

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY
OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

APPROVED Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting, October 20, 2015

Senators Present:

Stephen Andrews, Nicholas Baham, Steven Borish, Lonny Brooks, Ayona Chatterjee, Shannon Coskran, Roger Doering, Denise Fleming, Kim Geron, Susan Gubernat, Jennie Guzman, Nina Haft, Margaret Harris, Michael Hedrick, Linda Ivey, Yi Karnes, Mark Karplus, Joshua Kerr, Grant Kien, Michael Lee, Sherman Lewis, Robert Loveland, Christopher Moreman, James Murray, Supreet Narula, Carolyn Nelson, Diane Petersen, Vibha Puri, Sharon Radcliff, Rachael Stryker, Tikerea Tate, Mitchell Watnik, Andrew Wong, Evaon Wong-Kim, Lan Wu, Meling Wu

Guests Present:

Jagdish Agrawal, Eileen Barrett, Luz Calvo, Luis Cardenas, Linda Dobb, Julie Glass, Audrey Katzman, Lindsay McCrea, Sarah Nielsen, Mark Robinson, Sophie Rollins, Jason Singley, Donna Wiley

Senators Absent:

Gilberto Arriaza, Joana Chavez, Ken Curr, Jennifer Eagan, Eric Engdahl, Chandrakalah Ganesh, Tom Hird, Sukari Ivester, Chong Joanna Lee, Nancy Mangold, Monique Manopoulos, Jim Mitchell, Matthew Moore, Leroy Morishita, Diane Mukerjee, Jeffrey Newcomb, Christina Sanchez, Sarah Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

1. Approval of the agenda

M/S/P (Wong-Kim/Kerr) to approve, amended to give Item 6.B a time certain of 2:40.

2. Approval of the 10/6/15 minutes

M/S/P (Murray/Stryker) to approve.

3. Reports:

A. Report of the Chair

Hedrick reported that Senates on 18 campuses had passed resolutions similar to 15-16 BEC 5, the resolution on open presidential searches that East Bay's Senate passed last week, and that the remaining five have resolutions on their agendas.

B. Report of the President

President Morishita was not in attendance. Hedrick stated he was at a presidents conference in Long Beach.

C. Report of the Provost

Interim Provost Nelson stated that the memo that was sent out regarding semester conversion had no policy implications, that she wanted to alleviate any concerns, and that there were no mandates. Karplus attributed faculty concerns to administration's less-than-stellar record when it comes to shared governance, observed that the favored verb in the memo was "reduce", and suggested that discussion include how four-unit classes could enhance programs. Fleming noted that the Interim Provost was with faculty leadership (ExCom) the day before the memo was released but had not discussed it. She asked what faculty leaders had been consulted and what other sources were relied upon. Nelson stated that she looked at UCs and relied on her experience as a department chair at a semester campus and acknowledged that arguments can be made for four-unit classes. Asked whether she was the author of the memo, Nelson replied that a number of people contributed. Asked why it was not discussed with ExCom, she replied that there were no policy or budget implications. Barrett stated agreement with the Interim Provost that the memo was not a mandate.

Stryker stated she was surprised to see a case for a particular model, noting that last year Provost Houpis was adamant in assuring that faculty would have a choice regarding three- or four-unit classes. Stryker is a member of the Faculty Development Subcommittee of Semester Conversion and stated the issue never came up there. She described an "illusion of choice" in which there is an assurance of choice, a weighting of choices, and then elimination of choice, that in the present situation may not be in the best interests of faculty and students. Gubernat stated that she would have welcomed conversation at ExCom, that doing so leads to better initiatives. She noted that at Bakersfield and Los Angeles three-unit classes were the norm and questioned what influence the Chancellor's Office was having. Ivey stated she was surprised at the reaction to the memo, that she did not read it as a mandate. In response to a question, the Interim Provost confirmed again that there is no mandate. Her response was based on what she knows now and that she was not aware of influence from the Chancellor's Office as was mentioned earlier.

Baham suggested that if the proposed teacher-scholar program was more substantial than just 50 faculty over three years it could provide departments the flexibility and autonomy to allow for schedules of three three-unit classes rather than four. Gubernat pointed out that a four-course schedule impacts the workload of faculty in a small department differently from those in a large department, for example, when faculty in a small department need four preparations as opposed to two if they were in a large department.

D. Report of the Statewide Academic Senators

There was no report.

Time certain Item 6.C was next.

E. Report of Student Government

ASI VP External Affairs Luis Cardenas gave the report. A referendum was held to restructure ASI governance.

F. Report of Semester Conversion

Semester Conversion Co-Director Barrett reported that the steering committee met the last two Fridays. The time modules task force was convened last Friday.

G. Report of the CFA

CFA East Bay Chapter President Baham reported that the strike authorization vote is underway. Faculty can vote online until October 28 at 5:00 p.m. or in person in front of the Library October 20-22 and 28. CFA held informational picketing yesterday and received considerable media coverage.

4. Information Items:

A. 15-16 BEC 4: 2015-2016 Administrative Review Schedule

M/S/P (Fleming/Wong-Kim) to accept. There was discussion of two administrators whose names were added to the document at ExCom but left off here. ExCom will discuss at its next meeting.

5. Consent Calendar:

A. 14-15 CAPR 23: CAPR Report of the Five year report for Earth and Environmental Sciences (2006-2013) (first appearance)

6. Action Items:

A. 15-16 BEC 3: Election of 15-16 University Committee on Layoffs (UCL) (first reading)
i. Election of two CLASS representatives

M/S/P (Doering/Wu) to accept the slate of nominees.

Item 7 was next.

B. 15-16 CIC 5: Recommendation for Institutional Learning Outcome Overlays (first reading) (2:40 PM time certain)

M/S/P (Watnik/Wu) to approve. M/S/P (Watnik/Stryker) to waive the first reading. GE Subcommittee Chair Glass explained that faculty would apply to qualify courses for the overlays. Questions arose regarding non-GE courses and how they would qualify. Concerns were raised regarding overlay subject matter displacing other course materials. There was a no vote and several abstentions.

Item 3.E was next.

C. 14-15 FAC 18: Policy for Distributing Assigned Time for Exceptional Levels of Service to Students (2:30 PM time certain; first reading)

M/S/P (Fleming/Stryker) to approve, as amended below. M/S/P (Murray/Watnik) to waive the first reading. M/S/P (Karplus/Fleming) to delete the starred paragraph just above Section IV.B. Karplus stated that last year's interim policy did not have the paragraph and that it was in conflict with Section IV.A.5. Murray asserted that there was not a conflict. The deadline in Section III.A will be changed to the second week of November.

Time certain Item 6.B was next.

D. 15-16 CIC 4: Approval of Course Numbering Regime Under Semesters (first reading)

E. 14-15 CIC 40: Recommendation for Freshman Year Experience under Semesters (first reading)

7. Adjournment

M/S/P (Stryker/Wong-Kim) to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Karplus, Secretary