THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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November 16, 2015

Members excused: N. Akhavan, O. Benavides, P. Crume, P. Garcia, J. Giglio, R. Hall, R. Maldonado, A. McKeith, B. Roberts, S. Sherchan, J. Therkelsen

Members absent: P. Cornelio, R. Thornton, J. Whiting

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 4:06pm in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 9, 2015

An amendment was made to the minutes.

MSC approving the Minutes of November 9, 2015 as amended.

1. Communications and announcements
2. Vice Provost Nef

WASC submitted its report to Fresno State today, asking the administration to check it for errors. Vice Provost Nef found two so far. Other than that, the report is consistent with everything WASC had been telling us informally about our performance.

b.) Chair Ayotte

Noted that President Castro is announcing Equity II for faculty, with Fresno State putting $504,000 into new money for faculty salary and benefits.

1. New business

Senator Langer (Madden Library) introduced a resolution calling for the Academic Senate to support AB 798 the College Textbook Affordability Act.

MSC approving the placement of this on the agenda as item #10.

1. APM 125 Policy on Department Chairs. Second reading.

Vice Chair Holyoke took over as presiding officer. The current question is final approval of the proposed policy.

MSC approving the revised APM 125 (2-nays).

1. APM 321 Report on the Faculty Scholar Blue Ribbon Committee. Second Reading.

Chair Ayotte again presiding

MSC tabling this item until Personnel Committee Chair Tsukimura could arrive.

Chair Tsukimura arrived.

Item taken from the table and debate resumed.

Chair Tsukimura explained that the report (which is all that APM 321 is) was supposed to describe the Boyer Model of scholarship, but actually got it backwards. Since it is not a policy anyway, the Senate Personnel Committee decided it should be eliminated from the APM.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) expressed concern that eliminating this meant there would be no reference at all to the Boyer Model in the APM, which might be a problem since our probationary plans are based on that concept. Chair Tsukimura thought it might be possible to place the real Boyer Model in an appendix.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked if by the “Boyer Model” Chair Tsukimura meant the report by Boyer entitled *Scholarship Reconsidered* referenced by the Blue Ribbon Committee.

MSC re-referring this item back to the Senate Personnel Committee with the instructions that they suggest a place in the APM to place the real Boyer Model.

1. APM 132 Policy on Consultation Regarding the Implementation of California State University Executive Orders. First reading.

Vice Chair Holyoke gave a brief explanation of the proposed policy.

Senator Williams (Agricultural Business) expressed concern over the policy’s emphasis on “maximum consultation.”

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) further defined and defended the meaning, noting that, when possible, we should engage as much consultation as possible over the implementation of executive orders because the Chancellor seems to be using them to gradually eroding faculty authority over university policy. Vice Chair Holyoke added that this was a way to still assert out rights even when the Chancellor is superseding policy made by faculty in the APM.

Senator Botwin (Psychology) noted that if consultation ever got out of control, there are parliamentary procedures that can be used to limit debate in the Academic Senate. Otherwise he expressed support for the proposal, noting that during his time as Chair of the Academic Senate the number of executive orders was rising.

Chair Ayotte thought that all “wills” and “shoulds” in the text should be changed to “shalls”.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) asked how many executive orders there had been lately. Vice Provost Nef said that there had been 17 since January of 2013.

Senator Williams (Agricultural Business) said that the president has always consulted with the Academic Senate in regards to executive orders, but did agree that this was a good policy because relationships might not always be so good with future administrations.

Senator Taylor (Information Systems and Decision Sciences) argued for the proposal.

MSC changing all “wills” and “shoulds” to “shalls”.

Senator Fulop (Linguistics) asked whether there actually was any leeway when it came to executive orders. Chair Ayotte explain that sometimes there was.

This first reading item will return on the next agenda.

1. APM 253 Policy on Instructional Television Fixed Service / APM 206 Interim Policies and Procedures on Technology Mediated Courses and Programs. First reading.

Chair Ayotte recommended dealing with this as two separate items, APM 253 and then APM 206, even though they are closely related.

Academic Policy and Planning Committee Chair Mullooly explained that APM 253 should be eliminated because it was largely outdated and irrelevant, and its remaining relevant pieces were being placed in the revised APM 206.

MSC waiving second reading on APM 253.

MSC approving the elimination of APM 253.

Motion made and seconded to proceed with debate over APM 206.

Senator Durette (Art and Design) offered three amendments. The first amendment eliminated unnecessary and confusing examples in section I.

MSC approving the amendment (1-nay).

Senator Durette’s second amendment removed references to specific technologies because these would one day be outdated and irrelevant. They were replaced by more general language.

Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) asked what document the definitions used in the proposed policy originally came from. Chair Mullooley indicated it was the document available at the URL in the proposed policy.

MSC approving the amendment.

Senator Durette’s third amendment removed a reference to Blackboard in the policy and replaced it with more general language.

MSC approving the amendment.

Chair Ayotte expressed concern that we were not viewing the most up to date version of the policy proposal.

MSC tabling further discussion of APM 206 until Vice Chair Holyoke can make sure we are using the right version.

1. Faculty Senate Consideration of Support for U.S. House Bill H.R. 275 – A Bill to Create a Presidential Commission to Look Into Issues Facing Intercollegiate Athletics. First reading.

MSC tabling discussion of this item until Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) can bring representatives from the Athletics Department to explain it.

1. Resolution in Support of AB 798 the College Textbook Affordability Act.

MSC tabling discussion of this resolution until further information can be made available.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 4:59pm.

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on November 23, 2015, at 4:00pm in HML 2206.

Submitted by Approved by

Thomas Holyoke Kevin Ayotte

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate