

2009/2010 Academic Senate

MINUTES
May 10, 2010

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:09 p.m. and roll call was taken by the Senate Administrator. Forty-one Senators were present.

Ex Officio:

Present: Baker, Meldal,, Van Selst
Lessow-Hurley, Kaufman,
Sabalius
Absent: Whitmore

CASA Representatives:

Present: Schultz-Krohn, Fee
Absent: Kao, Hendrick, Correia

Administrative Representatives:

Present: Najjar, Lee, Selter
Absent: Phillips

COB Representatives:

Present: Roldan, Campsey
Absent: Jiang

Deans:

Present: Bullock, Merdinger, Stacks
Absent: Parrish

EDUC Representatives:

Present: Kimbarow
Absent: Smith

Students:

Present: Starks, Gonzales, Armendariz
Absent: Pulu, Orr, Levy

ENGR Representatives:

Present: Gleixner, Backer, Du

Alumni Representative:

Present: Walters

H&A Representatives:

Present: Desalvo, Brown, Brada-Williams, Van Hooff,
Fleck
Absent: Butler

Emeritus Representative:

Present: Buzanski

SCI Representatives:

Present: Hamill, Silber, McGee, McClory
Absent: d'Alarcao

Honorary Senators (Non-Voting):

Present: Norton

SOS Representatives:

Present: Ng, Heiden, Von Till
Absent: Lee (Sabbatical)

General Unit Representatives:

Present: Fujimoto, Sivertsen, Lin

II. Approval of Academic Senate Minutes–

There were no minutes ready for approval.

III. Communications and Questions –

A. From the Chair of the Senate:

Chair Kaufman made the following announcements:

The first two candidates for the VP of Student Affairs were on campus last week, and the final two candidates will be on campus this week. Open forums will be held on Wednesday and Thursday (May 13th and 14th) from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in Engineering 189.

Chair Kaufman commented on what a tough year this has been with the budget shortfall and furloughs in addition to the state-mandated, but not state-funded, enrollment cuts. The budget shortfall was covered through the 10% pay cut that all employees received, and by the 32%

increase in student fees. Next year is expected to be even more difficult. Many employees have already received notices that they will be laid off at the end of June, and many lecturers will not be renewed for the fall. Furthermore, despite efforts to control enrollment, the number of students wanting to attend, and eligible to attend, San José State University is larger than what we had targeted. Legislators have also told us that taxes received in April are lower than hoped, and that it is unlikely the Governor's proposed budget for education will be approved.

Chair Kaufman commented that he believed the situation would have been far worse had all the Senators not participated in shared governance and in the protection of the needs of our students. The Chair thanked the Senators for their participation, commitment, and dedication this year.

B. From the President of the University –

President Whitmore was unable to attend this Senate meeting. No report was given on his behalf.

IV. Executive Committee Report

A. Executive Committee Minutes –

May 3, 2010 –

Senator Stacks wanted to know more about the method in which Counseling Services is conferring with the student organizations with regard to the proposed Student Mental Health Fee increase. Chair Kaufman responded that there are a couple of different routes that a proposed student fee increase can take. One route is by student vote, and then there is an alternative consultation route. Counseling Services is going through the alternative consultation route. AVP Stiglitz will be elaborating on this later in today's meeting.

Senator Lessow-Hurley commented that item number 4 should say, "the Head of the San Mateo Community College District," and not "the Head of the San Mateo County schools" [Note: President Whitmore referred to the Head of the San Mateo County schools as written in the minutes.] Chair Kaufman agreed with Senator Lessow-Hurley.

Senator Stacks asked for clarification about the reserve mentioned in item 7. Senator Lee responded that we have no base reserve. Over the last few years of reductions, the base reserve has been given up. Senator Lee will know what the one-time reserve will be when the books are closed at the end of June.

Chair Kaufman commented that a request was made by several members of the Executive Committee to have the final tabulation of how budget cuts were allocated across the divisions. The Executive Committee has been promised a full accounting of that as soon as everything is finalized at the end of June. Chair Kaufman will be asking the VPs for those numbers and posting this information as soon as possible.

B. Consent Calendar – No consent calendar.

C. Executive Committee Action Items –

Chair Kaufman presented Certificates of Service to departing Senators. Chair Kaufman also presented AS President Baker with a bouquet of flowers to go with her certificate, and read comments of praise on behalf of President Whitmore.

The Executive Committee presented *AS 1439, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring and Thanking Dr. Veril Phillips for his Service to the Senate and to the University (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted by acclimation and AS 1439 passed as written.**

The Executive Committee presented *AS 1440, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring and Thanking Wiggys Sivertsen for her Service to the Senate and to the University (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted by acclimation and AS 1440 passed as written.**

V. Unfinished Business - None

VI. Policy Committee and University Library Board Action Items. In rotation.

A. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA) –

Senator Gleixner presented *AS 1435, Policy Recommendation, Probation and Disqualification Policy (Final Reading)*. Senator Van Selst presented a friendly amendment to change page 3, B. University Disqualification, line 1 to read, “Students on academic probation are subject to academic disqualification if their.” Senator Meldal presented an amendment to change page 3, B. University Disqualification, line 1 to read, “Students on academic probation during a Spring or Fall term are subject to academic disqualification if their.” Senator Van Selst presented a friendly amendment to the Meldal amendment to change page 3, B. University Disqualification, line 1, to read, “Students on academic probation are subject to academic disqualification if their corresponding SJSU Fall or Spring term GPA falls below 2.0.” The Senate voted and the Meldal amendment as amended by Senator Van Selst passed. Senator Stacks presented a friendly amendment to add another sentence to the end of page 3, B. University Disqualification, 2. Administrative-Academic Disqualification, that reads, “Academic Standing will be determined only at the end of Fall and Spring semesters.” Senator Gleixner presented an amendment to change page 3, B. University Disqualification, 1. Academic Disqualification, to read, “Students on academic probation are subject to academic disqualification if their corresponding Fall or Spring SJSU term GPA falls below 2.0 for a 2nd consecutive semester.” Senator Heiden presented a friendly amendment to the Gleixner Amendment to change B. 1. to read, “Students on academic probation are subject to academic disqualification if their corresponding Fall or Spring SJSU term GPA falls below 2.0. Freshmen on academic probation are allowed a 2nd consecutive semester on probation if their term GPA is in the range of 1.50-1.99.” Senator Buzanski made a motion to move all questions before the house. The motion was seconded. The Senate voted and the Buzanski motion failed. The Senate voted on the Gleixner amendment as amended by Senator Heiden. The Gleixner amendment passed. Senator Van Selst presented a friendly amendment to change page 1, the last line to read, “The length of time and number of units taken may both be considered in determining progress toward degree or other program objectives. The Senate

voted and AS 1435 passed as amended with several Nays, and 1 abstention.

B. University Library Board (ULB) – No report.

C. Professional Standards Committee (PS) – No report.

D. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R) – No report.

E. Organization and Government Committee (O&G) – No report.

VII. Special Committee Reports –

VIII. New Business – The Senate had a 15 minute recess for cake and coffee to welcome new Senators for 2010-2011, and to thank departing Senators for 2009-2010. (Time Certain, 3:30 p.m.)

IX. State of the University Announcements. Questions. In rotation.

A. VP for University Advancement: No report.

B. CSU Statewide Senators:

Senator Van Selst commented that there was a Student Health Fee Task Force Report that was part of the Board of Trustees Agenda. Senator Van Selst also noted that there are an increasing number of veterans on CSU campuses, and they tend to use Counseling Services resources heavily.

Senator Van Selst gave an update on resolutions being considered at the CSU Statewide Senate. Some of these resolutions include: a resolution on the Early Start Initiative that basically leaves it up to the campuses as to how they will deal with the initiative (The Early Start Initiative requires freshmen that need remediation to start these classes the summer before their admission to a CSU campus); a resolution on shared governance in Academic Technology (Many CSU campuses have had changes in Academic Technology rolled out that were not developed in consultation with the faculty); a resolution deploring hate crimes (There have been a number of events that could easily be described as hate crimes on a variety of CSU campuses); a resolution in support of the faculty at CSU Stanislaus (CSU Stanislaus has the worst faculty-administration shared governance relationship in the CSU system); SB 1440 (This was written by Chancellors Reed and Scott without any faculty input and it allows the community colleges to determine what a lower division degree looks like); a resolution on the importance of consultation with faculty on curriculum; and a resolution decrying the movement within the CSU system as a whole to rush the faculty into agreeing with changes, because they must be done now rather than allowing time for research and investigation.

Senator Lessow-Hurley commented on the fact that there have been a number of resolutions at the CSU Statewide level about actions that have been taken without faculty consultation. In addition, the Chancellor and members of the Board of Trustees, no longer regularly attend CSU Statewide meetings. Senator Lessow-Hurley has seen the Chancellor at CSU Statewide meetings only twice in the last two years. There have also been no Trustee meetings on the campuses.

Senator Lessow-Hurley commented that it seems like the budget crisis is providing the opportunity for a lot of things to be simply moved forward, and there is a tendency to disrespect the faculty. We still have no Faculty Trustee and it seems no recourse to having one appointed, even though the CSU Statewide Senate passed a resolution saying we should have two. The Board of Trustees has also not taken our side in this question in any way. It appears there is little regard for the faculty and that is quite upsetting considering this is a very large university system. Senator Lessow-Hurley also noted that an enormous amount of time at the CSU Statewide Senate is spent just getting the administration to recognize the faculty and hear their voices.

C. Provost –

Provost Selter commented that this has been a very challenging year all around for the faculty, the staff, and even the administrators with furloughs, budget reductions, shortage of classes, enrollment limitations, etc., and the future doesn't appear to be a lot brighter. However, Provost Selter feels we will have an OK year next year, given the circumstances. The Provost thanked the Senators for their continued support under the most difficult conditions anyone has seen.

Provost Selter presented a plaque to Chair Kaufman on behalf of President Whitmore recognizing his outstanding service to the Senate and the university over the past year.

D. VP for Finance and Administration – No report.

E. VP of Student Affairs --

AVP Stiglitz gave a report on the proposed Student Mental Health Fee increase.

The need for this mental health fee increase is immediate and intense. According to a SJSU student survey, .7% of our students reported attempting suicide this year. That's 210 students. Sadly, there were also 6 successful suicides.

Counseling Services has only 1 psychiatrist for 30,000 students. Three psychiatrists are required to meet accreditation standards. There are also only 10 counselors, as compared to 27 when Director Thames started working at SJSU.

Student Affairs has chosen the alternative consultation method because it is such a complex issue and just putting it on a ballot doesn't allow Counseling Services to explain why this increase is so desperately needed. Counseling Services also

feels this is an excellent opportunity to get feedback from students on what they want and need from Counseling Services. Students have been very supportive of the fee increase.

Student Affairs is asking for an increase of \$14 a year over four years for a total increase of \$56.

Questions:

Senator Sabalius commented that if the students support this increase, then Student Affairs shouldn't have any problem letting the students vote on it. Also, the gradual increase of only \$14 a year isn't that bad for students right now so they might approve it, but the students down the road will be paying much more.

AVP Stiglitz responded that if they got the entire fee increase right now, they wouldn't be able to utilize it because they don't have the space yet. Therefore, it is much fairer to the students to increase it gradually.

Senator Kimbarow inquired as to why the fee increase would only bring us close to meeting the accreditation standards without actually meeting the standards, and he asked what the consequences would be for not meeting the standards. Director Thames responded that the accrediting agency would be very happy that we were making progress towards the standards.

Director Thames commented that student health is at the heart of their fee increase request and that they would not ask for the increase if they had not tried everything else, or saw any other way to do this. Student safety is at issue. SJSU is way above the national average in suicide rates. SJSU counselors are very concerned about this.

Senator Van Hooff commented that having been a department chair for seven years, she has seen an increase in the number of students having problems and difficulty this year. If the students support this fee increase, Senator Van Hooff supports it entirely.

F. AS President –

AS President Baker announced that Wednesday is the final AS board meeting. AS is currently transitioning in the 2010-2011 AS board. AS President Baker thanked Senators and stated that serving as AS President was a tremendous experience and that it had exceeded all her expectations. AS President Baker especially thanked the Executive Committee and commented that she felt that the Executive Committee really sought out her opinions and the opinions of students on matters. AS President Baker believes this shows a lot of respect for SJSU students by the faculty, staff, and administration, and she wishes all students could have the experience she had as AS President.

AS President Baker introduced the incoming AS President Tomasz Kolodziejak.

X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.