

FACULTY SENATE MEETING – Approved 12/9/10
Minutes of Meeting of October 21, 2010
Oviatt Library Presentation Room

Faculty President Stepenek called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

The Secretary called the roll. Senators not present were: Dianne Bartlow, Cecile Bendavid (excused), Michael Bennett, Barry Cleveland (excused), David Cutcher, Amy Denissen (excused), Susan Fitzpatrick-Behrens (excused), Hillary Hertzog (excused), Cathy Jeppson (excused), Timothy Karels, Conor Lansdale, Magnhild Lien (excused), Breny Mendoza, Ken Ng, Janet Oh (excused), Taeboem Oh, Steven Oppenheimer, Sally Spencer (excused), Jeff Stork, Adam Swenson (excused), Barbara Swerkes, Dayanthie Weeraratne

The Faculty Senate [Minutes for September 23, 2010](#) were approved as distributed.

1. Announcements

- a. The 2011 Faculty Retreat will be on January 18-19, 2011 on the CSUN Campus at the University Student Union. The theme will be “**SHOWCASING: Culture, Scholarship, Unity & Networking.**” Proposals for poster papers are due tomorrow, October 22, 2010. Registration forms are on the back table and on the Faculty Retreat website: www.csun.edu/senate/retreat.html.
- b. The Valley Performing Arts Center had its first concert on Friday, October 15 featuring Doc Severinsen & the El Ritmo de la Vida Jazz Ensemble. Reviews were very positive. The Moscow State Symphony Orchestra will perform on November 1 at 8:00 p.m.
- c. University Service forms are on the back table. Completing this form is an opportunity to let the Senate Executive Committee know who is interested in serving on a particular faculty governance committee.
- d. Senator Amy Denissen is on a medical leave of absence this semester. Three clipboards were circulated so Senators may sign their name; these pages will be included with a get-well card that will be sent to Senator Denissen.
- e. Senator Phillips, Physical Therapy Department, announced that that Governor signed AB 2382 which allows the CSU campuses to offer a Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT).
- f. Various on-campus organizations are co-sponsoring an event titled, “Keeping Hope Alive: LGBTQQ Forum and Vigil”, being held this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Thousand Oaks Room, USU; they will address bullying and commemorate the memory of those who have committed suicide.

- g. Senator Chong announced that faculty, students and staff are invited to a free performance of *Letters Home*, by the Griffin Theatre Company, on Friday, October 22, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the Plaza del Sol Performance Hall. It is a read-aloud of actual letters from soldiers to their families with actual photos of soldiers used as visual backdrop.

2. **Introduction of the Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies: Brennis Lucero-Wagoner**

Cynthia Rawitch, Associate Vice President of Undergraduate Studies

Rawitch introduced Dr. Brennis Lucero-Wagoner, the interim Director of Undergraduate Studies. Rawitch said that Undergraduate Studies is extremely pleased to have Dr. Lucero-Wagoner working in this capacity. She is a retired annuitant who worked at CSUN for 25 years and was one of the Cyber 8, providing leadership in the online instruction at CSUN. She served as Associate Dean in S&BS and as a Special Assistant to the Dean of Humanities. The Senate welcomed her to this position.

3. **Campus Climate Survey Report from the Educational Equity Committee**

Sheila Grant, Carolyn Okazaki, April Taylor, Dianah Wynter, Members of EEC

Link to Executive Summary:

<http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/campusclimatesummary102110.pdf>

Okazaki reported that the EEC has been working on the Comprehensive Campus Climate Survey for about 5 years. The first draft of the survey was completed in Spring 2010 and EEC has visited many campus constituents to get feedback including the Senate Executive Committee. Feedback was incorporated, and they are now here to seek input from the Senate. Grant mentioned that only faculty and staff will be surveyed initially with hopes of surveying students later.

Grant briefly talked about some of the points referenced in the Executive Summary report. She noted that the Campus Climate Survey is deemed beneficial to all campus community members, not just historically under-represented students, faculty, and staff. She explained that the Campus Climate Survey, with 6 additional questions borrowed from the HERI (Higher Education Research Institute) Survey, was administered to CSUN faculty in 2007, and the results clearly revealed that faculty perceptions of the campus climate at CSUN were significantly different depending on faculty racial ethnic background, suggesting CSUN campus climate be examined.

Grant also stated that the Campus Climate Survey, developed by EEC with extensive consultation with many campus constituents, will be administered on a regular basis. She indicated that the survey results will be used to develop intervention programs.

Grant invited the Senators to send her feedback and comments by e-mail.

4. **Policy Item – Educational Policies Committee**

Diane Schwartz, Member of EPC

1st Reading – [Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam Requirement Policy](#)

Schwartz explained that a close examination of 381 students who were unable to graduate in fall 2009, the Office of Undergraduate Studies found that approximately 100 of them (28%) lacking only one thing—passage of the Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam. So, EPC is proposing we require students to take the UDWPE earlier than what is currently stated in the current policy--within 75 units instead of 90 units. This would give students opportunities to remediate, if needed, and to retake the exam in order to pass it before their graduating semester. A hold will be placed on the students' registration if they do not attempt the exam within 75 units. This policy will begin, if approved, in Fall 2011. The UDWPE is now being offered at least five times per semester, and additional offering of exams will be requested if deemed necessary.

Senators suggested minor grammatical changes to the catalog language -- to drop the future tense references -- and to find every effort to assure there will be robust portal alerts to students with 56 units. Additionally, Senators asked why the UDWPEs were only offered on Saturdays, who/how the registration holds will be removed once a student takes the exam, and wondered if there is an alternative ways to meet the Trustee Policy on Writing Proficiency other than through an examination.

5. **General Education Council Update**

Diane Schwartz, Member of EPC

The newly formed General Education Council, a subcommittee of the Educational Policies Committee, will review new GE courses and course modifications. They will also do GE recertification and assessment. Members are currently learning about the GE curriculum/program and will start reviewing GE course modifications sometime this year. However, they are deciding on whether to begin GE recertification review this year or to wait until Fall 2011; last year, the Senate approved a resolution to place a moratorium on recertification of GE until the 2011-12 academic year. GEC will ask the Senate Executive Committee for guidance.

6. **Policy Item – Academic Technology Committee**

Ashley Skylar, Chair of ATC

1st Reading – [Online and Hybrid Courses](#)

Skylar explained that the current description for online courses is OL; however, this OL designation is not sufficient in addressing the variant degree of online instruction that instructors are delivering their courses. EPC and ATC jointly agreed that having uniform online and hybrid course definitions and course designations will help better inform students about the course delivery format and the technology and skills needed before the student registers. Additionally, Skylar indicated that a majority of students, who were surveyed in an annual Academic Technology IT survey, indicated they wanted more detailed information about technology based courses before registering for classes.

This policy will address many of the concerns described in the policy statement—distinguishing OL from Hybrid, with two levels of OLs (O1 and O2) and two levels of Hybrid (H1 and H2). These designations will not affect the course number in the catalog; it would only be a reference designation in the schedule of classes.

7. **President's Report** – Jolene Koester

President Koester reported the following:

- a. Budget – The state budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year has been signed but, given the uncertainty of the state's revenues, it is likely there could be a mid-year revision. Under the approved budget, the CSU will receive restored funding of \$305 million which is comprised of two parts: \$199 million of recurring permanent funding and \$106 million in one-time federal stimulus money. Cal State Northridge was allocated \$7.78 million from federal stimulus money. Our share of the \$199 million is expected to be about 7 percent or \$14 million but we have not yet received the formal allocation letter. In addition, another \$60.5 million is provided in the budget directly linked to increases in enrollment in 2010-11. We do not yet know how it will be allocated.

Based on the approved 2010-11 state and CSU budgets, it is likely Cal State Northridge will not implement the previously planned five percent budget cuts to the divisions. Reserve funds will be set aside in anticipation of a possible mid-year budget cut. Money for one-time expenditures has been identified and proposed allocations will be presented to the Deans, UPBG, and ERC.

- b. Enrollment -- There is a new FTES target for the system that is substantially higher than the original target. Last year we were told to restrict enrollment but now we are being encouraged to grow. This change possibly helped to influence Sacramento to provide additional money to the CSU. We are fortunate at Cal State Northridge to have a robust enrollment already bringing us close to our new FTES target.
- c. National Conferences -- President Koester was invited to participate in three national conferences which took place over the past 5-6 weeks. She attributes these invitations to Cal State Northridge being recognized nationally as deserving of merit.

The Bill and Linda Gates Foundation invited President Koester to talk about Cal State Northridge's efforts and success in improving graduation rates as well as our efforts in retaining students who are members of traditionally under-represented groups. The organizers were very impressed with our accomplishments and would like to visit our campus sometime soon.

President Koester was the keynote speaker at a conference called, "Time to Completion" which focused on reducing time to completing the degree. This conference was sponsored by the Southern Regional Board of Education and Jobs for the Future. Cal State Northridge was asked to participate because of our success in shortening average time to degree.

Lastly, President Koester gave a speech at the EDUCAUSE National Conference in Anaheim, titled "Confessions of a University President." She spoke about how she sees her job as a leader of campus information technology and what some of her challenges have been. Cal State Northridge was invited to participate because of our efforts and accomplishments in information technology.

- d. Valley Performing Arts Center -- Those who attended the Doc Severinsen concert and tuning event or beta-test on Friday, October 15 were extremely proud; the building is beautiful and the concert and entire event was a huge success. Tickets for the second tuning event on November 1 featuring the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra were “sold out” in 13 minutes. A waiting list was taken because it is hopeful we will receive permission from inspectors to open more seats on the third level. The Spring 2011 season will be announced next week.

8. **Executive Order 1048: Mandatory Early Start Program**

Cheryl Spector, Coordinator of CSUN’s Mandatory Early Start Plan

Link to Overview of CSUN’s Plan:

http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/EO1048_overview102110.pdf

Spector indicated that EO 1048: Mandatory Early Start states the following, “**As of summer 2012, incoming freshmen who have not demonstrated proficiency in English and/or mathematics will be required to begin remediation prior to the term for which they have been admitted, e.g., summer prior to fall.**” This EO will affect approximately 3000-4000 of our incoming freshman students. At this time, the mandate does not appear to be funded.

An events calendar was distributed which lists the November 19th deadline when all campus plans are due to the Chancellor’s Office for review by its Implementation Team.

Spector briefly explained there are three groups working on CSUN’s plan to meet EO 1048—Logistics, Math, and Reading/Writing. Although much progress has been made by each of these groups, there are still many issues and concerns left to work through. The Senate was asked for their input and feedback.

9. **Senate Reports**

- a. **CFA Report** – Theresa Montano, CFA President

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/cfareport102110.pdf>

CFA President Montano said that the Northridge Chapter of CFA is going through a re-organization; the officers will be serving as a collective force to represent the campus.

Faculty forums will be held and CFA will visit departments to get feedback on faculty concerns. Issues that CFA finds troubling involve workforce instability, seniority, evaluations, pensions and retirement. Those interested in learning about CFA’s position on the election, may visit: www.calfac.org. Montano also announced the following.

1. A national dialog forum about public higher education will take place in January.
2. CFA is working with UCLA’s Civil Rights Project on two studies: Early Start and issues as it relates to immigrant students.
3. A number of CFA chapters are forming a Southern California Coalition with other unions involved in public education. They will hold a summit in May.

b. **Provost's Report** – Cynthia Rawitch

Link to written report: <http://www.csun.edu/senate/reports/provostsreport102110.pdf>

Rawitch attended the meeting to answer questions in Provost Hellenbrand's absence. In addition to the Provost's written report, she noted that if we receive funding as promised, the intent is to hire about 50 tenure-track faculty over a three-year period. Moreover, she also stated that a preliminary examination of first time freshman retention rate indicate 74 percent (up about 3 ½ percent from the year before) and our 6 year graduation rate is up to 46 percent.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Submitted by:

Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary

Sandra Chong, Secretary of the Faculty