Meeting Minutes of the Academic Senate

Del Norte 1500
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
2:30-4:30pm

This meeting offers a virtual option through Zoom:
https://csuci.zoom.us/j/86923923435

In Attendance: **Cameron Harris, Marianne McGrath, Amy Denton, Gareth Harris, Nancy Deans, Nicholas Centino, Bahareh Abbassi, Annie White, Taryn Hakala, Sean Anderson, Antonio Jimenez, Tom Clobes, Jim Meriwether, Cindy Wyels, Brian Rasnow, Heather Castillo, Chris Scholl, Kimmy Kee-Rose, Weldon Smith, Jose Luis Callazo, Janet Pinkley, Manual Correia, Chuck Weis, Alison Perchuk, Lydia Dixon, Matt Campbell, Peter Krause, Jose Alamillo, Tiina Itkonen, Ron Berkowsky, Georgina Guzman, Monica Pereira, Mari Estrada, Billy Monroe, Tabitha Swan-Wood, Susan Lefevre, Andrew Fox, Jeanette Edwards, Cynthia County, Sean Kramer, Christina Smith, Monica Rivas, Colleen Forest, Kaia Tollefson, Eboni Ford Turnbow, Gina Sanchez Gibau, Lina Neto, Susan Andrejewski, Jill Leafstedt, Kevin Hayakawa, Donna Flores, Doreen Hatcher, Maria Ballesteros-Sola, Maria Zendejas, Melissa Silva, Pilar Pacheco, Sunshine Garcia**

1. Opening the Meeting – Quorum achieved 2:35
2. Approval of the Agenda
    a. Motion: Weis
    b. Second: Deans
    c. Unanimous Consent
3. Approval of the Minutes from September 10, 2024 (attached)
    a. Motion: Wyels
    b. Second: Deans
    c. Unanimous
4. Report from the Chair
    a. Still working on Senate support. Progress being made, hopefully to start next meeting. Only 5 hours/week.
    b. Exec working to improve our approach to gathering and disseminating reports. Meanwhile Perchuk is working to update the website with Senate materials
    c. Still tracking down some policies to sign and upload.
    d. Question: it's not about just obtaining policy PDFs?
        i. No, it's about finding the official physical document

e. There will be important discussions this AY around the budget. President released budget memo last week, we need to stay abreast to serve our departments and students.
f. The issue of free speech will also be an important campus discussion this year and we should be a part of it.
g. Remember that we are here representing our department. Roll call votes will take place via department this year.
h. Bylaws Revision for NTTF Council Update (AEBC and NTTFC)
    i. We will be circulating to all T/TT faculty and NTT faculty serving senate the proposed bylaws revision for consideration.
    ii. We will have two open meetings in early October to discuss questions/concerns/comments.
    iii. Will then move forward with a vote using Qualtrics, upon receiving the official signed policy.
    iv. Deans:
        1. Is there a timeline on getting the policy to signature? President's designate had advocated for changing policy language on website
        2. Kaia: President is committed to moving the policy forward.
    v. Chair: For context, bylaws changes use a different process than normal senate policy.
5. Returning Business
    a. Senate Resolution to Remove Exhibit 1 (see attached)
        i. Motion from Greg Wood to approve the resolution
        ii. Monica Pereira seconded the motion
        iii. Discussion
            1. Tiina: Should we vote to change the policy instead?
            2. Bahareh: Any plan to replace the flowchart with a new one? If yes, what is the new procedure?
                a. Chair: Yes, there is a plan to replace as detailed at the prior meeting.
                b. Lina: That flowchart has mistakes. One year of retreats by APPC capturing and discussing these mistakes. If this doesn't pass, all forms should be removed from Curriculog.
                c. Vote called: Passed by unanimous consent
6. New Business
    a. TPM Resolution (see attached)
        i. Greg Wood: this asks statewide senators to advocate for more info from Chancellor's office on development of the policy.
        ii. This is an interim policy, and we are advocating for more shared governance in the final policy
        iii. In defense of Chancellor, there was a state law mandating that a TPM policy was in place before students came to campus for the Fall

    iv. If you have feedback on systemwide TPM policy, ASU is seeking line-by-line feedback on their own resolution

    v. Wyels: Have you considered putting in lines requesting shared governance in our resolution?

    vi. Pereira: statewide senate asked that all stakeholders be involved as the policy was improved.

    vii. Callazo: Question about the disconnect between the state law and what is begin implemented, and our campus vs. systemwide.

    viii. Pereira: At our campus, respect for free speech is a pillar. Whatever we decide will follow state law but will emphasize the importance of maintaining those pillars.

    ix. Anderson: My understanding is that there is a goal to have a consistent policy across the system, so that different campuses don't have different norms. Our voice is part of a chorus of different entities. What is the specific concern?

    x. Pereira: The overall chilling effect of the language. It's almost paternalistic/authoritarian. All 23 campuses have had concerns about the TPM policy. A student was accused of having been at a protest when they had been at work.

    xi. Question: Who is in charge of determining what is legitimate business on campus?

    xii. Pereira: a good question; for example, it's okay for a math club to table outside, but perhaps if another organization had done so, suddenly it might have been concerning.

    xiii. Chair: To Andrew Fox, ASI: has their been student feedback?

        1. Fox: Very little. Awareness is low. Communication from campus leadership about the existence of the policy could be better. Some student concern over masking and forced identification. Problems of definition. What constitutes a policy? What is the motivation? We've been told "we don't want to disrupt academics." But not all protest is disruptive. What about prohibitions on self-defense weapons? Biggest issue is no collaboration with students, under the cover of the need to set up interim policy quickly.

    xiv. Chair: Please bring this to your constituents and come back next time ready for discussion

7. Intent to Raise Questions Process Update
    a. Question: Define ITRQ?
        i. Intent to raise questions
    b. There will be a new folder system run through the Senate Canvas, which will allow senators to monitor the current status of an ITRQ. They will all be logged too. ITRQs are public.
    c. Anderson: It will be a module?
        i. Campbell: Or files section, perhaps.

d. Itkonen:
   i. Is there not a value in having some of those questions public? Files or modules are one more place to have to go look for things.
   ii. Also, pre-tenure faculty are lumped with tenure faculty, but they have different concerns, like getting up at 3AM to work on scholarship because there is no workload for it. Can we give them a report on the Senate floor?
      1. Campbell: This is not a substitute for questions asked and answered on the floor.
e. Chair: We've also been discussing at exec how to take an ITRQ whose answer has not been satisfying and elevate it to another step of process.
8. Reports
   a. Anderson:
      i. A number of recent personnel changes, and there is outstanding uncertainty about who is responsible for what job. Is it possible to get an organizational chart? Difficult to answer questions, particularly from new faculty.
   b. Report from President Yao — none provided
   c. Report from Interim Provost Lavariega Monforti (attached)
   d. Report from Statewide Senators
      i. Pereira would like to draw attention to report from statewide faculty affairs committee
         1. Recent discussions:
            a. Free speech.
            b. Habitual use of recurring search firms.
            c. Consulting firms for rebranding: Who is really being served by this?
            d. Heavy GE work, but no funding for it.
            e. Any protest is easily squashed is an administration sees itself as adversely affected.
         2. Board of directors meetings started on Sunday. Link to meeting schedule in written report.
         3. Other conduct of concern is fairly amorphous. Power differentials involved.
         4. Stay tuned for a bargaining survey. This time we are bargaining for the whole contract, not piecemeal.
         5. Extra designated seats for NTT across statewide senate.
   e. Report from CFA President
      i. CFA requests that our members pledge to vote in the upcoming election. You don't have to pledge to vote for our endorsed candidates. If we've made mistakes in our endorsements bring that to our attention.
         1. Deans: Is there any local person that we are going to be canvasing for?

        2.   Wood: We're working on that. Yes. There are some House seats up.

    ii. There will be a bargaining survey. Think about the places in our contract that require attention. We did get the 5% raise. Be advised most of the state got an 8% cut.

    iii. Rasnow: Would it be possible to set up a watch party of the VP debate for students, bring in a panel of experts, etc.?

f.   Report from Staff Council

    i. We have recently launched an opt-in list-serve open to all on campus. Trying for weekly-ish blasts.

    ii. Launched a fundraiser this week. We're fully self-funded. No budget line. Current drive is for vouchers for Krispy Kreme.

    iii. Staff do not have a system-level representation. 7 campuses don't even have staff councils.

g.   Report from NTTF Council

    i. First meeting on Tuesday, focused on what the function of the council is. Trying to ensure representation from students, staff council, librarian representation.

    ii. Have been engaging with admin. Met with interim provost and AVP FASE. Working on some documents for them to share with upper-level administration. Working on communication with NTT faculty. Building websites and Canvas page.

h.   Report from ASI

    i. Student government off to a meaningful start. Last week, passed a resolution in support of a Dean's list at CSUCI. A Dean's list is the institutional standard for recognizing academic success. Our current "semester honors" may be meaningful here at CSUCI, but doesn't clearly translate to professional success outside the campus.

    ii. Investment policy student review committee. A working group of students who will do a deep dive on current investments and will prepare a report and recommendation based on findings. An entirely student-lead initiative.

    iii. New program: Cooking on Cal-fresh: how to prepare healthy and delicious news on a student budget, while raising awareness for Cal-fresh and de-stigmatizing government assistance.

i.   Reports from Senate Committees

    i. Appointments, Elections, and Bylaws (AEBC)

        1. Priority nomination period closed Friday. Thanks to those who self-nominated. Still many unfilled positions.

    ii. Academic Policy and Planning (APPC)

    iii. Senate Budget (SBC)

        1. Working on trying to understand University (and system) budget, while not yet tasked with any specific goals by Senate.

    iv. Equity and Anti-Racism (CEAR)

- v. Faculty Affairs (FAC)
    1. Woking on revised syllabus policy; will bring to Senate and have a series of brown bags.
    2. Revisiting policy on student ratings of teaching.
- vi. Student Academic Policies and Procedures (SAPP)
- vii. Others
- viii. Comment from Deans:
    1. Rebecca Slocum reminded us in her report that staff don't have a voice. I don't want us to leave the room without thinking about that. Thanks for reminding us of that.
- ix. Pinkley:
    1. Question about SBC: A long time ago they advised Provost on the budget, and then a new advisory committee was formed that included SBC members. In the transition, has AABC gone away? Have we lost our place in shared governance?
    2. Campbell has not heard of this committee
    3. White: This past year when Kirk left, it was largely set aside. With the Provost transition, this is an opportunity for SBC to revisit.
    4. Campbell: Committee *does* have representation on SRPC.
    5. Wood: Representative on SRPC—president is seeking more robust input from all divisions
    6. Rasnow: Would it be helpful if we gave you more of a mandate to seek understanding of the budget?
    7. Campbell: It's already in the charge. It's more about what tasks are most helpful to the Senate.
- x. Swan-Wood: I would just request from the NTT Council that as SBC does the work to understand the budget, please consider that monies are being spent with the faculty and students in mind.
- xi. White: On October 5th, learning stories conference; Maori representatives will be presenting, Chumash reps will have opening protocol, Aztec dancers will be present.
- xii. Thanks to Senate for supporting University 392 courses; we will be taking students to New Zealand.
9. Adjournment
    a. Motion: Collazo
    b. Seconded by: Perchuk
    c. Unanimous consent