Executive Committee Minutes  
September 19, 2022  
12 - 1:30 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Alison McKee (Chair), Rachael French, Priya Raman, Reiko Kataoka, Laura Sullivan-Green, Tabitha Hart, Marie Haverfield, Kathy Wong (Lau), Julia Curry, Nina Chuang, Patrick Day, Vincent Del Casino

Absent: Steve Perez, Charlie Faas, Karthika Sasikumar

Recorder: Eva Joice, Senate Administrator

1. The committee approved the consent agenda (Executive Committee Agenda of September 19, 2022, Executive Committee Minutes of August 29, 2022 (9-0-0).

2. The Senate Administrator reported the results of three special elections in the Colleges of Science, Humanities and the Arts, and Business. Caroline Chen, Yoon Chung Han, and Gilles Muller all ran unopposed in the elections. In accordance with Senate bylaw 1.6.2.5 if only one candidate files a nominating petition for the vacancy, no election shall be held but the Senate Administrator will report it to the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee shall declare the single candidate elected. A motion was made by AVC Kataoka to declare these three elected. Senator Curry seconded the motion. The Executive Committee voted and the motion passed (9-0-0).

3. The Executive Committee discussed a referral from Senator Mathur regarding creating a committee to look into Senate expansion to include not just staff but all other constituents.

4. Policy Committee Updates:
   a. Update from the Instruction and Student Affairs (ISA) Committee:
      I&SA is working on AS 1834 and AS 1835 on the Syllabus and the Excused Absence Policies and hope to bring them to the October 10, 2022 Senate Meeting.

   b. Update from the Professional Standards Committee:
      PS is working on an amendment to University Policy S12-6 that would exclude students with “W” grades, eliminate “AU” grades, and exclude students that are reported for academic dishonesty from completing SOTEs. PS will also be working on an amendment to S15-7, RTP Guidelines.

     Questions:
     Q: What is the rationale for this? 
     A: It would eliminate students that might have a bias for being reported for academic dishonesty.

     Q: If it would be done, would the committee consider doing it only for a limited time frame for the academic dishonesty removal, say 6 months? 
     A: It would apply only to a student specifically reported by that instructor during that class. We don’t know yet if that is technically possible.
C: [Del Casino] I would encourage you not to move this forward. This is a slippery slope in that an instructor could then ask that all students that got an “F” be removed. One outlier won’t hurt your overall review. This would also be a technological nightmare.

C: When committees are reviewing for promotion, everything is supposed to be taken into account, but the committees are not doing what they are supposed to do.

C: Different people respond differently on these committees.

Q: The bigger question is how to make sense of the broader data across all qualitative and quantitative data sets.

C: [Del Casino]. It’s a matter of training. C: absorption of that training is uneven.

C: [Wong(Lau)] I agree. People will say bias is already there.

A: Magdalena Barerra put together a video that was really good on what constitutes evidence.

C: This is also where mentors are important. We need a culture of support within departments department RTP, particularly of junior faculty going through the RTP process. When we did paper dossiers you had to put in documentation for everything.

C: They say not to do this with electronic dossiers.

c. Update from the Organization and Government Committee (O&G):
O&G will be bringing the modality resolution to the Senate for the October 10, 2022 meeting. O&G also just received a referral to lengthen the term of the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) from Annette Nellen, Co-Chair of the Athletics Board and Tamar Semerjian, the FAR.

c. Update from the Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):
C&R has been discussing the permanent suspension of the Writing Skills Test (WST). C&R is also reviewing minor proposals, and working on a referral to establish a Spatial Analytics and Visualization Institute.

d. Update from the CSU Statewide Senator:
There was some misinformation on the ASCSU website that is being repaired.

5. Update from the Administrators:

a. Update from the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA):
The California Student Aid Commission is very concerned about the decline in Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Applications (CADAA). There is some pushback in Frosh, but big declines in juniors and seniors. It is challenging. It was heavily emphasized by CFAC that seniors fill out FAFSA and CADAA.
There is significant money available for students coming out of foster care. The VPSA will keep the committee updated.

Questions:
Q: What are we doing at SJSU to let students know they should fill out/apply? What can we do as a campus?
A: [VPSA Day] I assure you we post information out well ahead of deadlines for FAFSA and CADAA. Some of the decline is due to COVID. We are doing a lot already. Juniors and Seniors are not doing this because they don’t know if they want to come back, but new students are filling them out so I’m hopeful.

Q: Is there a gap between SJSU and the CSU?
A: Our gap is larger than the UC.

C: [AS President Chuang] Accessible documents for disabled students is an issue. AS is willing to help however we can.
A: [VPSA Day] I appreciate that very much.

b. Update from the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO):
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is operating as usual, but maintenance and modifications resulted in its closing for three weeks. We are still available, but the CDO is only in the office two days a week instead of five right now.

We are working with programs all over the campus. If you have a program you want to add let us know.

There is a Student Research Forum put together by Research and Innovation this Thursday.

There is a CSU systemwide CDO’s Meeting in San Diego this month. Maggie Barrera will be speaking. It is a two-day program with workshops.

The Campus Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CCDEI) had its first meeting. The funding for the Interim Director of Latinx ends this coming spring. We don’t have the funding to hire for this year.

Questions:
Q: There are questions about gendered language in policies. Does your office have any information or guidelines for us?
A: The APA Guide 2019 has inclusive pronouns. It is a good document to start with.

c. Update from the Provost:
I have no major updates this week. I am happy to take questions.

Questions:
Q: The question of modality has been raised again. What is the guidance being given to colleges for Spring 2023?
A: [Provost Del Casino] I have had lots of conversations with the deans. We are a residential campus so most should be face-to-face. However, I have tried to avoid being overly prescriptive. When pushed to the wall I would say 70/30, but we are going to look this year where we need to submit substantive changes to WASC.

Q: I heard one colleague at the CSU say, “We were told it was 75% at SJSU.” There is lots of confusion. The one thing that continues to be used as a benchmark is WASC.
A: [Provost Del Casino] I understand. I am balancing dictating from the center and providing local flexibility. This is a pedagogical discussion.
C: You are right, the compact has one line that gave some people pause.
A: There is lots of push. We need to have a discussion on what flexibility is. One college believes hybrid is what they need. Some colleges were already online. However, many 18-year-olds are not prepared for fully online classes.
Q: What plans does the campus have to build out the infrastructure for hybrid teaching, learning and working?
A: Such plans should be driven out of the colleges. Hybrid classes, for purposes of hyflex teaching, were not an appeal when last asked.

d. Update from the AS President:
AS just awarded over $91,000 in scholarships.

The community garden has opened.

Happy Latinx Day.

Eight AS Presidents met and talked with the Board of Trustees (BOT). We talked specifically about SJSU issues such as Advising, deferred maintenance, and mental health and wellness, diversity, and Title IX. We also argued for priority for SJSU as the oldest campus.

The AS President will attend the College Futures Foundation Grant meeting.

Questions:
C: If you want to connect with Shonda Goward before you go, I will set that up for you.

C: AS is doing a great job. When you hear 100 students came to the community gardens, that is a lot of students.

On September 30, 2022, AS will host a picnic with the AS President where you will have the opportunity to meet the directors at 1 p.m.

6. The meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

The minutes were edited by Chair McKee on September 29, 2022.
The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on October 3, 2022.