Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
May 3, 2010


Absent: Phillips, Najjar, Selter

Guests: Eloise Stiglitz

1. The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the Consent Calendar with the addition of Annette Nellen as a Senator from the College of Business, and Herb Silber as a Senator from the College of Science for one-year terms (12-0-0).

2. The Executive Committee discussed the IRB and Traffic, Transit, and Parking Committees and whether preference needed to be given to those with experience in assigning seats. The Executive Committee decided that according to Senate bylaws, the seats should be assigned on a first-come basis, by college, in the order in which the Committee Preference Forms were received unless otherwise specified by university policy.

3. The Executive Committee discussed two Sense of the Senate Resolutions that would be circulated by email from the Chair of the Senate for approval honoring Senators Phillips and Sivertsen for their service to the Senate and the university. AVP Stiglitz announced the VP Phillips would no longer be in the office in Student Affairs as of June 18, 2010.

5. AVP Stiglitz gave an update on enrollment for fall 2010. We are currently at 176% of our target for transfer students. Our target was 2,200 students, and 3,879 have paid the orientation fee. We are also at 109% of our target for First-Time Freshmen. Our target was 2,800, and 3,057 have paid the orientation fee. AVP Stiglitz commented that about 10% do not finish all the paperwork or complete the requirements, and they are dropped before the semester begins.

The Executive Committee discussed whether the university would be penalized for being over our enrollment target. Senator Lee reported that the CSU VPs of Finance and Administration have asked the Chancellor not to penalize them for enrollment, because they are required to take all students within their service area and they still have no idea what their budgets are going to finally be.

The Executive Committee discussed transfer students that are admitted as undeclared because their major of choice is impacted. A member suggested that somewhere down the road when all of these students try to get back into their impacted majors, those colleges affected will not have the faculty to teach them. It was suggested that the university should be keeping a record of how many transfer students in each impacted major are admitted as undeclared.
Several suggestions were made as to how the university might deal with this situation. One member suggested that we might require all transfer students to declare a major. The President also reminded the Executive Committee that while we cannot keep out local area students, we do not have to accept out of area students. The President also commented that we did receive $3 million this year in one-time money to hire additional faculty to teach more sections of classes.

President Whitmore also announced that he was visited by the head of San Mateo County schools. San Mateo County is in San Francisco’s service area, however, students in San Mateo County want to come to San Jose State and not go to San Francisco State. Unfortunately, there are more students graduating then there is room for at the CSUs.

6. Terri Thames, Director of Counseling Services, gave a brief presentation on a proposed increase to the Student Health Fee. SJSU’s counselor provider ratio has gone down so drastically that we are now out of compliance with accreditation standards. In addition, Counseling Services has had to limit the amount of educational counseling they can provide to students.

Counselors are also very concerned about student safety. According to a student survey, 0.7% of our students self-report attempting suicide. This corresponds to 210 students. Furthermore, SJSU has only one psychiatrist for 30,000 students.

Counseling Services will be asking for a $14 per semester increase in the Student Health Fee each semester for four years. The fee will increase from $75 to $130 at the end of the four years.

Several members wanted to know where this increased Student Health Fee would place us in relation to the other CSU Student Health Fees. Director Thames responded that we would be right in the middle of all the campuses fee-wise.

A member suggested that if we increased the Student Health Fee, then we wouldn’t be able to increase any other fees that were needed elsewhere and wanted to know why all the Student Fees weren’t lumped together. A member responded that the fees are separate and governed by the education code.

AS President Baker noted that the AS Directors supported the fee increase, but not the way that it was being presented. AS feels it should be ratified by referendum. Counseling Services prefers having individual conversations with all the student groups so that they can explain the severity of the situation. Counseling Services has also learned they need to increase prevention and outreach if they get the fee increase.

7. The Executive Committee thanked AS President Megan Baker for her service on the Senate and to the University. President Baker is nearing the end of her term as AS President.

8. The Executive Committee received handouts detailing the budget cuts made to other divisions besides Academic Affairs, including University Advancement, Student Affairs, and the Finance and Administration Division. The Finance and Administration Division
had a total reduction of $2.4 million. The Student Affairs Division had a total reduction of $1.5 million, and University Advancement was reduced by $500,573.

Finance and Administration was reduced by a total of 25.74 FTE. About 18.83 were vacant FTE positions, and 6.91 were filled. Of the 6.91, 4.14 were transferred out of the general fund, .48 retired, 1.29 were temp help that was non-renewed, and 1 MPP was non-retained.

Student Affairs was reduced by a total of 51.5 FTE. Twenty-eight were vacant positions, and 23.5 were filled. The filled positions were in the Career Center, Counseling Services, The Registrar’s Office, Student Athlete Success, the Student Health Center, Student Outreach and Recruitment, Testing, Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions, and University Housing Services.

University Advancement had a total reduction of $500,573. A total of 2.5 vacant positions were eliminated.

A member asked where the university was at in terms of a reserve. VP Lee responded that this is our third year of base reductions. The first year we were reduced $7 million. Then last year we were reduced another $6 million. This year we expect a reduction of $20 million. VP Lee hopes we have hit bottom as far as reductions are concerned and that things will be better next year. However, Finance and Administration has been conservative with maintaining a reserve, because we do not know what the budget is going to finally be this year.

9. Senators Lessow-Hurley and Meldal announced that they would not be on the Executive Committee next year and bid everyone farewell. The Executive Committee thanked them for their service and wished them well.

10. President Whitmore announced that he and Senator Lessow-Hurley had met with our legislators in Sacramento. The legislators were not optimistic that the CSU would get any of the $300 million recommended in the Governor’s budget, because April revenues are down.

11. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

The minutes were taken and prepared by the Recorder/Senate Administrator, Eva Joice on May 3, 2010.