THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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May 7, 2018

Members excused: T. Brunson, A. Hammons, S. Pooya, R. Raya-Fernandez, G. Thatcher

Members absent: P. Adams, B. DerMugrdechian, M. Golden, P. Hooshmandrad, K. Mcbee, M. Richaud, M. Shepherd, B. Zante (ASI)

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:00pm in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 30, 2018

MSC approving the Minutes of April 30, 2018 as amended

1. Communications and announcements
   1. The Provost

The Provost introduced Diamond Morehead, an International Business major who was shadowing the provost for the day.

The Provost thanked Senators for their partnership during her time in her current role.

* 1. Jim Marshall (Dean of Research and Graduate Studies)

Dean Marshall unveiled recommendations from the Research and Graduate Studies task force. The task force will be exploring what it means to be a “research active” faculty member and examining support for Open Access Publishing. In addition, there will be discussions about coalescing graduate programs into a Graduate School.

Senator Bryant (University-wide) asked whether Open Access resources would be modelled on the UC system, in which resources are shared between all campuses. Dean Marshall replied that the CSU has acquired a similar system that the campus will be joining.

1. Installation of new senators

The following senators were introduced:

Newly Elected:

Avery Culbertson

Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education

Re-elected:

Lisa Bryant

University-wide Senator

1. Consent Calendar
2. Nomination/Reappointment to the Nominating/Election Committee.
3. Nomination/Reappointment to the Committee for Faculty Equity and Diversity (CFED).
4. Nomination/Reappointment to the Student Affairs Committee.

The consent calendar was approved without objection.

1. New Business.

There was no new business for the senate at this time.

1. M/I Graduate Requirement Response to E.O. 1100. Second Reading.

Debate returned to the Sullivan Amendment from the previous session.

Senator Ong (Marketing) argued against the amendment. Senator Chowdhury (Art & Design) stated that his faculty believes strongly in allowing double-dipping of courses. Senator Sullivan (Sociology) argued that it is important to ensure students take courses outside their departments in support of the amendment. In addition, the Senator argued that departments might attempt to create new M/I courses as the result of the proposed policy.

Senator Miele (Finance and Business Law) stated that M/I courses have all met specific requirements and that the proposed moratorium would address concerns about new courses being created. In addition, the Senator argued that allowing students to double-dip their courses would allow students to graduate earlier.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) stated that it is important to remember that M/I is designed to ensure that students receive a broad education from across the campus.

Senator Ong (Marketing) stated that students can receive multicultural and international exposure through other sources than simply M/I courses.

The vote was called (9 in favor, 30 against, 1 abstention).

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) adjusted language on the Fall 2018 to Spring 2019 aspect of the Phase Two action plan. The amendment was passed unanimously.

Senator Ram added language to list Point 3 to clarify that students in catalog years before 2018-2019 will remain under the requirements of their catalog year (1 nay, 1 abstention).

Dean Fu was recognized and stated that any new policy would only affect students who are in catalog years 2018-2019 or later.

Senator Sullivan (Sociology) asked how the Chancellor might respond to this policy. The Provost stated that Fresno State is leading the way on this matter for the entire CSU system.

The vote was called and passed (1 nay, 1 abstention).

1. Online Degree Liberal Arts.

Dr. Allison Mandaville (English) was recognized to introduce the proposal. The proposed program would allow students who left Fresno State three or more years ago to return and complete their degrees in an online format. There are nearly 4,000 former students who potentially qualify for the program. The program will be self-funded and administered through CGE. The program will also employ a cohort system to control class sizes and ensure that faculty resources are appropriately available.

Senator Ong (Marketing) asked how students will take exams in the program. Dr. Mandaville stated that all exams will be offered online, as with any online course. In addition, there will be interactive and project-based components.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked why this program is not running state-side. In addition, the Senator articulated a concern about faculty engaging in overload work as part of the program. Dr. Mandaville stated that it is easier to get a new degree program running outside of state-side, and the program could be made state-side later. In addition, Dr. Mandaville stated that many faculty already volunteer to work overload in summer and winter intercessions.

Senator Sullivan (Sociology) asked whether students not in the program could sign up for courses if there are seats available. Dr. Mandaville stated that only students in the program would be allowed to take courses in the program in part because the courses are specifically designed for those students.

Senator Botts (Philosophy) asked if the motivation for the program is to create a liberal arts degree, or to assist students who have dropped out. Dr. Mandaville stated that the intention is to create a degree completion program for students who have few other options.

Senator Alexandrou (Industrial Technology) asked about expected enrollment in the program. Dean Moore (CGE) stated that 40 students would initially be involved with the expectation that there would be some attrition.

Senator Gillewicz (English) asked whether there would be a cut-off for when students eligible for this program initially left the campus without completing their degrees. Dr. Mandaville stated that 2004 would be the first cut-off date.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked whether prospective students would also be encouraged to pursue their original majors, especially if they are close to completing their original degrees. Dr. Mandaville stated that the program would certainly encourage students to complete their original majors if they are close to finishing.

Senator Gillewicz (English) asked whether students in the program could take online courses outside of the program. Dr. Mandaville stated that the program is highly structured and students would not be able to select other classes.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked whether the course name would be seen as too similar to the Liberal Studies degree also offered on campus. Dr. Mandaville stated that Liberal Studies is a completely different program from the proposal.

Senator Alexandrou (Industrial Technology) asked how many units students in the program would actually complete. Dr. Mandaville stated that students would have to complete 120 total units and would not likely go much above that.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked about the schedule of when courses are offered. Dr. Mandaville stated that there would be classes offered year-round and the program would run on two-year cycles.

Senator Burger (Mathematics) asked whether Math 100 would be included. Dr. Mandaville stated that Math 100 could be added to the program if the department desires. In addition, a student who enters a credential program would have to pass state exams to establish subject matter competency. Finally, the Senator asked whether students might end up taking in-person courses. Dr. Mandaville stated that they would not.

Senator Bryant (University-wide) asked what student transcripts would say and whether it would be identified as an online program. Dr. Mandaville stated that transcripts would not identify the course as an online offering.

Senator Lewis (Kinesiology) asked whether this offering is part of the graduation initiative on the campus. Dr. Mandaville stated that it is not connected to the initiative. The intention of the program is to help students finish degrees. Senator Lewis also expressed concern about additional programs of a similar nature being created. Dr. Mandaville stated that there were no plans to add additional online degree completion programs at this time.

Senator Botts (Philosophy) asked how students would be recruited and how extensive recruitment efforts would be. Dr. Mandaville stated that students would have to meet specific requirements to be considered for the program.

Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked whether that marketing would also link students to their former departments. Dr. Mandaville affirmed that this would be the case.

A motion was made to waive second reading. The motion was seconded.

Senator Ram (University-wide) asked about the timeline for implementation. Dr. Mandaville stated that the university is hoping to begin the program in January.

The motion passed and second reading was waived (2 nays, 2 abstentions).

The item was moved to a final vote and the motion passed (5 nays, 2 abstentions).

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:07pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be in August 2018.

Submitted by Approved by

Bradley Hart Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

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