Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting, Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Members present: Nicholas Baham, Eileen Barrett, Elizabeth Bergman, Vibha Chandra, Christina Chin-Newman, Randi Cowdery, Denise Crozier, David Fencsik, Denise Fleming, Janet Green, Aaron Jason, Mark Karplus, Chris Kitting, Keith Kravitz, Sweety Law, Michael Lee, Michael Mahoney, Monique Manopoulos, Christopher Moreman, Sally Murphy, James Murray, Julia Olkin, Maria Ortuoste, Chung-Hsing Ouyang, Gretchen Reevy-Manning, Jeffery Seitz, Jason Singley, Aline Soules, Carl Stempel, David Stronck, Diana Wakimoto, Johannes Wallmann, Mitch Watnik, Dianne Rush Woods

Members absent: Dee Andrews, Emily Cleveland, Sharon Green, Susan Gubernat, Linda Ivey, Derek Kimball, Brian McKenzie, Leroy Morishita, Asha Rao, Annette Walker, Meiling Wu, Helen Zong

Guests: Debbie Brothwell, Jennifer Eagan, Kris Erway, Mary F. Fortune, Rosanne Harris, Michelle LaCentra, Susan Opp, Glen Perry, Carol Reese, Angela Schneider

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

M/S/P (Seitz/Singley) to approve the agenda

2. Approval of the Minutes from the Organizational meeting on 05-31-11

M/S/P (Reevy/Woods) to approve as amended to change Chris Kitting from absent to present.

3. Reports

A. Report of the Chair

Chair Mahoney introduced the new Academic Senate Coordinator Tamra Donnelly; he also thanked Susan Correia for her continuing support of the Senate Office as a consultant.

The Chair announced that Anthropology professor Laura Nelson’s husband, Saul Perlmutter, was awarded a Nobel Prize today for his work on mapping the expansion of the universe.
Mahoney stated that all those who have met him have found President Morishita to be genuinely concerned about faculty, students, and staff. Mahoney reminded all that President Morishita attended a Senate meeting last year. We are looking forward to working with Dr. Morishita this year and, perhaps, in future years, should the CO appoint him to the position permanently.

Bradley Wells (formerly at the Getty and the CO) is Sean Bibb’s (now at SJSU) interim replacement as CFO, Administration. Denise Needleman (formerly at SFSU) has replaced Jim Cimino (retired) as Interim AVP, HR. Borre Ulrichsen is the new IT AVP for Application and User Support.

Mahoney announced that four administrative searches are underway or about to begin: CFO, Associate Provost, CLASS Dean, and AVP Research and Sponsored Programs.

Twenty new TT searches have been approved for this year; there was only one tenure track hire last year. Both the President and Provost want to continue tenure track hiring, even in challenging budget years. We have not replaced tenure track faculty lost through separations; there were 360 TT in ’08 and we are now at about 300 TT.

Mahoney reported on F11 enrollment. Of the 13,291 students enrolled, more than 1200 are entering freshmen. Residence halls are full and some study rooms have been converted to bedrooms. Although overall head count is down a bit, the unit load is up significantly at 13.4 SCU, which may be the highest SCU ever. We are nearly 5% over FTES resident target, which is positive, since we do not want to have to return funds back to the CO, as we did in ’05.

Concord is only 4% of total enrollment; online enrollment comprises another 16%. In a week or two, we will have final enrollment numbers. We rank #1 in the CSU in online enrollment.

The Chair reported on the status of the A2E2 initiative. A quarterly fee of $40 (about 1/3 of the original proposed fee) will be assessed starting in W12. Once this fee is in place, all course fees below $50 will no longer be assessed. Woods added that a pilot project involving 30 iPads is underway.

Mahoney announced that the President is holding a series of 15 or so listening sessions. He is particularly interested in hearing from faculty and staff which of the seven mandates that we adopted five years ago are still relevant and what needs to be changed. He is interested in hearing about issues involving student engagement and what we believe a graduate of CSUEB should demonstrate. Mahoney added that the President is using the term “STEM-infused,” rather than “STEM-centered” when describing the University.

The Chair announced that there will be a Faculty Reception (includes lecturers and emeriti) on Wednesday, October 12; he encouraged all to attend.
The Fuel Cell dedication will be held on October 14 at 10 am. The Fuel Cell facility is located between the MB and Loop Road. The facility runs on natural gas and the University culls the resultant heat for our use. Energy savings to the University is approximately $160K per year.

Gmail supports our CSUEB email, but without many of Google’s features that are associated with personal Gmail accounts. In late October, Google Plus, Maps, Picasa, and other features will no longer be supported by CSUEB Gmail, so the Chair encouraged all who have not done so to sign up for a personal Gmail account.

CSUEB has hired Jonathan Rood (formerly CIO at SFSU) as an IT consultant. Mahoney and Rood are forming an ad hoc IT advisory committee to address issues such as PeopleSoft access, Bb problems, teaching technology, and maintenance issues. Rood and Mahoney have already met with Sawyer and a group of faculty from each of the colleges and the Library.

The Chair stated that the Warren Hall (WA) project has moved to the top of the CO’s list of building priorities. Through CSU lease-revenue bonds, there will be funding to demolish the WA, once a lawsuit over environmental issues has been settled. WA holds 100Kft²; so, in addition to the SSA building (60Kft²) we will likely make up the difference with a new 40Kft² building, which will hold mostly faculty offices and a few classrooms. The demolition will probably start in 2013 and will necessitate amendments to the master plan. Additional student housing is planned downhill from WA. As a result of the WA demolition, the Library will have better view.

B. Report of the President

The President is away at a retreat.

C. Report of the Provost

The Provost is away at a retreat.

D. Report of the Statewide Academic Senators

Woods stated that the ASCSU report has been posted and encouraged all to review them and send any questions to her or Gubernat.

Woods reported that the ASCSU has been discussing the BOT policy on optional presidential campus visits for candidates; there are tensions between faculty’s ability to learn about the candidates and confidentiality for the candidates, some of whom have encountered reprisals from their current employers.

The CO is proposing a $315M increase in funding from the state, which would include a 3% increase for all employees. A fact-finder supported restoring the salary increase for
faculty, although CFA’s John Travis believes it will be challenging negotiating this with the CO.

The Academic Freedom Amendment has been passed by most campuses; we only had a less-than-required 31% voter response rate; we need to address the ongoing turnout problem. Currently a majority must vote for a constitutional/bylaw amendment to pass.

E. Report of Student Government

No report

4. **11-12 BEC 1**, Standing Rules of the Academic Senate

M/S/P (Seitz/Murphy) to approve as amended

M/S/P (Stempel/Olkin) to amend to include “unanimous approval of ExCom”
M/S/P (Murphy/Stempel) to amend to include “unanimous approval of all members of ExCom members who are present”

Mahoney added that there are two significant changes to the Bylaws: 1) first and second readings and 2) the addition of a consent calendar.

5. Consent Calendar

No consent calendar items

6. **11-12 BEC 2**, Nominations for the University Layoff Committee (UCL), 2011-12

M/S/P (Fleming/Woods) to approve

7. **11-12 BEC 3**, Meeting Schedule for the 2011-12 Academic Senate

The meeting schedule was presented as an information item only

8. **11-12 BEC 4**, Constitution and Bylaws Voting Requirement Modification

M/S/ (Woods/Fleming)

Bergen plans on making a motion to use the term “plurality,” rather than “majority.” Watnik raised the issue of timing and due process. Concerns were also raised about whether reducing the voter turnout requirement might potentially lead to frequently changing bylaws.

There will be a second reading at our November 8 meeting where amendments can be proposed.
9. Budget Report (Deputy Vice President Debbie Brothwell)

Brothwell’s report is on the Senate website.

What is important to note is that students are now paying 59.3% of what we spend; the State will likely never resume funding at their previous percentages/levels. With students paying such a high percentage, our revenue variables (e.g., greater or less than 6 units, resident vs. non-resident) now cause big swings in the budget.

Brothwell stated that, because of these swings, our $1.5M in reserves is not comfortable enough; she states that the situation will be best when the reserve matches the worst potential swing.

10. Interim WASC Report and Response Letter (AVP Sue Opp, info to the Senate)

Opp reminded the body that our last WASC visit was in 2007. Our interim report (submitted SP11) is on the web. Opp encouraged all to read the report, including specific issues that WASC asked us to address. She noted that President Morishita is a WASC commissioner.

11. Report of the CFA

Eagen stated that there are several ways to be involved and present: post “Contract NOW” signs on office doors; sign the petition against excessive pay for university presidents, and sign a commit card.

She announced that there will be a concerted action at CSUEB on 11/17, from sunup to sundown. There are several formats that a concerted action may take; a strike is one type.

Eagan also encouraged all to participate in informational picketing on campus in the morning at CSUEB on 11/9.

Support call by CFA Board of Directors for a strike.

Eagan encouraged all to commit to honor a one-day strike CSUEB and Dominguez Hills. In response to a question about why CSUEB was selected for the strike, Eagan stated that the CSUEB CFA leadership volunteered our campus because of our diversity, we have been hardest hit by the CSU budget cuts, we get things done, are centrally located, and are “the neglected step-children” of the CSU.

12. Adjournment

M/S/P (Gretchen/Woods) to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Fleming, Secretary