THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE (AS-09)

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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March 6, 2023

Members excused: M. Jackson, L. Jakobs, M. Jenkins, S. Moreman, A. Mortimer, R. Raya-Fernandez, K. Thompson, O. Vega

Members absent: L. Brillante, G. Newell, B. Noel Smith, G. Sandi-Diaz, B. Taylor

In-person attendance: 24 Zoom attendance: 29

The Academic Senate was called to order by **Chair Hall** at 4:02 p.m. in Library room 2206 and via Zoom video conferencing.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

*Motion to approve agenda*

*Motion seconded*

*Vote on the amended agenda: approved*

1. Approval of the Minutes of 2/13/23.

Correction: Senator Mason from Music, not Aerospace.

*Motion to approve the amended minutes*

*Motion seconded*

*Vote on the amended minutes: approved*

1. Communications and Announcements.

Communications from Chair Hall

**Chair Hall**: The President and Provost could not attend today. Dr. Booker had planned to attend but had to miss today too. Thanks to everyone who put their names in for the recent search committees; all positions have now been filled. We are looking into making a webpage or online form for nominations in the future.

1. Installation of New Senators

**Chair Hall:** Welcome to Dr. Todd Lone (Department of Agricultural Business), Dr. Julia Shatz (Department of History), and Dr. Amber Crowell (Sociology Department)

1. Consent calendar
	1. APM 110 Ancillary Units

**Chair Hall:** This was a simple change of one instance of pronoun usage.

1. New Business. - None
2. APM 125 – Policy on Department Chairs. Second Reading.

**Senator Miele:** Item E. 6. OIE might not be the best, these go into our RTP files. *Motion to remove OIE from the item.*

*Motion seconded*

Discussion on the floor regarding who would be the best entity to create the evaluations. **Senator Alexandrou** (Chair of the Personnel committee) emphasizes the item seeks to create standardized, uniform criteria for evaluation to be used across campus in all departments.

**Senator Dyer:** Friendly amendment to say Council of Chairs in consultation with the Academic Affairs Leadership Team as the entities to oversee the creation of evaluation criteria.

**Chair Hall:** With no more debate, we will vote on the amended item.

*Vote on E. 6.: approved*

**Senator Lent:** Item D. 2. d. Return to discuss – Concern that wording would not prevent nepotism.

*Motion to add but cannot participate in the hiring of any former mentee or student.*

*Motion seconded*

Discussion on the floor regarding adding wording to prevent nepotistic hires by department chairs. **Senators Lachs, Akhavan, Peterson, Miele, Maldonado, Alexandrou,** and **Crowell** see the wording as overly restrictive and/or encroaching on other APMs (e.g., 306). **Senator Pinzon-Perez** supports the change (as do others in zoom chat – but reminder that zoom chat is NOT considered speaking on the floor and thus is not recorded in the minutes).

**Chair Hall:** Calling the vote to add verbiage regarding nepotism.

*Vote on D. 2. d. not approved, item remains as before.*

**Senator Miele:** Item E. 7.

*Motion to remove all entities besides department faculty and the Dean’s Office.*

*Motion seconded*

Debate on the floor about who has the right to review/evaluate department chairs. **Senator Alexandrou** states the intent for this item is that all parties would participate in the review. The reason was to get the best possible feedback from all constituents so all stakeholders should be included.

**Senator Bryant:** *Motion to add staff back in*

**Senator Miele:** department staff, specifically

*Motion seconded*

**Chair Hall:** This requires a vote

*Vote on adding staff back to list of entities approved.*

Debate continues about who has the right to evaluate department chairs. **Senator Alexandrou** questions removing students from the list. **Senators Lachs, Stillmaker, Maldonado,** and **Peterson** express support of removing all entities except department staff, department faculty, and the Dean’s Office.

**Chair Hall:** The debate has ended so we will call the vote.

*Vote on removing all entities except department staff, department faculty, and the Dean’s Office from item E. 7. approved.*

**Senator Miele:** Item E. 9. – doesn’t believe the evaluation should be posted publicly.

*Motion to remove staff and students*

*Motion seconded*

**Senator Peterson:** Suggests also striking department faculty; seen as a friendly amendment.

Discussion on the floor about who has the right to see evaluations of department chairs. **Senator Lent** supports faculty seeing department chair evaluations. **Senator Alexandrou** provides context that item 9 would only provide information regarding the results of quantitative evaluations, which would be shared for the sake of transparency; agrees perhaps this doesn’t include staff or students but should include faculty. **Senator Munoz** disagrees and states that the department chair is a leadership position so faculty, staff, and students should be able to both evaluate and see the outcome of the evaluation. **Senator Randles** points out that this evaluation is often completed after the Chair’s term is over so evaluation criteria would not be useful to anyone unless the person is seeking re-election, but at that point would have already been re-elected.

**Chair Hall:** Calls the vote.

*Vote on removing all entities from item E. 9. approved.*

**Senator Miele:** Removing those entities means item 9 can no longer function.

*Motion to strike all of item E. 9.*

*Motion seconded.*

**Senator Fulop:** Removing this item removes the ability to see if a Dean has a low opinion of the department chair or to have insight into any mess-ups by the chair.

**Senator Peterson:** Expresses favor of striking.

**Chair Hall:** Calls the vote.

*Vote on striking item E. 9. From APM 125 approved.*

*Incomplete second read, will return to this at next Senate meeting.*

*The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:17p.m.*

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The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be on March 13, 2023.

Submitted by Approved by

Andrea Roach Ray Hall

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate