THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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November 23, 2015

Members present: Kevin Ayotte (Chair), Thomas Holyoke (Vice Chair), Abigail Hudson (ASI), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Madhu Katti (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (State-wide), Melanie Ram (University-wide), Lynette Zelezny (Ex-officio)

Members excused: Joseph I. Castro (Ex-officio) and Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large)

Guests: Venita Baker and Rudy Sanchez (AVP for Faculty Affairs)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayotte at 3:04pm in HML 2106.

1. Approval of the agenda

MSC approving the addition of a discussion of future Academic Senate and Senate Executive Committee meetings as agenda item #4 and renumbering the rest of the agenda accordingly.

MSC approving the agenda as amended

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 9, 2015, and November 16, 2015

Amendments made to the Minutes of November 9

MSC approving the Minutes of November 9, 2015

MSC approving the Minutes of November 16, 2015

1. Communications and announcements
2. Provost Zelezny

Dr. Saul Jimenez-Sandoval has been appointed as the new Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities.

The search has begun for a new Dean of the College of Science and Math, with the search committee being chaired by Dr. Constance Jones (Psychology).

Equity II letters for staff went out last week, and the letters for faculty are going out this week. Over 400 have been helped by Equity I and II.

Noted that she and VP Lamas (Student Affairs) will talk to the Academic Senate today about impaction. She noted that applications to Fresno State are down from last year, though 4,500 people have started applications but have not submitted them (deadline is November 30). If they all apply, our applications will be high again and we may have to adjust our admission criteria.

In regards to concern over the exceptional service time release, she and Rudy Sanchez (AVP for Faculty Affairs) are giving a proposal to the deans this week. The plan is to give releases to two faculty members in each college for the spring semester. Because spring schedules have already been set, these releases may be banked by the awarded faculty members if they cannot get out of a class. The provost also noted that Fresno State is implementing this even though they have not received any clear guidance from the CSU.

1. President Hudson (ASI)

Noted that ASI will appoint a student to the search committee for a Dean of Science and Math this week.

Expressed concern about the editing being done to the CSU’s sustainability model report. The California State Students Association expressed their concerns to the CSU Board of Trustees, but the BOT had pulled the report in order to make some edits to it. There have been no announcements from the BOT as to when there will be a meeting to make these edits.

She described Fresno State’s Helping Hams program to help with the food insecurity problem. Organizations can apply through ASI to receive Fresno State hams for distribution. It was noted that some cultures in Fresno will not eat ham and in the future alternatives should be considered. Chair Ayotte also noted that a general call for donations is going to be coming out for the food security program, which is currently funded by the President’ Circle of Excellence.

She also spoke with VP Lamas (Student Affairs) about the complaints about wait times at Psychological Services. She had received information from students that the wait time for an initial consultation was even longer than Senator Raya-Fernandez had indicated at prior meetings. VP Lamas promised to look into it. Senator Kensinger (Statewide Senate) showed the committee a CFA report indicating that Fresno State was second from the bottom in the CSU in terms of the ratio of counselors to students, and far worse than the third worst campus on the list.

1. Action items
   1. Memo from President Joseph I. Castro to Chair Ayotte regarding the appointment of two faculty members to a spring search committee for a permanent Vice President for Administrative Services.

There was discussion as to whether a different procedure should be used given the tight time frame. It was decided that the regular procedure would be used, a call for service issued and then, if there are more than two faculty members nominated, a vote of the Academic Assembly on who the faculty members of the search committee would be. Vice Chair Holyoke promised to send the call for service immediately.

1. Discussion of future meetings of the Academic Senate and Senate Executive Committee

It was decided that the Academic Senate would meet on November 30 and December 7 (unless the agenda was finished).

The Senate Executive Committee would only meet on November 30.

In the spring semester we would return to alternating meetings unless the senate agenda once again becomes overly long.

The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 3:50pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 3:00pm on Monday, November 30, 2015.

Submitted by: Approved by:

Thomas Holyoke Kevin Ayotte

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate