Executive Committee Minutes
November 24, 2014
Noon to 1:30 p.m., ADM 167

Present: Frazier, Heiden, Kaufman, Kimbarow, Shifflett, Peter, Terry, Sabalius, Brada-Williams, Bibb
Absent: Daniels, Qayoumi, Feinstein, Backer

1. The committee approved the minutes of November 17, 2014 as amended (10-0-0).

2. Trustee Stepanek will attend the first hour of the Senate meeting on December 1, 2014. A motion was made to suspend Standing Rule 7 and rearrange the agenda to have the State of the University Announcements right after the Chair and President’s Comments. The motion was seconded, the committee voted and the motion was approved (10-0-0). The Executive Committee discussed whether the State of the University Announcements should permanently be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Several members expressed concern that this was done in the past and resulted in there being so many questions there wasn’t enough time for the resolutions. The committee will discuss this further at the next Executive Committee meeting.

3. The Executive Committee discussed the referral to the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee on Bias, Hate Crimes, Bullying, and Discrimination. After several discussions with other offices such as Human Resources, etc., I&SA has concerns that it is a much larger job than the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA) should be handling. For instance, these issues involve faculty and staff in addition to students and any new policies would require coordination with the unions and Human Resources.

   The committee discussed the fact that portions of this referral are already included in various University policies, such as faculty professional ethics which is included in the Board of Academic Freedom policy, and the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy. In addition, there is a very clear Sense of the Senate Resolution regarding Diversity.

   The Committee discussed diversity in the curriculum. In previous years, lottery grants were used to allow faculty to attend training that showed them ways to incorporate diversity into their curriculum, however, with all lottery funds being diverted to the Library in recent years, there are no professional development funds for faculty.

   The Senate Administrator noted that the Strategic Planning Board (SPB) determined the best use of the lottery funds after the BAC was disbanded, and the SPB assumed its functions. Prior to this time, the BAC had received all lottery and professional development requests and made the determination as to who got them and how much they got.
The Chair of I&SA, Stefan Frazier, will go back to the Chief of Staff and discuss exactly what is missing in our policies that has led to the need for this referral.

   The committee discussed whether the FAQ about CISCO could be expanded to include unanswered questions.

   There is still confusion surrounding the timeline when the CSU-wide contract was developed in relation to the SJSU Cisco contract. It is not clear whether SJSU was aware of what was in the contract and decided not to join with the Chancellor’s office initiative because of the unique needs and goals of our campus, or whether we were totally unaware of the contract. A member noted that it appears that we were aware the CSU was getting bids on certain things; however, SJSU wanted a more extensive upgrade.

   A member suggested the FAQs be changed to correctly reflect the events. Chair Heiden will discuss with the Chief of Staff.

5. A member asked if the Governance document was going to be brought to the Senate prior to the end of the semester. Chair Heiden still has not gotten any edits to the draft she sent out. The committee suggested bringing a Sense of the Senate Resolution endorsing the Governance document. The committee discussed whether the document was ready to go to the Senate yet, and it was decided that Chair Heiden should send out one more time for input and then should be brought to the Senate at the February 2015 meeting.

6. The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

These minutes were taken on November 24, 2014 and transcribed by the Senate Administrator, Eva Joice. The minutes were edited by Chair Heiden on December 1, 2014, and approved by the Executive Committee on December 8, 2014.