

2007/2008 Academic Senate

MINUTES
May 12, 2008

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. and attendance was taken. Forty-two Senators were present.

Ex Officio:

Present: Lessow-Hurley,
Kassing, Henderson
Absent: Gorman, Sabalius, Van Selst

Administrative Representatives:

Present: Sigler, Phillips
Absent: Najjar, Lee

Deans:

Present: Parrish, Merdinger, Stacks,
Wei

Students:

Present: Reyes, Grabowski
Bridgeman, Castillo,
Lazarowich, Zeier

Alumni Representative:

Absent: Thompson

Emeritus Representative:

Present: Buzanski

Honorary Senators (Non-Voting):

Absent: Norton

General Unit Representatives:

Present: Sivertsen, Romo, Liu

CASA Representatives:

Present: Fee, Schultz-Krohn, Hendrick, Kao, Canham

COB Representatives:

Present: Roldan, Campsey
Absent: Jiang

ED Represent:

Present: Maldonado-Colon, Rickford, Langdon

ENG Representatives:

Present: Backer, Meldal
Absent: Gao

H&A Representatives:

Present: Desalvo, Van Hooff, Belet, Butler
Absent: Mok, Vanniarajan

SCI Representatives:

Present: McClory, Bros, Kaufman, Hilliard

SOS Representatives:

Present: Peter, Hebert, Von Till
Absent: Zia

II. Approval of Academic Senate Minutes – The minutes May 5, 2008 were approved with one correction from Senator Backer.

III. Communications and Questions –

A. From the Chair of the Senate:

[The following comments were provided by Chair Lessow-Hurley and were not taken directly from the recording of the meeting.]

As you know, the presidential candidates were here for interviews last week, and on behalf of the advisory committee, I'd like to express gratitude to the entire campus. We had a significant turnout from every constituency, the candidates were greeted with warmth and enthusiasm, and our engagement was obvious at every turn. The committee received lots of thoughtful feedback from a wide variety of sources, and we have communicated with the Chancellor who will be sharing our collective insights with the trustees. I think we can feel really good about ourselves and about our role in this search. The candidates are interviewing with the trustees today, and my understanding is that we should hear something before the week is out.

This is the last time I will speak to you as senate chair. I'd simply like to thank each and every one of you for your support and encouragement over these last two years. I hope I accomplished some of what I set out to do and as much as possible of what the senate and the campus needed me to do. I hope I have preserved the collegial nature of faculty governance on this campus, despite the fact that I'm often impatient and known to have a sharp tongue. I also hope the Senate has become more visible in the eyes of the campus as a whole as a result of my efforts to communicate broadly and often. And, I'd like to say that I'm sure this office will be in good hands with Senator Meldal. We've worked closely together and I have found him to be smart, wise, committed and kind.

I've very much enjoyed my time as your chair, and I'd encourage every single one of you to consider serving in this capacity at some time. It was engaging and rewarding and fun, and I learned a tremendous amount. I learned a lot about how a university works, and I've also learned that this university works because just about everyone here cares about students, the institution, and each other. Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve.

The chair was given a standing ovation.

Chair Lessow-Hurley then presented certificates of service to departing senators.

B. From the President of the University –

President Kassing made the following announcements:

The president announced that the picture of SJSU in the front of the room was a gift to the university given to us last Friday by Lane Weiss, an alum from the 50's. The Alumni Association is going to turn it into a poster and sell it.

The president received a number of compliments on the way the campus handled the presidential search process. He commented on how proud he was of the entire campus.

The president presented Chair Lessow-Hurley with a plaque for her service as Chair of the Senate from 2006-2008. The president commented that Chair Lessow-Hurley "had natural leadership capacity," and that the "university is a better place because of her leadership." The President further stated that the Senate has had some extraordinary leadership in the past including Ken Peter, Sally Veregge, Annette Nellen, and Judith Lessow-Hurley, and that this

clearly was the best Senate he had ever worked with.

The President then left early to catch an airplane.

IV. Executive Committee Report –

A. Executive Committee Minutes –

May 5, 2008 – Senator Stacks said, “With respect to item number 5, did the Executive Committee discuss future plans for academic achievement?” Chair Lessow-Hurley said, “No, we did not discuss that.”

B. Consent Calendar – None

C. Executive Committee Action Items:

Senator Meldal presented *AS 1394, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring and Thanking Dr. Judith Lessow-Hurley for her Service to the Senate and to the University (Final Reading)*. Senator Peter presented a friendly amendment to add another whereas clause to read, “Whereas, Dr. Judith Lessow-Hurley has devoted enormous energy and spirit to the organization of our campus’s participation in the selection of our next university President;” **The Senate voted and AS 1394 was approved as amended unanimously.** The Senate gave Dr. Lessow-Hurley a standing ovation. Senator Meldal then presented Chair Lessow-Hurley with a plaque for her service as Senate Chair from 2006-2008.

V. Unfinished Business - None

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

A. Organization and Government Committee (O&G) –

Senator Backer presented *AS 1389, Policy Recommendation, Revision to Bylaw 13, Representative, Academic Senate, CSU (Final Reading)*. **AS 1389 was approved with no Nays and No abstentions.**

B. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA) – None

C. University Library Board (ULB) –

Senator Peter gave the following report. “I am happy to report to you that Maureen Smith has been elected to be Chair of the University Library Board. The ULB will be in very good hands. At our April 21, 2008 meeting, we had a report from Julie Kowaleski-Ward [University Library Access Services Manager] about circulation in the library. I wanted to leave you with a few pertinent facts about how the joint library is working out. First, San José State’s library leads the CSU in library gate count by more than 100,000 visits per year, the next closest is CSU Los Angeles. Two, our university leads the CSU in circulation with 374,000 items, the next closest is San Francisco State with 281,000 items. Another very interesting fact is that when the joint library was being contemplated, it was thought the public might make a run on parts of our collection. [It turns out} San José State University

patrons check out more public library materials than public library patrons check out San José State University materials by about 15,000. So, the public checked out 261,000 San José State University items, and San José State University patrons checked out 287,000 public library items. Finally, San José State University is the biggest lender and borrower in the link + system to which we share items, second are the Claremont colleges combined. The joint library has encouraged a vast increase in the use of our library and its materials by more than 40%. The promise that the joint library would save money by pooling resources is hugely outweighed by the increasing usage and popularity of our library, which is a more valuable and critical part of our university today than at any other time since its creation.”

Senator Buzanski said, “Do you have any knowledge as to a resolution regarding the controversy around censoring our computers?” Senator Peter said, “The item of internet censorship in the public library is going to the San José Rules Committee and probably to the city council in June. It is my understanding that President Kassing is working on a letter and we will encourage him to make an appearance before the city council.”

D. Professional Standards Committee (PS) –

Senator Bros presented *AS 1392, Policy Recommendation, Developing Values (Norms) for the Student Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness (SOTE) Surveys for Use in Periodic and Performance Evaluations (Final Reading)*. **The Senate voted and AS 1392 was approved with no Nays and No abstentions.**

E. Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R) –

Senator Kaufman presented *AS 1391, Policy Recommendation, Policy for Protection of Human Research Subjects, Rescinds F90-4 (Final Reading)*. Senator Hebert presented a friendly amendment to change the first line of VI.B.3. to read, “The protocol shall provide a complete description of the procedures used to obtain data from human subjects in the proposed research.” Senator Hebert presented an amendment to change VI.C.2.f.(8) to read, “The study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens that is not publicly available.” Senator Parrish made a friendly amendment to the Hebert Amendment to change “specimens that is” to “specimens that are.” Senator Kaufman said that the Hebert Amendment as amended by the Parrish Amendment would be friendly if the language was changed to read, “The study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens if these data are not publicly available or the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.” Senator Hendrick made a friendly amendment to change “United States” to “United States” in the 4th line of the third Whereas clause. **The Senate voted and AS 1391 passed as amended with 1 Abstention.**

VII. Special Committee Reports – None

VIII. New Business – None

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

A. Vice President for Student Affairs –

Vice President Phillips reported, “I have three things I would like to briefly tell you about. First of all the Day of Service on April 25, 2008 was a wonderful success. There were more than 1,000 volunteers (faculty, staff, and students) across the campus. We really appreciated the turnout. The university Housing Services has had an overnight guest program, and we are almost certain to discontinue that program. Part of the problem is that there is a vast difference between running a housing program on a long-term basis versus renting a few rooms for the overnight guest program. The overnight cleaning and preparation is a service that is very hard to manage, particularly when it conflicts with other things that are going on. Thirdly, you may know that in the aftermath of the need to cutoff first-time-freshmen applications on February 1, 2008 (the earliest we have ever cutoff first-time-freshmen applications), and the need to cutoff transfer applications on April 1, 2008, we nevertheless had a record number of applications. Our applications are about 11% higher than they were one year ago, and the admission rate is also higher than one year ago. We actually have around 4,400 freshmen that have indicated their intent to enroll, and that would compare with about 3,250 that we had actually enroll one year ago. We are working very hard at throttle points for managing the enrollment. There are ways to manage this by holding much more strictly to deadlines. We believe that will bring in a first-time-freshmen class of about 3,500. The intent to enroll national date is May 1, 2008. We have been messaging students about the need to adhere to that date since February 1, 2008. It is now too late for any student to complete an application if there was paperwork missing. The students with applications that were complete, but that we haven’t completed evaluating their applications yet, will have two weeks after the admissions letter is mailed to complete the next step of the process and indicate their intent to enroll. The good news is that we are now positioned in a wonderful way to have students apply to San José State University and make their plans much, much earlier, so we will be in a very good position long term. We are learning a lot about how to influence enrollment.”

Senator Peter asked, “Do you know, or have their been any studies done to indicate whether cutting off admissions early changes the composition demographically, ethnically, by class, or by income-level of who enrolls here?” Vice President Phillips said, “I have not seen such studies at our sister campuses that have done that. We do expect in the summer and fall to engage in what has happened here this year and questions such as that will be raised. Hopefully, in the fall we will have some answers to that question.”

Senator Wei said, “I am a frequent user of the overnight guest program. I think you and your staff have done a very good job. There are many nights when I have worked late and decide to stay on campus and have called your office for a room. If you discontinue that program I will be disappointed but, of course, I understand that.” Vice President Phillips said, “Thank you very much. It has been of service to a number of people. It has been nice to have that group of rooms. It is not so much the finances, the issue is really providing service. We would like to be able to do a far better job of providing

service, but the number of rooms reserved for that purpose is really not enough to justify what it would take to do a bang-up job.”

Senator Kaufman said, “If I remember correctly, earlier this year we were targeted for 2% growth, and I believe we had 8% more students than we had budgeted for?” Vice President Phillips said, “Yes, for 2007/2008 we were about 7 to 8% above what we were funded for.” Senator Kaufman asked, “How many students completed applications that were past this first step last year when we grew so much? I think it was somewhere around 4,400?” Vice President Phillips said, “I’m not quite sure what your question is. If you are asking how many first-time-freshmen we enrolled, it was about 3,250.” Senator Kaufman said, “Do you know how many qualified, but didn’t come here?” Vice President Phillips said, “I don’t have the data with me.” Senator Kaufman said, “I was wondering how that compared with the 4,400 that you quoted?” Vice President Phillips said, “The comparison with the 4,400 would be difficult to make. We do have comparisons with previous years, but I don’t have that data with me this afternoon, but they are not comparable with this year because with the earlier application deadlines, we have done far more in communicating with students such as messaging them and sending them postcards. We have done a tremendous amount of outreach and frankly it has paid off in the sense that the feedback we have gotten from the students in the form of complaints has been very low this spring. The early deadlines have had a positive effect in that we are communicating with high school counselors and students that aspire to come to San José State University that we are a university of choice and that if you want to come here you need to meet our deadlines and we are serious about them. I will say that there have been some studies of our own students that indicate that the earlier the application the more success they had as students. That would suggest cutting applications off early is good in terms of student performance.”

Senator Bros asked, “In our last meeting Senator Merdinger gave us a report about the reduction in the numbers of faculty, and now we are facing again an increase in students over the amount we are budgeted for, is that correct?” Vice President Phillips said, “We are actually hoping to hold enrollment for fall 2008 at what it was for fall 2007. We don’t dare reduce enrollment we think, because if you will recall a number of years ago when we actually shut down applications one spring, it took many, many years to recover from that. That has been a similar experience at other CSU campuses, so we didn’t dare shut-off applications any particular semester, but we are working very hard not to grow next year over this year.” Senator Bros said, “I guess the issue I want to raise is given the decline in faculty and the increase we’ve seen over last year, is there some mechanism in place to forward the state of affairs to the Chancellor’s Office and the legislature?” Vice President Phillips said, “Certainly, the President has been carrying that message to the Executive Council and the Board of Trustees, and they are aware of this. We are not alone. There are several campuses that are reaching enrollments beyond the targets set by the Chancellor’s Office, and they are working to try and counter that fiscally.”

B. Associated Students President –

AS President Henderson said, “Good Afternoon everyone. Our last board meeting is this Wednesday, May 14, 2008, and we will be swearing in our new board and Executive Committee. On May 19, 2008, we are going to be having a study in, which is going to involve all the CSU campuses in response to the Governor’s budget. Also, this past weekend Senator Grabowski, our new Director of Programming—Toby Richards, and I attended CSSA, and the resolution I authored on getting students with disabilities advising passed. There is an amendment in the resolution to increase funding for the Disability Resource Centers (DRCs) to help them comply. I want to thank everyone for all they have done for us this year, and I’d like to wish everyone here my best.”

C. Vice President for University Advancement – None

D. Statewide Academic Senator(s) – None

E. Provost – None

F. Vice President for Administration and Finance – None

X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.