THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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January 25, 2021

Members present: Thomas Holyoke (Chair), Raymond Hall (Vice Chair), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-Large), Tinneke Van Camp (At-Large), Jennifer Miele (At-Large), Lisa Bryant (Universitywide), Susan Schlievert (Statewide), Saul Jiménez-Sandoval (Interim President), Elizabeth Zuñiga (ASI Executive President)

Members excused:

Guests: Venita Baker (Academic Senate), Xuanning Fu (Interim Provost), Bernadette Muscat (Interim Dean UG Studies), Jim Marshall (Special Assistant to Interim Provost), Bryan Berrett (CFE), Keith Clement (Curriculum Committee), Marsh Baum (AVP)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Holyoke at 3:01 pm on Zoom.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

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1. Approval of the Minutes 12.07.20

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1. Communications and Announcements.

Interim President Jiménez-Sandoval updated the committee on a number fronts, foremost that he has reconvened the task force to study how to repopulate the campus for Fall 2021 that focus on three prongs: faculty and staff, students, and athletics. He also stated that a new task force to focus on mental health, for which members will be selected in the coming weeks, and will focus on two components: faculty/staff and students. He also informed the committee that hiring is underway to search for Government relations Officer, and that he will authorize a search for AVP for University Communications to replace Patti Wade (now in Long Beach) and he is elevating the positon from a director to an AVP level.

Interim Provost Fu told the committee that Academic Affairs will announce a search for Dean of UG Studies, and that three faculty will need to be appointed by this committee to the search committee. He also discussed the budget and that we will be operating with a deficit this year, and emphasized that we need new funding model. To this end he and Dr. Hasson will soon propose a model they are developing, and model that he envisions will be a starting point for a faculty forum on a new budget model that could be in operation by Fall 2021 and beyond, with student need at the center of these discussions.

Chair Holyoke brought up an issue we will face once he pandemic is over concerning how to designate course delivery, and if our current four level course delivery classification will remain. In addition he reminded that on Feb 5 he will preside over a forum on online teaching that will discuss what comes after Fall 2021 in terms of online versus face to face (and all modes in between). In addition on Feb 9 the campus will host a forum concerning the University President search.

Ms. Zuñiga sent her thanks to the committee and told us that ASI ready to work with us.

 **Action Items**

A. Email dated December 15, 2020 from Melanie Ram, Chair Department of Political Science to Thomas Holyoke, Chair Academic Senate re: University Honor Code Concern. Email has been received.

Suggestion: An issue is that there appears to be no clear reference to a formal statement to disallow plagiarism.

Proposal: Send to Student Affairs committee.

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Dr. Schlievert mentioned that other campuses have recently shown concern about plagiarism, and educating students about what it is.

B. Memo dated December 17, 2020 from Nancy Nisbett, Chair Student Affairs Committee to the Academic Senate Executive Committee re: Suggestions for connecting with students. Memo has been received.

 Suggestion: Will put on agenda of next meeting.

C. Memo dated January 19, 2021 from Xuanning Fu, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs to Thomas Holyoke, Chair Academic Senate re: Provost’s Awards Committee 2020-2021. Memo has been received.

 Suggestion: Our Spring chore for the next meeting.

D. Email dated January 20, 2021 from Chadley James, Chair General Education Committee to Thomas Holyoke, Chair Academic Senate re: Proposed Change to APM 241. Email has been received.

 Suggestion: Will put on agenda of next meeting.

1. Concerns with Online/Blended Subcommittee

Issue at hand: Large number of requests for online courses, so many that the subcommittee is backed up and not meeting often.

Dr. Berrett provided some background and that this is a new committee and has only met twice, once in Spring and once in Fall, and to date the committee has not reviewed a single proposal.

Dr. Clement gave an accounting of sending 5 courses in Spring 2020, and 5 to 7 more recently. The subcommittee chair has been alerted and Dr. Clement stated his concern about lack of movement on this important committee work, adding however that it is not too late to make needed deadlines if we get this moving. He told he committee that he will reach out to chair and personally attend the next meeting.

Chair Holyoke suggested possible remedies such as adding more faulty to committee. Dr. Clement indicated that this is possibly a guidance issue, and that the committee might need direction. Discussion arose concerning possible temporary approval routes if the backup is not resolved. The committee will await a report from Dr. Clement ot see if further action will be required.

1. Kremen School Bylaw Amendments.

The committee had no concerns, and the chair indicated he would sign off on these new bylaws.

1. Waiving limits on CR/NC grading for the spring semester.

The waiver was amended to include Summer 2021

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1. APM 113 Policy on Academic Organization and Governance.

Dr. Baum provided background that currently there is a lack of means to create department structure, and creating department chair level status in the Library, despite these being sanctioned by the bargaining agreement.

Proposal: Add to Senate agenda, hopefully a simple matter so we will place high on agenda.

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The Senate Executive Committee adjourned at 4:15 pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held February 8, 2021, at 3:00 PM via Zoom.

Submitted by: Approved by:

Raymond Hall Thomas Holyoke

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate