

AGENDA

Academic Senate – Executive Committee

October 21, 2019 12:00- 1:30 pm, ADM 167

1. Approval of meeting minutes of October 14, 2019
2. Consent calendar
3. Review of statements for consideration
4. President's Update
5. Policy committee updates
 - a. Curriculum & Research
 - b. Organization & Government
 - c. Instruction & Student Affairs
 - d. Professional Standards
6. University updates
 - a. Associated Students President
 - b. VP Student Affairs
 - c. Chief Diversity Officer
 - d. Provost and Senior Vice President
 - e. Statewide Senate
 - f. VP Administration and Finance

Executive Committee Minutes
October 21, 2019
ADM 167, 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Present: Curry, Del Casino, Faas, Frazier, Marachi, Mathur, Shifflett, Papazian, Parent, Peter, Sullivan-Green, White

Absent: Day, McKee, Wong(Lau)

1. The Executive Committee approved the minutes of October 14, 2019 unanimously (12-0-0).
2. The Consent Calendar was approved.
3. Reviewed a statement for a faculty-at-large seat on the Accreditation Review Committee. Reviewed a statement for the University Library Board.
4. Update from the President
Graduation Initiative 2025 – Graduation rate trends were reviewed for entering freshman and transfer students and we have increased our graduation rates. Student success team is developing strategies to provide supports for advising. We still need to make progress on closing achievement gaps for our URM students. This will require collective commitment and ongoing conversations this year. We need to come up with sustainable strategies and to put the infrastructure in place for ongoing success.

Opening session was on the Future of Work, thinking differently about the lifelong experience of learning and being more innovative about interdisciplinary work and some of our approaches to general education. The discussion reminds us that we are on the right track to consider how we keep the core values of GE, the things that really need to be there, critical thinking/writing, at the same time meeting students where they are. Skills/ knowledge are only as good as the discipline for a few years. We need to foster a lifelong perspective and support relationships with the students not just for the time they are here but to continue to engage with us as the economy changes. Another priority emphasized at the summit was the importance of degree completion. A number of students have credits but no degree in hand. We need strategies to bring some of those students back. Also considering work and other constraints, we need to think differently about the kind of degrees they're going to receive and meet them where they are. If we don't do it, it will be done by the Arizona States. ASU just signed a \$2.2 million agreement with a college just outside of Sacramento to provide online instruction for degrees. We need to reduce the barriers. This is really going to be in the Provost's bailiwick.

There are some other issues on the curricular side. Ethnic Studies, which we have talked about in the past, and the proposal about fourth-year quantitative reasoning requirement. The Ethnic Studies bill is now a 2-year bill. We respect the spirit behind the bill – looking closely and making sure students are getting what they need but also thinking more broadly about how they create the cultural competencies. This work is parallel to what the Senates are doing. This is all good information and will push us as an institution to ensure students are having the kind of experience we want them to have. We don't know where that will go but if we've responded both as an Academic Senate and institution, that can go a long way to ensure we are truly committed to meeting this goal.

On fourth year quantitative reasoning proposal, most of our students are already coming in having completed the 4th year. Data show that those who come in without it are tending to drop out at higher rates. This is a fraught issue with concerns raised about possibly limiting access to the CSU. We need to move the dial to think about access vs. thinking about completion. There will be a six-year runway to build up to the requirement and it will be important to support schools. If you think about the disciplines that are closed off to you if you don't have the 4th year requirement like nursing, science, engineering, we are limiting student's choices for degrees. The discussion is ongoing.

Concerns have been about access at the high school level, shutting out access opportunities if schools are not equipped to meet the 4th year quantitative courses. This will depend on levels of resources and the idea of the six-year runway is that things will improve as there will also be more teacher and course development. Interest is not to reduce access but to increase access that is meaningful for success. Also there's a need to work with community groups. Getting buy-in would be important if this is to succeed. Some trustees were concerned about the requirement being too broad, but very few high schools don't offer the courses.

There are other externally facing issues. We are working with VTA to get them to understand that we live here and are part of San José. Design of transportation systems need to include input from SJSU community. The names of stations need to reflect two main institutions, City Hall and SJSU.

The President will be forming a Staff Leadership Council and initiating a process for Staff Awards. Anyone will be able to nominate staff members. The nature of the individual awards will be what matters most to staff. Staff (including MPPs and auxiliary staff) will be eligible for these awards. The awards will be conferred at the Staff Service Recognition Luncheon and they will be different from the Faculty awards.

On housing and related trends, there was a discussion about the expansion of Arizona State University and their strategies related to land, research partnerships, brand equity, and enrollments.

Related to external outreach, there will be lots of work coming in related to the Census. We will be responsible for counting students who are in residence halls here. We may have a number of students who have jobs with the Census. Dollars from the census count will be going to provide services, so being counted will be important.

C: It was noted that San Diego State also has staff awards, and SJSU may want to look at what they have

Q. Have we been connecting with community organizations to get the message out about the Census?

A. Yes, the most effective way is to have members of the community to speak about it with others.

Q: Regarding Google coming into the San José area, many students live within three miles of campus. When Google moves in that is going to increase housing costs, rents, specifically for students. How will we respond to support faculty and students?

A: We have many people actively working with Google on many initiatives. There are talks about a building that may be available for faculty/staff housing. We're in the planning stages for CV3 which will replace Washburn Hall. We need to ask what our needs will be for Freshmen, for Sophomores, and upperclassmen regarding housing. We are also looking at the Ahlquist building where we can build housing.

Final announcement is about IBM Partnership, the first of its kind on the west coast. There will be high value with a skills academy that will provide certifications, this alone is worth about 5 million dollars. We will have access to all kinds of equipment and tools. This is high performance, with focus on Watson, Blockchain, and Cybersecurity. We will have an institute powered by IBM. The great thing is that we'll be able to keep the data even though it's gathered on their platform. We would be the portal to the CSU. Other campuses would have to go through the SJSU portal. We will be able to contribute to colleagues across the state.

5. Policy Committee updates

a. Curriculum & Research:

There are continuing efforts related to the GE Summit. The first meeting on October 25th will be for the planning team. May be bringing amendment for November 18th. The committee will be reviewing old policies from 20 and 30 years ago. Curricular reviews will be of focus of C&R for the next few weeks.

b. Organization & Government:

O&G is making progress on the policy related to the charge, membership, and responsibility for BOGS. There will be a joint meeting for O&G and BOGS on Thursday October 24th. Many groups have already been consulted for feedback including UCCD, Associate Deans, Undergraduate Studies, Program Planning Curriculum and Research, and Lecturers leadership council.

Membership on Senate and Exec Committee was discussed at length, related to inclusion of a seat/voting rights for Vice President for Research and Innovation and potentially removing the VP of Administration and Finance. Discussion included possibility of Senior Director of Faculty Affairs and an additional Staff seat to be added to the Senate. O&G was thinking about adding an administrator without necessarily increasing the size of the Senate. VPRI seat may be proposed to replace seat for Office of Research.

Several members expressed strong support for keeping VP of Admin & Finance on both Senate and Exec Committee, highlighting the importance of someone who knows the budget and who is working closely on campus safety issues, and to address questions that may arise. Past few years have been positive with the visible presence of the VP of Admin & Finance who has increased transparency and communication. There was also support for including the Vice President for Research and Innovation. Being inclusive to VPRI does not need to come at a cost of reducing role of the VP Admin and Finance.

Discussion continued to include analysis of the pros and cons of adding or removing seats from Senate. It was noted that we are large right now and that engagement can diminish as size grows because it's easier to fall into the background. Other members noted that other, smaller campuses have larger senates and that our campus has grown. Deeper, more thoughtful discussion is needed before too many changes to senate membership are made.

Provost added that there may be solutions related to presence vs. voting rights of administrators and encouraged the importance of including staff voice. Having only one staff member is not a representative voice. If we go this route of adding members, we need to add more opportunity for staff voices.

Some senate exec members noted that changing voting structure of the Senate requires substantive discussion before a movement forward is made. It should be a deliberative process and have wide discussion.

c. Instruction & Student Affairs

ISA committee is working on a syllabus website that is currently out of date. They plan to bring 1-2 policies for next meeting including University Governance Award and revision of the Timely Feedback to Students policy.

6. Remaining committee reports (including Professional Standards) will be carried over to next meeting and/or updates provided via email.
7. Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

These minutes were taken by the Associate Vice Chair of the Senate on October 21, 2019. The minutes were transcribed by the Associate Vice Chair, Roxana Marachi, on November 1, 2019. The minutes were reviewed by Chair Mathur on November 1, 2019. The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on November 4, 2019.