CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES
ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
May 11, 2021

ASM 20-21 APPROVED
AUGUST 31, 2021

M. Abdullah, M. Abed, L. Esparza, A. Khodayari, M. Kubalanza, C. Larkins, V. Prabhu, C. Ney, E. Velazquez, R. Vogel — ABSENT

D. Czypinski, E. Porter, P. Scott-Johnson, K. Wang — EXCUSED ABSENCE

Chair Bettcher convened the (Zoom) meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Chair Bettcher began with a Tongva land acknowledgement and reviewed the protocols for participating in Senate meetings and iCloud clicker use.

1. 1.1 Chair's announcements: — ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1.1 Faculty should have received an email on Friday from the Director of Enrollment Services, Margaret Garcia, giving you a heads up about an email that was sent to students postponing registration until after the schedule is available and the new date is June 7.

1.2 CFA President, Anthony Ratcliff, announced: I wanted to make sure that everyone in Senate knew about the email we sent on Friday as well announcing that we had a survey. The survey is really responding to the email that Chair Bettcher just referenced and generally how things have been going at Cal State LA. The survey is still available and we hope that more faculty will fill it out. The basis of the survey asking people how they felt about the class schedule being rescinded, feelings about how COVID relief funds should be spent, feelings about returning to campus, and lack of effective communication during the pandemic.

1.3 Senator Baaske announced: I am the Executive Committee's liaison to the Student Policy Committee. The committee has asked that I share the SPC has been working on a resolution which calls for the campus to ban the use of third-party proctoring of assessment in Cal State LA courses. Third party proctoring systems usually require students to turn on their camera during online examinations or other assessments. Videos are then examined by humans or artificial intelligence algorithms to identify possible cheating. Such systems are fraught with challenges for students, especially the students we teach at Cal State LA. Unfortunately, although we completed such a resolution, we did not meet the timeline required in order to introduce the resolution at our last meeting and we did not want to seek a waiver of First-Reading Item rules at this meeting. This resolution will be introduced next fall. SPC wanted you to know it was coming in case there are those will might seek to defend such proctoring.

1.4 Senator Ramos announced: CFA will be having an end-of-the-year celebration tomorrow where we'll further discuss the faculty survey focusing on the communication being problematic.

1.5 Senator Talcott announced: There will be a conference on May 21 - 23 titled "Organizing for Abolition in California Higher Education". It's related to a vote we took recently around defunding campus police. Here is the link if you'd like to attend: https://defunddisarmcsu.wixsite.com/home Register here: https://bit.ly/3nBAQbgFull

2. 2.1 Senator Riggio raised the following concern: I have a concern that I've received from several faculty about courses of size 25 are being canceled in their colleges because they are too expensive. Most courses that are of size 25 are writing intensive or graduate courses and the students should not be denied the opportunity to take these courses. There was no response from the floor. — CONCERNS FROM THE FLOOR

CONCERNS FROM THE FLOOR (continued)

2.2 Senator Villa raised the following concern: In ASI we've heard a lot of concerns from students that they would like more online class options for the fall. We conducted a survey and 76.5% students that responded reported that they would prefer online courses due to concern for safety due to COVID, health issues, and inability to be vaccinated. We will be forwarding a list of specific courses to college deans that were compiled from the student responses.

2.3 Senator Tang raised the following concern: I wanted to raise a concern regarding Commencement and the emails we've received in the past few weeks. Are there any updates as to when and where the in-person ceremonies will take place and will it include students who graduated in both 2020 and 2021?
Chair Bettcher advised the body that President Covino will be giving updates and can address this.

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS

3. Senator Talcott announced her intent to raise the following question: On Wednesday, May 5, 2021, Andrew Chavez sent an email stating: "In an effort to lessen the impact of COVID-19 on our graduate students, the University is waiving the fee for summer enrollment in UNIV 9000. This is an option for graduate students who have made sufficient progress toward completing their thesis, project, or dissertations and applied to graduate in Spring 2021 but couldn't due to COVID-related obstacles (e.g., no access to research lab).
Because faculty are not required to advise or instruct students during the summer term, students must first confirm that all faculty committee members are willing and able to serve on the student's thesis/project committee in the summer. **If faculty cannot or choose not to serve on the student's committee in the summer, the student must enroll in UNIV 9000 and pay the fee in the fall semester.**"

This communication directly pits students' educational and financial well-being and success against academic year faculty's rights in the Collective Bargaining Agreement regarding the 180 day work year (see Articles 20.4, 20.5, and 20.6). Faculty should not need to perform unpaid work over the summer, and this policy encourages faculty to do so in order to help students, whom we care about, to graduate during a pandemic. Moreover, students' ability to access an easier path to graduation should not hinge on whether or not their mentor agrees to waive their labor rights per Article 20.

Will administration take its share of responsibility and pay faculty .5 units of S-factor if they agree to work a graduate student over the summer? Will admin. share some sacrifice by paying faculty for our labor AND ensuring that students are supported during a pandemic? Are we truly all in this together, as the many emails we receive from administration attest? The two choices offered here: (1) either that faculty defend our right to be paid for our work and students suffer a delayed and more expensive graduation; or, (2) faculty "volunteer" to perform free work, forgoing our labor rights, in order that the students they mentor may graduate -- suggest that only faculty and students are being asked to make sacrifices, and to do so in ways that harm one another, with no material support being offered by administration.

<u>My questions are:</u> Will the Provost's office require that faculty be paid the appropriate S-factor (.5 units per graduate student) in summer, for supervising graduate students' scholarship, in accordance with our S-factor settlement in 2015? Alternatively, if you truly want to both support both students' abilities to graduate with ease <u>and</u> respect faculty labor rights, will you waive the UNIV 9000 fee for students in fall semester, for those students whose mentors refuse to waive our labor rights and work for free over the summer?

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. It was m/s/p (Baaske) to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 4, 2021 (ASM 20-20).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

5. It was m/s/p (Hernandez) to approve the agenda.

6. Chair Bettcher yielded her time to President Covino. President Covino provided campus updates followed by a Q&A.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

7. A budget presentation was provided by Provost Jose Gomez and AVP Joyce Williams followed by a Q&A.

BUDGET PRESENTATION: PROVOST J. GOMEZ AND AVP J. WILLIAMS

8. The recommendation was APPROVED (V: 38/1/3).

ASCSU RESOLUTION ON FAIR WORKLOAD (20-24)
Second-Reading Item

9. 9.1 It was m/s/p (Baaske) in line 23 to delete UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR and replace it with DEAN OF STUDENTS (V: 37/1).

9.2 Debate ensued and the recommendation was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 It was m/s/p (Baaske) to forward the policy ahead of the approval of the minutes.

PROPOSED POLICY MODIFICATION: PREFERRED NAME POLICY, FACULTY HANDBOOK, CHAPTER V (20-26)
Second-Reading Item
Forwarded to the President

10. Chair Bettcher advised the body that due to the lack of time, this item will carry over to the first meeting of fall 2021 as a First-Reading Item.

CAL STATE LA ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR CALPERS FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT (20-27)
Second-Reading Item

11. It was m/s/p (Taing) to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT