THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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April 8, 2019

Members excused: M. Dangi, P. De Walt, T. Holyoke, S. Lankford, J. Miele, H. Muchalski, F. Parra, S. Pooya, P. Sanmartin, B. Singh, J. Smith-Warshaw, K. Sun, T. Van Camp, M. Ram

Members absent: P. Adams, T. Botts, C. Copher, M. Ellis, M. Golden, D. Lewis, K. Mcbee, C. Yun

The Academic Senate was called to order by Vice Chair Hart in the absence of Chair Holyoke at 4:05 p.m. in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of March 25, 2019

MSC approving the Minutes of March 25, 2019 as amended

1. Communications and announcements  
   1. Provost Harper

In follow-up of a question at the last Senate meeting, the Provost informed senators that video and audio recording without the explicit consent of all parties may be legal in public places, and further information will be sent to faculty in the coming days.   
  
Senator Bryant (University-wide) asked whether classrooms are considered public places. The Provost answered that they are not.

Senator Cady (History asked if one could be filmed in the Free Speech area without consent or secretly. The Provost answered that the Free Speech Area is a public space.

1. Budget Presentation (President Castro and Deborah Adishian-Astone)  
     
   The President began by thanking the campus for its participation in the recent Provost selection process that resulted in the appointment of Saúl Jimenez-Sandoval.   
     
   The President and Vice President Astone then proceeded to the presentation, a copy of which is available from the Vice Chair on request.   
     
   During the presentation, Senator Hall (Physics) asked why that State Legislature no longer funds benefits above a level set a number of years before. Vice President Astone answered that that arrangement was made as a compromise between the CSU and the State a number of years ago.  
     
   Senator Bryant (University-wide) asked how college advising centers are funded. Vice Provost Nef answered that those costs are accounted for in college budgets and money is allocated centrally to the schools and colleges.

Senator Jenkins (Statewide) asked whether the campus budgetary issues are in fact system-wide issues, and whether anything is being done at a larger scale to address those issues. President Castro replied that the budget is indeed a statewide issue and will have to be discussed with the governor to address these issues at a larger scale.   
  
Following the presentation, Senator Wilson (Computer Science) asked whether the additional tuition paid by international students is returned to the colleges and schools that educate and recruit them. Vice President Astone and Vice Provost Nef answered that most of the money is put into the Tuition Reserve. Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked how the Tuition Reserve is distributed. In addition, the number of international students has declined in recent years. President Castro added that a task force is currently examining the number of international students and the efforts that go into international recruitment.   
  
Senator Kensinger (Women’s Studies) asked why recent hiring has not been offset by retirements and other departures from the university since tenure track density has not noticeably increased. President Castro answered that the campus has hired the most tenure-track faculty in the system other than Fullerton, and the number hired has exceeded the number of retirements.   
  
Senator Kensinger additionally asked how the new budget model has affected the overall budgetary situation. Chair Schmidtke (Budget Committee) answered that the new model funds the cost of actual instruction rather than FTEs or WTUs. Senator Kensinger encouraged the President and other campus leaders to push back against the State’s lack of benefits funding.   
  
Senator Bryant (University-wide) requested that future budget presentations also show the number (or percentage) of hires of staff, administrators/administrative staff, and part-time faculty in addition to tenure-track faculty and include numbers for tenure density.   
  
Senator Scott (Communication) asked if class sizes will increase as a result of slowed hiring. Vice President Astone answered that the colleges and departments will be asked to develop strategies in this area that will not increase class sizes.

The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:15pm. The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on April 22, 2019.

Submitted by Approved by

Bradley Hart Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate