THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Nov 25, 2019

Members excused: D. Cady, F. Chen, M. Dangi, B. Findley, S. Fulop, T. Garcia, M. Gilewicz, Y. Luo, F. Parra, G. Sandi-Diaz, C. Sullivan, A.M. Tawfik, E. Walter

Members absent: P. Adams, T. Botts, J. Crane, B. DerMugrdechian, M. Ellis, K. Fobear, J. Levitt, D. Lewis, K. McBee, K. O’Connor, B. Taylor,

The Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 4:14 p.m. in HML 2206.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

MSC approving the agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of 11/04/19

MSC approving the amended Minutes of 11/04/19

1. Communications and Announcements

Sen. Schlievert (Statewide) gave a short update on activities of the CSU Statewide from her trip to Long Beach. The resolution to look at an ethnic studies requirement in terms of required learning outcomes had some support. However, some, including the CFA, were pushing for an additional mandatory 3 unit GE course on Ethnic Studies as defined in a bill that was recently considered in the California legislature (the Weber bill). The general feeling among CSU faculty is that curriculum should not be decided by legislative acts, yet the Weber bill is likely to be considered again in 2020. In another matter of concern, Community Colleges have been offering some BS degrees under a pilot program and a State Senator is pushing to expand these offerings. Sen. Schlievert heard concern towards the rigor of these programs, and that there is a lack of evidence for a need for BS credentials in fields such as dental hygiene. Sen. Jenkins (Statewide) mentioned that there were concerns expressed towards the lack of community representation on the CSU chancellor search, and that there has been push back to make this a more open process. Chancellor White will retire June 2020.

Chair Holyoke encouraged all to attend and participate in the Chancellor Search Committee two-hour long forum to be held December 5 at noon in the Satellite Student Union.

1. Installation of New Senator

Dr. Boutsaba Janetvilay

Library

1. Consent Calendar
   1. Elevation from options to independent MA Degrees for HEAL and Educational Leadership. University Graduate Committee.

No objections from the senate floor.

1. New Business.

None

1. APM 332 Policy on Range Elevation for Temporary Faculty. Second Reading. Personnel Committee.

Moved back to executive committee for further development (will not be considered today).

1. APM 129 – Undergraduate Curriculum Subcommittee. Second Reading.

MSC

The new standing committee was created.

1. APM 217 - Multicultural/International Policy. (First reading)

Sen. Mullooly in his capacity as Chair of AP&P gave a brief summary of our MI course graduation requirement. The program has been operating under an interim policy, and this policy (APM 217) will formalize the new structure and related policy, and create a standing committee. The MI task force would be retired.

Sen. Jenkins (Statewide) asked about our MI requirement and if it could be made to satisfy any potentially mandated Ethnic Studies course. Chair Holyoke cautioned that any changes to MI would premature as it is unknown how the Ethnic Studies mandate will turn out. Sen. Ram (Political Science) pointed out that as it stands MI content does not completely overlap with the content of the Ethnic Studies bill and that an overhaul of the MI content would be needed to make such a fit.

Sen. Lent (Biology) expressed concern for impact on majors with tight unit requirements. Dr. Fu (Interim Vice Provost) pointed out in partial answer that an exception to allow MI courses to double count as a major course is current policy. Dr. Clement (Chair UG Curriculum) described that part of GE requirements went down to 9 units when the 3 unit MI requirement went in, hence the MI course requirement could actually lower unit count if the double counting of a major course is utilized.

End of discussion on first reading.

1. Music Department Program Change.

This item moved to next week’s agenda as it requires the presence of the Chair of the Music Department.

1. APM 420 Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. Athletic Advisory Council.

Chair Holyoke gives a brief description of the proposed revisions to APM 420. The faculty representatives to Athletics, Sen. Dawn Lewis and Dr. Tim Cupery were not present for consultation, however they intend to attend next week’s meeting.

Sen. Henson (English) expressed major concern that she could not find a full version of the Athletic Code of Conduct on the athletics webpage. The current document posted there only concerns recruitment and does not reflect any other aspects of conduct expressed in the current APM 420. She is very reluctant to approve these proposed revisions.

Sen. Culbertson (Animal Science and Ag Education) expressed concern about the proposed procedure for updating the athlete code of conduct document, specifically the requirement that only “major changes” to the code will come before the senate for consideration. Regarding major vs. minor changes, who specifically makes this call? Sen. Wise (Media, Communication & Journalism) felt it was important to know how often the code is updated and what updates have been made in the past few years. Sen. Bryant (Universitywide) asked for examples of the mentioned 11 changes, and asked if examples could be presented to the senate of what has constituted a “minor change”.

Sen. Alexandrou (Industrial Technology) expressed concern as well. Since the current policy APM 420 is still in effect, he wanted to know why Athletics has not complied with policy. Sen. Sanchez (Chicano and Latin American Studies) expressed his severe concerns, and said he could not support these revisions given the lack of updates or compliance with the current APM 420. Sen. DeWalt (Liberal Studies) asked how we can get accountability from Athletics on this matter while at the same time not put our faculty representatives on the spot.

Discussion ended until next meeting.

1. APM 232 Student Absences. Academic Policy and Planning Committee.

Sen. Mullooly, once again in his capacity as Chair of AP&P, addressed questions from the senate that were sent to AP&P about absences. He described the committee’s responses in the memo supplied to the senate where he emphasized that clarifying the policy for the process of appeal is key, and that cases that make it all the way up to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies are rare.

Discussion from the floor ensued: Dr. Clement (Chair UG Curriculum) was concerned that APM 232 may not be in full compliance with Title IX. His second concern was with the unneeded specification of missing one week of class, since missing one day (if say a three hour class or lab) could equally constitute an equivalent amount of missed work. He also reminded the senate the language that goes in APM 232 is what then appears in our syllabi, and so it is important to get this language correct. Sen. Ram (Political Science) asked how students with disabilities requirements might override this policy, and whether this policy needs to directly address where these policies overlap. Sen. Biggane (Management) inquired if there needs to be policy concerning the verification of documentation supplied by students, for example, to prevent forgery of signatures.

Discussion ended to adjourn.

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The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be Monday, Dec 2, 2019.

Submitted by Approved by

Raymond Hall Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

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