THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE (AS-15)

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

5200 N. Barton Ave UL34

Fresno, California 93740-8014

Office of the Academic Senate

(559) 278-2743

February 26, 2024

Members excused: Gina Sandi-Diaz, Hannah Archambault

Members absent:

In-person attendance:25 Zoom attendance: 39

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*

*Second*

*Vote on motion to approve agenda: approved*

1. Approval of the Minutes 02/012/2024.

*Motion to approve minutes*

*Second*

*Vote on motion to approve minutes: approved*

1. Installation of Senators

Alyssa Wilson installed as Senator for Psychology

Sonet Van Zyl installed as Senator for Viticulture and Enology

1. Communications and Announcements.

Communications from President Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval:

**President Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval** presented PowerPoint slides on recent updates and activities.

*Questions for President Jiménez-Sandoval*

**Senator Mulhern** thanked the **President** for his updates and asked the **President** about Measure E. She asked the **President** to respond to criticisms that Measure E is a regressive tax that impacts low-income residents, that tuition has gone up, and that the CSU has $8 billion in reserves.

The **President** responded that he cannot endorse Measure E as a state employee but can explain the budget and impact. The projected state deficit was $36 billion but was updated to $76 billion, approximately. The UC has a constitutional mandate that enshrines their funding, they receive 40% more per student than the CSU. Fresno State produces 6,200 degrees with 80% returning to the Valley’s economy. K-12 and community colleges also receive funding through law. CSU is left with a discretionary budget and must compete with other agencies. Most of our students are not financially privileged and come from local communities. The **President** argued that the Measure E funds would benefit low-income residents through the students who attend Fresno State. The **President** also explained that most of the reserve funds are not unrestricted.

**Senator Wise** asked for clarification about the citizens oversight committee of Measure E - can they only draw from recommendations sent to them by Fresno State? The **President** confirmed that this is the case.

**Senator Mehta** asked if Fresno State follows a tribal consultation policy for NAGPRA. The **President** confirmed this.

**Senator Yang** asked about the President’s goal to strengthen ties with regional community partners and about the lack of sense of belonging felt by Southeast Asian students - how can we increase alumni engagement with the Southeast Asian community? **Senator Yang** would like to engage in ideas. The **President** responded that we learned about this sense of belonging from Yoshiko Takahashi’s research and we opened a center for Southeast Asian students. A study is being conducted now and preliminary data show that alumni are ready to participate and engage with current students.

Communications from Associate Provost Alam Hasson, Report on Enrollment:

**Associate Provost Hasson** presented PowerPoint slides on enrollment trends as of Spring 2024.

*Questions for Associate Provost Hasson:*

**Senator Kensinger** requested comparisons by race and gender together for understanding retention rates.

**Senator Ram** clarified that admits are different from those who attend. **Associate Provost Hasson** confirmed this. **Senator Ram** asked if admission changes are due to lower requirements or demand. **Associate Provost Hasson** clarified that changes in admission trends are due to the time at which the data was collected, Fall 2024 numbers are early.

**Senator Mulhern** addressed declining retention of Black and Asian students and would like to know what the principal reasons are, and if they are still due to financial reasons. **Associate Provost Hasson** responded that financial aid is usually a big factor, but they are still analyzing the data.

**Senator Lent** asked how much impaction is affecting our ability to reach target goals. **Associate Provost Hasson** responded that impaction statuses have changed recently, but not sure what the answer is.

**Senator Banh** asked if Black and Asian retention rates have been disaggregated by gender. **Associate Provost Hasson** responded that this data is not on hand, but they do have it.

**Chair Hall** asked if this data is from Tableau and if there is a dashboard to look at this data. **Associate Provost Hasson** confirmed this.

**Senator Bryant** asked about space for classrooms and what will happen if enrollments increase when we don’t have enough classroom space. **Associate Provost Hasson** replied that **Dean Muscat** is evaluating this issue and we hope to gain insights from that. **Chair Hall** asked if we will have data on this issue by Fall. **Associate Provost Hasson** said at least by Spring 2025.

**Senator Yang** asked if we have numbers on how many Fall 2024 admits are returning after COVID disruptions. **Associate Provost Hasson** explained that returning students are included in the graphs.

**Senator Kensinger** noted that available rooms in the Reznick Center could be used for classrooms if needed. **Senator Bryant** agreedpointed out that students are paying for the Reznick Center.

Communications from Chair Hall: There are challenges with APM 206 regarding how courses are vetted. Requirements were relaxed during COVID, and new policy is that faculty are vetted but not courses. The change has backed up the system and prevented programs from being reviewed. Senators are invited to raise concerns about this. We hope to bring APM 206 to the floor this semester.

**Senator Kensinger** asked for clarification that this doesn’t mean faculty can choose their online teaching load. **Chair Hall** confirmed this.

**Senator Panagopoulos** asked for clarification on APM 206 update and faculty training for online teaching. **Chair Hall** referred Senator Panagopoulos to APM 206 on modality. **Senator Panagopoulos** expressed concern about how long ago trainings were conducted. **Senator Van Camp** noted that there will be refresher trainings.

1. New Business

*None*

1. APM 220 – Program Review. Second Reading

**Senator Kensinger** raised concern that much of procedure is being moved to guidelines and is worried that Faculty Affairs or administrators will set the guidelines instead of departments.

**Senator Vega** replied that the document exists already and a link can be provided. AP&P decided to keep policy in APM and move procedure to separate document.

**Senator Kensinger** asked who is writing the procedural guide, and if Senate has oversight? **N. Walsh** replied that the committee is writing the procedure. **N. Walsh** explained that the committee can adjust procedures as needed during program review. **Senator Kensinger** would like to make sure that the committee’s oversight is in the APM. **Senator Vega** is willing to make the amendment. **Chair Hall** advised that the change should be through a proposed amendment.

**Senator Holyoke** proposed an amendment to Section I of APM 220.

*Motion to amend Section I of APM 220*

*Second*

**N. Walsh** noted that the subcommittee charge already includes the language proposed by Senator Holyoke.

*The Academic Senate adjourned at 5:15p.m.*

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be March 4, 2024.

Submitted by Approved by

Amber Crowell Ray Hall

Vice Chair Chair

Academic Senate Academic Senate