Minutes of the Executive Committee
November 17, 2008


Absent: Whitmore, Backer, Van Selst

1. Chair Meldal told the Executive Committee that Mrs. Whitmore’s father had just passed away. The Executive Committee expressed its condolences, and passed around a sympathy card.

2. Chair Meldal announced that the CSU is considering requiring all undergraduate engineering programs to be at the 120 unit limit.

3. The Executive Committee voted and the consent calendar was approved unanimously (12-0-0).

4. The Executive Committee discussed the state of the budget.

   Chancellor Reed will be discussing CSU systemwide impaction at the Board of Trustee’s meeting tomorrow.

   VP Lee announced that the CSU systemwide budget for 2008/2009 may be cut an additional $66 million. The CSU has already received a cut of $31 million. SJSU’s portion of the total $97 million cut amounts to $6 million. The 2009/2010 Trustee budget requests funding according to the compact, but the economic situation is expected to be ongoing into 2009/2010 and we should not expect to be funded per the compact.

   Chair Meldal asked if class sections would be cut in 2009/2010. Provost Sigler commented that no class cancellations were expected at this time. VP Lee commented that funding to meet the budget FTE required $2.6 million and an additional $5.9 million to meet our excess enrollment.

   Chair Meldal asked if layoffs were expected in the future. VP Lee commented that our hope is to absorb the cuts by not filling vacant positions. However, if our cut is more than $6 million it will get tougher, and at some point layoffs might have to occur.

   VP Lee said that she had been asked if the 2 days of furlough that the governor is recommending for state employees applies to the CSU, and the answer is that it does not. However, the CSU should not count on getting the 4 hours of holiday paid time off on Christmas Eve this year, as the governor has asked state employees to cut 2 of the 14 state holidays.

   VP Lee announced that the campus is open on December 29th and January 2nd. Some small departments may be closed. Each VP will manage their own departments but notices on doors and messages on phones should be put in place.
The business offices, such as Human Resources and Payroll will be open on these dates.

Chair Meldal asked if the number of faculty searches had been put on hold due to the budget situation. Provost Sigler said that she had requested that the Dean’s submit their requests based on the reduced budget. We must be very strategic in where we hire. Deans will have to rank and prioritize their requests.

5. The Executive Committees discussed the nominees for the CSU Information Security Policy Review Task Force. The Task Force shall consist of Michael Kaufman (Chair), Sigurd Meldal, Tim Hill, Elizabeth McGee, Cathy Kozak, Don Baker, Mike Dunefsky, Nihm Phan-Hi, Mary-Jo Gorney-Moreno, and Chuck Wu.

6. The Executive Committee discussed AS 1405, Senate Management Resolution, The Process to Elect the Members of the Post-Promotion Increase Program Appeals Committee (Final Reading). A friendly amendment was made to add “probationary and tenured faculty” to the 2nd line in number 2. The Executive Committee voted and AS 1405 was approved unanimously as amended (12-0-0). The resolution will be presented from the floor at today’s (11/17/08) Senate meeting.

7. Status Updates:

a. VP of Student Affairs: No comments.

b. VP of University Advancement: VP Najjar commented that fundraising was challenging everywhere, even in the private colleges right now. However, SJSU will remain engaged with our alumni and ride out this tough time. Our endowment is down about 11.5%, which is about a $5 million loss.

VP Najjar further announced that Beach Blanket Babylon would be coming to the California Theatre on March 9th. Many of the members are SJSU alums. There will also be a tribute to Paul Richardson in the Washington Square campus publication.

c. VP of Finance and Administration: No comments

d. AS President: AS President Cavu-Litman announced that approximately 10 campuses are representing all 23 campuses in the California State Student Association (CSSA). There will be a meeting in December in San Francisco to discuss the declining enrollment and what can be done to bring campuses back to the CSSA.

e. CSU Statewide Senators: Senators Lessow-Hurley and Kaufman made the following announcements:

The budget is up in the air right now and no one has any answers.

Teaching Performance Assessments have been deemed very costly to score. However, failure to complete the assessments could result in decertification.
The issue of differential fees for MBA students has been dropped from the Board of Trustees Agenda.

The CSU Statewide Senate has also been asked to take a 7% budget cut. This could result in a cut in the number of CSU Statewide Senators per campus.

The contract may come up for reopeners due to issues around funding.

f. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):
I&SA will be presenting AS 1400, Policy Recommendation, Repetition of Courses; Academic Renewal (Final Reading) at today’s (11/17/08) Senate meeting.

g. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):
VP Bob Cooper will be presenting a report on the Board of General Studies (BOGS) and the General Education (GE) Committees at today’s (11/17/08) Senate meeting. C&R has been very busy with the 1st Year Experience and other items, but no policy proposals at the moment.

h. Professional Standards Committee (PS):
The PS Committee will be presenting AS 1397, Policy Recommendation, New Sabbatical Leaves Policy (Final Reading), and AS 1404, Policy Recommendation, Departments/Colleges/University Committees Record Keeping (First Reading) at today’s (11/17/08) Senate meeting.

i. Committee on Committees (CoC): No comments.

j. Other items:
The Executive Committee congratulated Senator Sivertsen on her recent marriage.

Chair Meldal announced that CIO Search Committee nominees are due in the Senate Office this Wednesday, November 19, 2008. Executive Committee members were encouraged to solicit and/or recommend additional nominees. The search committee is expected to have 12 members altogether, and 1/3rd or 4 will be faculty members. The President hopes to have the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in place by Fall. A member asked if the creation of another administrator position could result in the need to add another administrator to the Senate. Chair Meldal commented that this may be a future issue.