CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of
the ACADEMIC SENATE

Approved as presented

Minutes of the Meeting of January 18, 2000

Members Present: Diane Beeson, Kevin Callahan, Cal Caplan, Joan Davenport, Patricia Guthrie, Edward Keller, William Langan, Norma Rees, Henry Reichman, Eric Soares, Emily Stoper, Don Wort

Guests: Norman Bowen, John Charles, Gladys DeNecochea, David Larson, Frank Martino, Penny McCullagh, Leigh Mintz, Sally Murphy, Carl Stempel, Joe Zelan

1. Approval of the agenda

M/S/P (Davenport/Reichman) to approve the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 4, 2000

M/S/P (Caplan/Davenport) to approve the minutes of January 4, 2000.

3. Reports

A. Report of the Chair
The Chair reported that Glynn Custred has been appointed to replace Peter Claus as the ALSS representative to UIT.

- To bring our Fairness Document into compliance with CSU Executive Order No. 320 and President Rees' directive, it is necessary to add to it the following sentence: "A student member of a Fairness Committee Hearing Panel may not participate in the assignment of grades." To allow fairness complaints based on the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Mack Lovett, Presidential Appointee to the Fairness Committee, suggests that the Fairness Document also be revised to add the provision "that a student may file a complaint based on an alleged violation of The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990".

M/S/P (Reichman/Soares) to place on the Senate agenda a BEC recommending both amendments to the Fairness Document.

B. Report of the President
In response to questions about the possible transition to a semester schedule, the President indicated that she has asked the Chancellor to continue the availability of transition funds, thereby enabling our campus to keep its options open. The President also explained that funding for our Summer Quarter would not be jeopardized by such a transition.

C. Report of the Statewide Academic Senators
The Faculty Affairs Committee of the Statewide Academic Senate has taken up the issue of faculty roles and rewards.

4. **Appointment of a Winter Quarter replacement for Bruce Trumbo (Statistics) on the Academic Senate**

Eleanor Levine (Psychology) was elected as a Winter Quarter replacement for Bruce Trumbo on the Academic Senate.

5. **Winter Quarter University-wide election - Approval of Preliminary List of Nominees**

The preliminary list of self-nominees for the Winter Quarter University-wide elections was approved.

6. **Community Service Graduation Requirement - Response from CIC**

M/S/P (Reichman/Caplan) to place a response to Governor Davis’s Proposed Community Service Requirement, drafted by CIC Chair David Larson, on the Senate agenda as a BEC. The response will be in the form of a resolution and amended as follows: 1) to include actual institutional data on working part time students and 2) to revise the paragraph on systemwide goals to read: Among the CSU’s systemwide goals are access and reduced time to graduation. A Community Service Requirement would work against progress toward both of these goals.

7. **99-00 CIC 11, Proposed Process for Approving Upper Division General Education Courses Under the 1998-2000 Program**

M/S/P (Caplan/Keller) to place 99-00 CIC 11 on the Senate agenda with a BEC that proposes the deletion of the last three sentences of footnote 1 in the Attachment and the addition of the following sentence: “The explanation should be as specific as possible to assist in the development of specific criteria for advanced writing, communication, critical thinking and information technology skills.”

8. **Support for White Paper**

M/S/P (Soares/Reichman) to place 99-00 BEC 9 on the Senate Agenda, with the amendment of the last paragraph on the first page to emphasize a call for future early involvement of faculty through consultation with campus Senates.

9. **Ten Year Academic Calendar**

M/S/P (Langan/Caplan) to refer the preparation of a ten year academic calendar to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

10. **Discussion of Maintaining Academic Standards**
M/S/P (Soares/Guthrie) to establish a Special Committee of Academic Standards.

A wide-ranging discussion preceded passage of this motion. The issue of academic standards is one of the most frequent concerns expressed by faculty. Some of the issues raised were: the maximum number of units students can take; the pressure on part time faculty to produce good student evaluations for reappointment, or on full time faculty for FMI's; the need for more tenure-track faculty who have the time to work with students to improve their grades; the need to gather statistics on grading by part time versus full time faculty; the need to study grades earned by students in relation to total number of units taken. Past work on this issue should be researched by the committee, and departments should be consulted to determine whether they have addressed the questions involved. Grade inflation is one aspect of academic standards, although CSU grades have remained relatively stable over the past ten years or so. But the question of expected workload is another important aspect. Do we still adhere to the one hour in class and two hours outside class for each credit unit rule? If today's students have poorer basic skills, does that not mean that those same number of hours will produce a lower quality of performance? The relationship between rigor and retention rates needs examination, both in terms of short-range and long-range effects. The issue of academic standards also involves the quality of equipment and library and other resources we employ in teaching.

11. Adjournment

M/S/P (Caplan/Wort) to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

William Langan, Secretary