail signed by them and Terese Thonus (Linguistics) regarding the “Fresno Bee” report on funding issues. In an attachment detailing their concerns, the guests indicated that they feel the following are “as yet unresolved or underreported including public statements covering:

- (i) a timeline showing when funds were misdirected;
- (ii) a list of the donors affected, with dollar amounts;
- (iii) a list of those responsible for misdirecting the funds;
- (iv) a list of those who knew about the misdirected funds (President, Athletic Director, etc.);
- (v) an explanation of why funding ‘errors’ were unidirectional (from academic to sports);
- (vi) a list of academic programs that were adversely affected with dollar amounts lost;
- (vii) whether funds that were target to academic programs have now been *fully* paid to them.”

In the attachment, the guests requested that the Budget Committee “oversee an *impartial and independent* audit of these issues” and “that this Committee report regularly to the Senate.”

Chair Botwin indicated that an audit is currently underway by an independent auditing firm. It was suggested that the guests’ concerns would be better dealt with once that audit has been completed and is available for review.

MSC to adjourn at 4:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be announced and an Agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:

Kathie Reid
Recording Secretary
Academic Senate

Approved by:

Michael Botwin
Chair
Academic Senate