

2003/2004 Academic Senate

MINUTES
November 24, 2003**I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. and attendance was taken. Thirty-three Senators were present.****Ex Officio:**

Present: Nellen, McNeil
Crowley
Absent: Brent, Shokouh, Sabalius,
Van Selst

CASA Representatives:

Present: David
Absent: Gonzales, Palakurthi

Administrative Representatives:

Present: Goodman, Lee, Rascoe
Absent: Kassing

COB Representatives:

Present: Campsey, El-Shaieb, Donoho

Deans:

Present: Breivik, Gorney-Moreno
Absent: Andrew, Meyers

ED Represent:

Present: Lessow-Hurley, Katz

Students:

Present: Tran
Absent: Gadamsetty, Sherman,
Torres, Paat, Lam

ENG Representatives:

Present: Pour, Choo
Absent: Singh

Alumni Representative:

Present: Guerra

H&A Representatives:

Present: Van Hooff, Desalvo, Vanniarajan
Absent: Heisch

Emeritus Representative:

Present: Buzanski

SCI Representatives:

Present: Hyde, Veregge, Bros, Kellum
Absent: Branz

Honorary Senators (Non-Voting):

Present: Norton

SOS Representatives:

Present: Baba, Von Till
Absent: Ogaz

General Unit Representatives:

Present: Liu, Thames, Yi

SW Representative:

Present: Coach

II. Approval of Academic Senate Minutes –

The Senate minutes of October 27, 2003 were approved with one amendment to change the word "institutional" in the last line of the first page to read "constitutional."

III. Communications**A. From the Chair of the Senate –**

Chair Nellen announced that there has been one addition to the Graduation Ceremony Task Force, Stan Underdahl, a faculty representative. Chair Nellen announced that at the December 8, 2003 Senate Meeting, there will be presentations by the Divisions on the

university and division budgets. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions of Interim President Crowley on the President's recent Athletics' report. Chair Nellen stated that Building DD has officially been renamed the Associated Students House through August 31, 2031. Chair Nellen said that the Presidential search has been extended and the current Advisory Committee will continue in the search. The Senate and the campus members of the advisory committee held a forum in September to get input for the trustees and candidates. Please let Chair Nellen know if you think another forum should be held in early spring. Chair Nellen said that a referral has been made to the Organization and Government Committee to review the structure of our Senate. Chair Nellen has surveyed other CSU Senates and noted that: some have CFA representatives; some have staff representatives; we are the only campus with an Alumni representative; and the Senates vary in including Administrators and as to whether or not they vote. Chair Nellen said that the Organization and Government Committee has received a referral from the Executive Committee to examine current committee structures for appropriate representation in membership. And, Chair Nellen announced that there are still two vacant seats on the Senate from the College of Humanities and the Arts.

B. From the President of the University –

Interim President Crowley announced that the Presidential search has been extended. "There is a vacancy in the Advisory Committee due to a member moving out of state; the position will be filled by the Chancellor's Office. There will not be a new election of the committee. However, there may be an adjustment or two by the Chancellor in the committee." Interim President Crowley announced that he "has agreed to serve until the process is concluded no later than the end of the academic year." Interim President Crowley said, "The Chancellor would like to have the search completed by the Board of Trustees' meeting in March 2004." Interim President Crowley said, "I am 90% certain that there will be no mid-year reduction this year. With the \$15 billion bond from the state, the State would still have an \$11-13 billion shortfall for 2004-2005—similar to this year. Options to address the shortfall for the CSU include the same options considered for this year, e.g. fee increases, differential pricing for graduate/undergraduate/ lower division/upper division, ability to pay scale; and most likely, a reduction in enrollment."

Questions:

Interim President Crowley was asked how he felt about staying longer at SJSU. Interim President Crowley said, "I am happy to stay longer, and I am enjoying myself here."

Interim President Crowley stated that he was "not aware of any education bond for the budget issues."

Interim President Crowley said that "the budget cuts for the Fall would be the same as this year—approximately 6%. This year rollover money was used to cover the shortfall, but that was a one-time only solution. Next year will be tougher."

Interim President Crowley was asked about the possibility of adding a representative of the

Asian community to the Presidential search efforts. Interim President Crowley asked Chair Nellen to comment on this issue. Chair Nellen stated, "The Chancellor has the privilege to change the make-up of the advisory committee." Chair Nellen encouraged Senators to email their thoughts, ideas, and nominations to the Chancellor and the Trustees as soon as possible.

Interim President Crowley was asked if he had responded to Manny Diaz's press release. Interim President Crowley stated, "my office has nothing to do with the make-up of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee."

IV. Executive Committee Report –

A. Executive Committee Minutes –

October 27, 2003 – No questions.

November 10, 2003 – No questions.

Budget Advisory Committee Minutes –

November 3, 2003 – No questions.

November 17, 2003 – No questions.

B. Consent Calendar – Approved as is.

C. Executive Committee Action Items: None.

V. Unfinished Business - None

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

A. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee –

Chair Pour reported that work is in progress on the Faculty Office Hours policy. She encouraged Senators to send suggestions to her by email. The committee is hoping for a first reading at the December 8, 2003, Academic Senate meeting. Some suggestions for changes were made from the floor including: checking with the Professional Standards Committee before the policy is brought forward to ensure the new policy is in line with RTP expectations; checking the contract for language regarding office hours, especially before renaming them; and soliciting wider student input into the issues.

B. University Library Board –

Senator Breivik announced that "there was an increase in the number of items checked out by University personnel in October of this year as compared to October of last year. The library is expecting its one-millionth visitor either late this weekend or more likely, Monday, December 1, 2003." Senator Lessow-Hurley asked, "Do the library fines paid by the general public for late returns on items in the University collection revert to SJSU or go to the general fund as do the fines on items in the city's library collection?" Senator Breivik will check to be sure and get back to the Senate.

C. Professional Standards Committee–

Chair Katz announced that the committee has one open at-large seat and asked anyone interested to let him know. He reported that the committee is continuing work on a referral regarding the Affirmative Action committee, in addition to their work on RTP revisions. Senator El-Shaieb is on the sub-committee working on RTP and reported that the sub-committee has held a forum with 30 chairs similar to the forum they will be holding with us later today. In addition, they will be holding forums with college RTP committee members in December, another one with Deans and Associate Deans, with past and present University RTP committee members, and with faculty members who have been through the current process.

D. Curriculum and Research Committee –

Senator Lessow-Hurley presented *AS 1121, Coordination of External Accreditation with the Program Planning Requirements (First Reading)*. A motion was made to move this to a Final Reading. The Senate voted and the motion passed. **The Senate then voted on AS 1121 and it passed.**

E. Organization and Government Committee –

Senator Veregge reported that the committee is continuing to review the Academic Senate committee structure.

F. Budget Advisory Committee –

Senator Donoho referred Senators to a chart handed out with all of the "Obligations/Mandates/Recommendations" that may be relevant in setting budget goals. The list was created by the Budget Advisory Committee.

VII. Special Committee Reports – None

VIII. New Business –

A. Presentation on the State of Student Mental Health on College Campuses in general and at SJSU:

Director of Counseling Services, Wiggys Sivertsen, gave a presentation on the State of Student Mental Health on College Campuses in general and at SJSU. Director Sivertsen said, "At Kansas State University, a study was done of some 13,000+ students over a 13-year period of time, they found that depression problems doubled, suicidal students tripled, and students coming in for sexual assault quadrupled. There has been an increasing need in our students over the last several years for mental health services. Part of the problem with this is that while the need for mental health services has been increasing, the whole attention to mental health has been in some ways decreasing."

Director Sivertsen said, "One of the things that we have talked about a lot is that when I started in Counseling Services there were 23 people in the office, and now there are 9. I used to give Bob Caret a very hard time about his football team and say that he had more Coaches than he had Counselors, and we win our games."

Director Sivertsen said, "Our students have some unique characteristics that are not common in colleges and universities around the country, some of this has to do with the huge diversity on that exists on our campus. This presents challenges in terms of providing psychological services. It isn't one size fits all. This requires that my colleagues spend a great deal of time learning about new cultures and staying up-to-date on their issues. Senator Thames was on sabbatical a few years ago and developed a whole course on cultural sensitivity and supervision for students, because we also train students in our counseling service.

We are also seeing some of the same issues that other people are seeing such as an increase in depression. Depression is the national number one mental health disorder in the country with somewhere between 14 and 14 1/2 million people having experienced depression that is severe enough to have created problems in their lives.

Stress and anxiety are also strong issues facing our students from pressures put on them as a result of having to work to support their families, and being, many times, first generation students. This creates a heightened sense of stress in their lives because of the added responsibilities. The anxiety that comes with this is often times incapacitating, and all of these things affect their learning.

We are also seeing more eating disorder problems, and we have a huge increase in the need for medication for our students. We have only one psychiatrist on campus that works only part-time. When we need assessment of students about medication, the workload backs up. When they do get some prescription, the health service is only able to provide them with one form of the medication per each category. Students have to go off campus to get other medications.

We also have more and more students coming to campus today that have some pretty serious and profound learning disabilities. They need more attention than DRC can provide. There are also some more common problems that face all students such as relationships, the inability to make friends, Internet dating/internet addiction, etc.

There is also an increase in student dangerousness. We have been very fortunate with our students. However, there are some unusual classroom behaviors by students that counseling services advises faculty members on."

Director Sivertsen said, "We also send out letter to all disqualified students, and all students on academic probation telling them that we would love for them to come by and talk with us, and that we may be able to help them. Almost across the board, the problems with these students are life circumstances. In the midst of all of this, we have the current budget cuts. This means we have a waiting list of students to see. Our current waiting list has 22 students on it that we will probably get to in the next couple of days, but we are not always available."

Director Sivertsen said, "Even at the height of the .COM businesses, we felt a loss of mental health services in this community. There are people with profound mental illnesses, and yet we as a nation have not figured out how to provide sufficient resources. Universities struggle with this all the time, and from my standpoint universities have a special responsibility. That responsibility is to educate the public that we are indeed all of each other's brothers and sisters.

For every student we lose, I often wonder if that student might have been important in gaining world peace, solving cancer problems, or doing something about Alzheimer's, to me that is heart-breaking."

Questions:

Senator Norton asked, "Have suicide rates increased at SJSU over time as they have in the Kansas study?" Director Sivertsen said, "Yes, suicide rates have increased at SJSU, but we have been fortunate. We have had only two on-campus suicides, but a number of off-campus suicides."

Senator Donoho asked, "What impact did the last budget cuts have on Counseling Services?" Director Sivertsen said, "One of the problems is that she is under Student Affairs, and that when budget cuts have occurred and then money has come back into the system, it has not come back to Student Affairs. We are about to lose our Post Doc Residency program, because we don't have funding for it next year. Post Doc Residents provide us with an enormous amount of service. And, we will probably be down even another position next year, even though the student population has stayed about the same."

Senator Van Hooff asked, "Do you have any services for learning difficulties?" Director Sivertsen said, "We have the DRC which is run by Marty Schulter, and that services does a great deal. However, he is in the same situation that we are. We have been able to provide services in areas such as a student we counseled that had Tourette's Syndrome."

Senator Katz asked, "When we see a student that needs your help, do you want us to refer them to you, and do you ever reach out and contact these students yourself?" Director Sivertsen said, "It makes it much easier for the student if you walk them over to the office, however, we will do whatever we need to do to get a student help."

Senator Choo asked, "What percentage of our students receive services from Counseling Services?" Director Sivertsen said, "We service between 300-400 students per month. That depends on the month. At the beginning of the semester it is kind of quiet."

Senator Vanniarajan asked, "How would we know if a student we referred went to Counseling Services?" Director Sivertsen said, "If you walked the student over to Counseling Services, that would be the end of what you would know. We won't tell you anything unless the student gives us permission to tell you they came in. We do not tell the President of the University, the police, the parents, or even INS any information about our students." Senator Vanniarajan asked, "Do you have any idea of how many students come in for the educational counseling and how many come in for other counseling?" Director Sivertsen said that "students often come in for educational counseling, but have another underlying problem that needs to be addressed."

B. RTP Forum led by Sub-Committee of Professional Standards.

Senators were formed into small groups to generate issues for the RTP process. The forum lasted until 4:25 p.m. A great deal of input was given to the Professional Standards Committee.

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

A. Associated Students President – Not in attendance today.

B. Statewide Academic Senators –

Senator McNeil reported that the CSU Statewide Senate is discussing the budget situation. He reported that five trustees have been lost due to being unconfirmed when the new Governor took office. The CSU Statewide Senate is waiting to see the new budget offered by the Governor in January. Contract negotiations may be postponed for a year because we're in budget crisis.

C. Provost – Not in attendance today.

D. Vice President for Administration – Not in attendance today.

E. Vice President for Student Affairs – No Report

X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. due to lack of a quorum.