

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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(AS-11)

March 19, 2012

Members Excused: O. Benavides, B. DerMugrdechian, S. Fulop, L. Hauser, M. Lowe, R. Raya-Fernandez, B. Tsukimura

Members Absent: V. Biondo, A. Dinscore, S. Farnesi (Student), D. Freed, D. Harshavardhan, T. Johnson, K. Kurtural, R. Rai, C. Won

A meeting of the Academic Senate was called to order by Chair Caldwell at 4:06 p.m. in the Library Auditorium, Room 2206.

1. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda.
2. Approval. MSC to approve the Minutes of 3/5/12
3. Communications and Announcements.
 - A. Associate Provost L. Zelezny announced the Cal State Online Initiative Open Forums and invited senators to attend. An email announcement has been sent to the faculty.
 - B. Senator J. Amaral (Statewide) gave an update on CSU Academic Senate activities and business.
 - C. Chair Caldwell announced the selection of three faculty for the search committee for Assistant Vice President (AVP) for International Affairs occurred outside of Academic Senate (AS) procedures- i.e., the faculty were appointed to the committee without a call for nominations and an election through the AS. Dr. P. Oliaro, Vice President for Student Affairs, described how the three faculty were selected including a description of their service at international affairs for the campus. Chair Caldwell described several actions the AS could take regarding the error, which were

1. approve the selection of the three faculty to the search committee for Assistant Vice President for International Affairs, or
2. decline the selection of the three faculty and the Academic Senate office will send a campus-wide call for nominations and elect three faculty to serve on the search committee. The three faculty who currently sit on the committee would be encouraged to submit their nomination for election.

Senators asked whether the AVP for International Affairs was at a higher level than the previous director position and a rationale for the change in level and the need for the position. Dr. Oliaro replied the AVP position is a higher level than the previous position and described the additional responsibilities of the new position. Also, the goal of the AVP position is to bring all international affairs on campus, including recruitment, under one leadership umbrella.

Senator J. Slagter (Women's Studies) asked for the budget impact of the new hire. Dr. Oliaro replied that the position will be funded through the Division of Student Affairs.

MSC to approve the three faculty selected to serve on the search committee for Assistant Vice President for International Affairs though an exception to policy. A campus-wide call for nominations and election will not be conducted.
[7 abstain]

4. New Business.

- A. Resolution Regarding State University Grants for Graduate Students— Statewide Senator J. Amaral.

Senator Amaral entered the resolution into record and described the time urgency for adding the item to today's AS agenda as new Item #6.

MS to place the resolution on the AS agenda.
[1 No]

MSC to place the resolution on today's AS agenda as new
Item #6.
[2 No]

5. Geographic Information Systems Graduate Certificate Program—University Graduate Committee—Continued Second Reading.

Dr. Z. Wang (Earth and Environmental Sciences Department) presented a recap and update on the GIS Graduate Certificate Program.

Senators recommended the word “Graduate” be removed from the certificate program’s title and replaced with “Advanced” because it is not a graduate program.

MSC to approve the Geographic Information Systems Graduate Certificate Program with the amended title.

6. Resolution Regarding State University Grants for Graduate Students— Statewide Senator J. Amaral.

MS to adopt the resolution for discussion.

Senator J. Slagter (Women’s Studies) asked whether an investigation of the impact of funding to support graduate students’ had been conducted. Dr. Oliaro responded that for 2011-2012 approximately \$5 million was awarded to graduate students at Fresno State. President Welty replied \$90 million was awarded to graduate students in the CSU system.

MSC to accept the Resolution Regarding State University Grants for Graduate Students
[1 No]

7. Academic Senate Resolution on Cohort Hiring Through the Office of the Provost – Senator C. Henson.

Senator C. Henson (English) entered the resolution into record.

MS to adopt the resolution for discussion.

Senator Henson explained the purpose and rationale for the resolution.

Senator A. Alexandrou (Plant Science) asked the purpose and rationale for cohort hiring. Provost Covino explained the

rationale for cohort hires and described the current cohort themes. Deans L. Gonzalez (College of Social Sciences) and P. Beare (Kremen School of Education and Human Development) spoke in support of cohort hiring and described how their critical needs were addressed through the practice.

Additional concerns voiced by senators included whether high priority needs that are not cohort hires will be supported for searches and asked if there were any searches for cohort hires that were not high priority.

Senator Amaral indicated she was concerned for the funding stream for these hires. That is, will the Provost's support for the cohort hire's salary continue over the years. Provost Covino responded that the funding that is provided is permanent, notwithstanding budget cuts.

Senator T. Holyoke (University-wide) stated that during tight budget times, departments need to feel like they are in control of their hires.

The item will return to the agenda of the next meeting of the Academic Senate for second reading.

8. Resolution in Support of UC Davis Students and Faculty Right to Peaceably Assemble.

Item will return to the next meeting agenda of the Academic Senate for second reading.

9. Proposal to Reassign Economics Department to the Craig School of Business & Recommendation to Reassign Department to Economics to the Craig School of Business- Department of Economics Faculty, College of Social Sciences, Craig School of Business.

Item will return to the next meeting agenda of the Academic Senate for first reading.

10. General Education Writing Requirements-General Education Committee.

Item will return to the next meeting agenda of the Academic Senate for first reading.

11. APM 327 Policy on Promotion-Personnel Committee.

Item will return to the next meeting agenda of the Academic Senate for first reading.

12. APM 206 Policy on Technology–Mediated Courses and Programs–Academic Policy & Planning Committee.

Item will return to the next meeting agenda of the Academic Senate for first reading.

The Senate adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Academic Senate will be announced.

An Agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:
Dawn Lewis
Vice Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Michael Caldwell
Chair
Academic Senate