

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES – Approved 2/21/08
January 31, 2008
University Hall, Room 277

Members Present: Alfano, Basta, Hellenbrand, Macune, Matos (Chair), Phillips, Spector, Stepanek, Wolfbauer (Recording Secretary), Zvi

Members Absent: Dungey, Swerkes

Guests: Hilary Baker, Colin Donahue, Bettina Huber, Vicki Pedone, Shannon Morgan, Maureen Rubin, Diane Schwartz

President Matos called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

MSP to approve the minutes from [December 13, 2007](#) and [January 16, 2008](#) as distributed.

2. **Announcements**

- a. Faculty award nominations are due on February 25, 2008. Senate Executive Committee members were encouraged to serve on an award committee.
- b. The Honored Faculty Reception will be on Monday, May 19th at 10:00 a.m. in the University Student Union, Grand Salon.
- c. The Center on Disabilities will have an Open House for faculty and staff on Monday, February 25, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in BH 110.
- d. The 2008-2009 Freshman Common Reading book will be *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich. Faculty and others will work this Spring to develop assignments and discussion topics.

3. **Policy Items – Educational Policies Committee**

Shannon Morgan, Chair

Action Item – [Criterion for Continued Enrollment of Readmitted Previously Disqualified Students](#) (aka 2.00 GPA Probationary Students Policy)

The proposed policy would require students who have been disqualified to earn at least a 2.0 GPA during each semester of enrollment subsequent to disqualification.

EPC refined the policy statement to make it cleaner and clearer as suggested by the Executive Committee at the December 13, 2007 meeting. It was further requested that EPC amend the policy to read, “Students who have been academically disqualified, but who are readmitted to the University under terms of ~~a special type of~~ probation with an Academic Performance Agreement are allowed to continue to enroll in subsequent semesters only if they earn a GPA of 2.00 or higher each semester until ~~they reach good standing~~ both their cumulative total GPA and CSUN GPA return to 2.0”

EPC was also asked to provide a definition of “good standing” and to explain to the Senate that the language in the catalog will be rewritten to make it clearer subsequent to the Senate’s action on this policy item.

MSP to send this policy to the Senate with a do-pass recommendation with a few suggested editorial revisions.

Action Item – [Reinstatement after the Third Disqualification Policy](#)

The proposed policy would allow a student who has been disqualified three times to reapply for admission to the university under certain circumstances after an absence of five years or more. The student would have to provide evidence of skills or achievements acquired during the five year absence that would support a successful return to the University.

MSP to send this policy to the Senate with a do-pass recommendation with a few suggested editorial changes.

4. **Faculty Governance Orientation and President’s Reception**

The Faculty Governance Orientation was scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 2008 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm at the Orange Grove Bistro. Also, at the end of the semester, President Koester will host a reception at her home for the Senators; she will get back to us with a date.

5. **Information Technology Update**

Hilary Baker, Vice President for Information Technology

Information Technology is continuing to focus on becoming more service oriented, increasing the reliability and stability of the systems, and on improving project delivery. They are working very closely with the Colleges to increase communication and collaboration and are listening to their needs. The Academic Technology Committee and the Advisory Committee on Academic Technology are meeting jointly to talk about technology issues and challenges beginning this Friday when they will discuss the future learning environment at CSUN.

Baker reported on some of the key technology faculty technology support projects currently underway. She will be invited to make a presentation at a future Senate meeting.

6. **Facilities Projects**

Colin Donahue, Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning

Colin Donahue started his presentation by showing the Campus Master Plan for 2035 and reported on a number of projects currently in the design or construction process. The Performing Arts Center, the Orange Grove Walk, G3 Parking Structure and access roads, Science Five (Chaparral Hall), Student Recreation Center, Student Housing (phase 1), and Faculty Staff Housing (phase 1) are among those projects. Facilities Planning is also working to improve transportation into and within the campus. Donahue said that a better tram system and an on-campus transit center could make a big difference.

7. **Voluntary System of Accountability**

Bettina Huber, Director of Institutional Research

The Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) is a multi-year process which will result in a web-based College Portrait offering a broad range of information about each participant's institution. The VSA was established in response to national calls for consistent and comparable information on colleges and universities. It is also a response to the Spellings Commission's desire to hold colleges and universities more publicly accountable. Data on student achievement are a required part of the College Portrait, so we'll need to pay special attention to learning outcomes.

CSUN was involved with the beta test and Huber distributed and summarized the College Portrait template that is posted on their website –

www.voluntarysystem.org/templates/index.htm

Prospective students, parents, legislators and policy makers will be the primary audience for this data. The data will be updated annually. The Executive Committee asked questions and provided feedback.

8. **Nomination for Officers, Statewide Academic Senator, Senators-at-Large and Senate Standing Committees**

Spring 2008 faculty elections will be held in March for Faculty President, Secretary, Statewide Academic Senator and Senators-at-Large. Nominations were taken for these positions and additional nominations will be taken at the next Senate meeting and by petition.

Nominations for Senate-elected positions on standing committees were also taken and Senators will be invited to suggest names at the February 14 Senate meeting. The Executive Committee will make further nominations and set the election slate at the February 21 meeting.

The Executive Committee suggested the names of faculty members who might be available to replace Bonnie Campbell on the Educational Resources Committee. The Senate Office

will check to see if either faculty member is willing to serve the remainder of Campbell's term (until the end of the Spring 2008 semester).

9. **Circumvention of Faculty Governance**

Ed Alfano raised some concerns with regard to a portion of the process of reviewing courses for General Education certification. A memo was received by the Associate Deans saying that EPC would not accept requests to move courses to a different GE section after this Spring. It was suggested that Matos discuss this topic with Cynthia Rawitch and Shannon Morgan, Chair of EPC, to get some clarification on the memo.

It was also suggested that Standing Committees be briefed on the level of detail that needs to be included in minutes involving policy changes. This will help Senate Executive Committee members stay informed on discussions and policy changes that are coming through the pipeline.

10. **Provost's Report** – Provost Harry Hellenbrand

Provost Hellenbrand reported the following:

- a. Budget reports will be posted on the Provost's website - <http://www.csun.edu/academic.affairs/>

The Governor's recent budget has a \$312 million cut for the CSU. Hellenbrand anticipates a \$10 - \$13 million cut for CSUN. We are trying to increase recruitment of out-of-state students. We need to think carefully about what we spend on technology. The CFA/CSU contract settlement will be difficult to fund so we are looking for ways to support. We need to have contingency plans in the Colleges.

- b. Our FTES target for next year will be this year's achieved target.
- c. Hellenbrand will be traveling a great deal this Spring so he will post updates and respond to questions on the Academic Affairs blog.

11. **Statewide Senate Report** – Steven Stepanek, Statewide Senator

Stepanek provided a [written report](#). He highlighted the report from Patrick Lenz, CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor, that all faculty salary increases through the end of June 2008 are safe, but increases scheduled for July 1, 2008 and beyond are at risk because of the fiscal crisis. There could be a reopener of the CFA Contract for the coming two-year period. Gary Reichard, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer for the CSU, speculated that some of the technology initiatives are being suspended.

12. **Senate Agenda for February 14, 2008**

- EEC – (action) Timely Adoption of Textbooks/Instructional Materials for Accessibility Policy

- EPC – (action) Criterion for Continued Enrollment of Readmitted Previously Disqualified Students
- EPC – (action) Reinstatement after the Third Disqualification Policy
- Nominations for Faculty Officers, CSU Academic Senator, and Senators-at-Large; recommendations for Senate Standing Committee members.
- Information Technology Update (Hilary Baker)
- Senate Reports

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Heidi Wolfbauer, Recording Secretary
Cheryl Spector, Secretary of the Faculty