Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, April 3, 2007

Members present: Denise Fleming, David Larson, Nan Maxwell, Susan Opp, Henry Reichman, Eric Suess, Steve Ugbah, Dianne Rush Woods

Members absent: Cal Caplan, Mo Qayoumi

Guests: Carl Bellone, Kevin Brown, John Charles, Jennifer Eagan, Sandra Ehrhorn, Liz Ginno, Mark Karplus, Myoung-ja Lee Kwon, Mike Mahoney, Alan Monat, Sonjia Redmond, Gretchen Reevy, David Sandberg, Don Sawyer, Jeffery Seitz, Aline Soules, Mary Kay Stevenson, Arthurelene Towner

1. Approval of the agenda

M/S/P (Maxwell/Fleming) to approve the agenda as amended to add item 8b and to move item 13 to after item 7

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 16, 2007 and January 30

M/S/P (Opp/Maxwell) to approve the minutes of January 16, 2007 and January 30, as corrected

3. Reports

A. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that CFA and CSU have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract. Reichman has devoted two years to this as part of the bargaining team and believes it was one of the most challenging experiences in his professional life. The tentative agreement would not have been possible without the full involvement of the faculty throughout the entire process. The strong showing for the strike vote, coupled with pressure from government officials and constituents throughout the state contributed to the CSU’s willingness to build an agreement around the fact-finding report. Reichman thanked everyone for their willingness to participate and distributed handouts explaining terms of the tentative agreement, which includes a July 2007 raise of 7.7% for all faculty.

Ugbah asked that the record reflect the Executive Committee’s appreciation and gratitude for Dr. Reichman’s service on the CFA bargaining team.

The Chair announced that members of the CSU Facilitating Graduation Team will be visiting campus on April 10th to discuss the Facilitating Graduation Initiative. The group will attend the Senate meeting, then hold a wrap-up meeting from 4:15-5:00 in SSci149, followed by a closing reception at 5 p.m. in the Atrium.

B. Report of the President

No report

C. Report of the Statewide Academic Senators

A written report will be sent out by email.

4. Appointments

Confirmation of appointments approved over Spring Break via email:
Diane Satin (Acctg & Fin) to replace Jay Tontz on CAPR for Spring Quarter;
Gary McBride (Acctg & Fin) to replace Jay Tontz on the Senate for Spring Quarter;
David Stronck, (TED) to replace Jeff Simons on CIC, Spring Quarter;
Leo Kahane (Econ) to replace Jane Lopus on the Senate, Spring Quarter;
Nan Maxwell (Econ) to replace Jane Lopus on Research, Spring Quarter;
Jane Lopus (Econ) to replace Tony Lima on FAC, Spring Quarter;
Mike Hedrick to replace Anne McPartland on FAC, Spring Quarter

M/S/P (Ugbah/Fleming) to approve the appointments
5. Revised Spring University-wide election Schedule; and Allocation of Senate/Standing Committee seats to Colleges for 07-08 (confirmation of earlier email approvals)

M/S/P (Larson/Opp) to approve the revised election schedule and allocation of seats

6. Annual Review of Administrative Officers, date of April 17th (confirmation of earlier email approval)

M/S/P (Ugbah/Woods) to approve the April 17th date for the Annual Review of Administrative Officers

7. Approval of the document deadline of May 18th for committee documents needing ExCom/Senate approval

M/S/P (Fleming/Maxwell) to approve the May 18 document deadline

13. Discussion of Draft CTLT and MATS information from John Charles (sent to ExCom via email)

Maxwell raised concerns about the message that is sent when the Center for Teaching and Learning with Technology is a center devoted to pedagogy, yet does not directly report to an academic officer. Online instruction should be another medium of instruction on the instructional side of the house. Several others agreed with Maxwell and raised concerns that Bernie Salvador, whom faculty have praised for his assistance with Blackboard and other technology issues, does not appear to be affiliated with Blackboard any longer. Other issues include structure, lack of understanding of all areas reporting to IT, and the apparent separation of technology from pedagogy and issues of consistency.

Reichman stated that he shares some of the Committee’s concerns, particularly around the structure and reporting lines (reporting to a council rather than the Associate Provost). He provided a handout for a proposed Faculty Support Services Advisory Committee and noted that it was ExCom’s understanding that Faculty Support Services (ORSP, CTLT, Fac Devel) would report to the Associate Provost, not a branch of IT. In addition, Blackboard support is not mentioned, nor is how faculty will receive both technical and pedagogical support. This area should BE, rather than “look/feel” well-coordinated.

Charles stated that the Committee’s comments are helpful. Technology is intended to play a supporting role. The new structure pulls together several related, but formerly separate functions. Because the unifying charge is technological support, it makes more sense to house under IT, in his opinion, rather than the Provost’s Office. The “what is done in courses” will be driven by the academic side; the “how” to support will be handled by IT. Further, the technology side is project- and deadline-driven; the intent is to provide a strategic resource that can be leveraged to help faculty conduct online instruction and provide programmatic support. Bonnie Correia and Bernie Salvador understand pedagogy, so they will be leveraged to work on projects, but will not drive academics. The collocation of MATS and CTLT will allow them to work together on projects.

Opp stated that the name may be a problem, as CTLT makes one think that there is more than online and hybrid instructional support; this is confusing. Where do we go for BlackBoard? BB help was deemed by faculty to be extremely helpful; not just in terms of technical support, but how to integrate it into the classroom. Charles stated that CTLT is not just about preparing the online and hybrid courses, but about supporting faculty while they teach them and look strategically at what instructors need. Blackboard will be supported by MATS; CTLT and MATS will both offer training.

Reichman stated that this was not a decision-making discussion; Faculty Support Services and Instructional Technology are both undergoing restructuring; the Executive Committee would like to see unified and seamless support in these areas (CTLT, MATS, ORSP, and Faculty Development).

Larson asked why there was no search for a director of CTLT (the Director of Media and Tech Services is listed in the Appointment & Reivew document); Charles said he and Interim Provost Dorer decided during IT restructuring to reassign existing staff (Nan Chico), but that in the future there would be a search. Larson asked why not designate the CTLT director as interim; Charles
stated that it was a one-time reassignment/restructuring and there were no interims; they will be replaced when they quit or retire.

8a. 06-07 CIC 19, General Education application of course
M/S/P (Maxwell/Opp) to place 06-07 CIC 19 on the Senate agenda.

8b. 06-07 CIC 21, Timely Adoption of Textbooks
M/S/P (Maxwell/Woods) to send 06-07 CIC 21 back to CIC

Reichman stated that 06-07 CIC 21 is a resolution of opinion, rather than a policy. Although he understands CIC’s concerns about the policy, Executive Order 926 requires we establish a policy; if the Academic Senate does not do so, the President will have to.

Eagan favors a return to committee. There are very real concerns including establishing the Bookstore as a monopoly and not knowing what consequences faculty might face if they do not strictly adhere to the policy. Opp suggested that the Bookstore and the new Executive Director of the Foundation be made aware of the issues.

9. Intellectual Property (latest version, previously considered as draft 06-07 BEC 6)
M/S/(motion tabled) (Ugbah/Opp) to place the Intellectual Property Policy on the Senate agenda.

There was discussion about the distinction between guidelines and policy; the committee was charged with developing a policy for the university. Fleming stated that she has reviewed other university websites and that they would be worth reviewing for ideas about how to present the policy and, when appropriate, set out guidelines. Soules agreed that the committee would discuss guidelines to accompany the policy and noted that the goal was to have a good policy that the faculty was comfortable with.

10. Discussion regarding requested increase of release time for IRB chair
M/S/P with 1 opposed (Ugbah/Opp) to recommend an additional four units of release time for the IRB chair for 2007-2008, pending availability of funds; Brown will produce benchmarks; a proposed scale equating a number of submissions to a given number of release-units up to four.

This request is a result of a significant increase in the number of IRB proposals and was discussed at length. Several members raised concerns about making a decision without further study and clear sense of the context. Other stated that the position and the work are critical to faculty scholarship. It was also discussed that a general CSUEB policy on assigned time is needed.

11. 06-07 COBRA 1, Principles for Faculty Participation in University Budget Decisions
M/S/P (Ugbah/Opp) to place 06-07 COBRA 1 on the Senate agenda

12. Sustainability Resolution
M/S/P (Opp/Woods) to place the Sustainability in the CSU Draft Resolution on the Senate Agenda, as a BEC document, as amended to eliminate the clause that begins “Whereas, the Taloires Declaration and American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment can serve as guiding documents to our campuses in these efforts. And,”

The resolution created by the system-wide Sustainability and Advisory committee. We will need to substitute “East Bay” in all relevant places.

M/S/P (Maxwell/Larson) to accept the report. Sawyer noted that Brian Cook is now the administrator in charge.
15. Discussion regarding Faculty Support Grant call letter dated Feb 9th

M/S/P (Ugbah/Opp) to call upon the Committee on Research to withdraw the current Call for Proposals, restore the original wording, and set a new deadline.
2 opposed, 1 abstention.

M/S/P (Seuss/Fleming) to draft a letter of apology to the affected lecturers.

Discussion occurred regarding the change in policy to include release time grants for lecturers and whether such changes need to be vetted through faculty governance procedures.

16. Discussion/feedback regarding International Editions of Textbooks (Ehrhorn)

Sandra Ehrhorn stated that many publishers have been selling textbooks overseas for significantly less than they cost in the United States. She provided international and US versions of a textbook for ExCom to review and noted that many students buy these versions over the web, as they are much cheaper, but not exactly the same. Ehrhorn suggested that individual faculty members be allowed to consider whether or not they wish to adopt the international editions of texts, not the Bookstore. ExCom agreed and asked Ehrhorn to send a letter to faculty on this issue.

17. Adjournment

M/S/P (Maxwell/Opp) to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Fleming, Secretary