CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES
ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
October 26, 2021

ASM 21-6 APPROVED
NOVEMBER 9, 2021

O. Bernal, G. Fried-Amilivia, L. Fu, J. Garrison, C. Harris, M. Hernandez, N. Hunt, T. Jackson, J. Malveaux, A. Ravichandran, E. Velazquez, A. Villa

ABSENT

M. Cho, T. Gershberg, A. Munger

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Chair Bettcher convened the (Zoom) meeting at 1:46 p.m.

Chair Bettcher invited someone who identifies as indigenous background to read the Tongva acknowledgment. It was read by Senator Villalpando.

1. 1.1 Chair Bettcher announced: On October 11, 2021, WASC has provided ongoing authorization for WSCUC institutions to deliver remote instruction due to disruptions of COVID-19.

1.2 Senator Franklin announced: Just a reminder about the Open Access week events. On October 27, CSU Northridge will host their event and you can register at https://library.csun.edu/events/OA-2021. On October 28 is open access at Cal State LA. You can access registration information from the Cal State LA Library website. Please join us at these virtual events that are free and open to the public. We look forward to seeing you and your students.

1.3 Senator Franklin announced: The library has a new funding opportunity and it's called the S.C.O.R.E. Fund (Scholarly Communication Open Resources eLearning). It is a new fund supported by CSU's Affordable Learning Solutions and the Cal State LA University Library to support and encourage faculty to use zero-cost materials and open educational resources for their classes which can reduce costs for students. It's open to current Cal State LA lecturers and tenure-line faculty who will receive a $500 stipend per semester per instructor for completing all of the requirements. Submissions need to be received by January 21, 2022 in order to receive your stipend. If you have any questions, you can contact librarian Jayati Chaudhuri, Coordinator, Affordable Learning Solutions or Dean Rodriguez.

1.4 Chair Bettcher announced: It was brought to my attention that ASI is conducting a student survey and it can be accessed here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AiCKzo9EWE-Csdhvc-Ov3QC1f4rOvtVMrgGYhVJBv6pUQkNIRTlLMkdCTUdUNEQxN0FWWkVSQjIyNCQlQCN0PWcu
Please pass this along to your students.

1.5 Chair Bettcher announced: On October 20, 2021, President Covino approved the following recommendation: policy modification for Peer Observations of Instruction. On October 20, 2021, President Covino returned unsigned the following recommendation: policy modification for Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects. The Executive Committee voted to return the policy to the Faculty Policy Committee to address the concerns raised by President Covino.

1.6 Chair Bettcher announced: The President's Distinguished Professor's lectures will be postponed until the spring semester. The dates will be forthcoming once confirmed.

2. 2.1 Chair Bettcher provided a response from Vice Provost Bippus to Senator Hanan's concern about the University Library budget raised at the last meeting.

CONCERNS FROM THE FLOOR

2.2 Senator Talcott yielded her time to visitor, Nayeli Paýan (Cal State LA student) who raised a concern regarding CAPs counselors and their workload and how student resources are severely under-funded or non-existent while the campus police department has a high budget. We do not have enough counselors to serve our current student population, there is a high turnover rate, we do not have any tenured counselors and students have been being placed on wait lists.
Senator Reyes responded from the floor addressing some of concerns raised.

CONCERS FROM THE FLOOR (continued)

2.3 Senator Villalpando yielded his time to visitor, Joseph Brown (Cal State LA student) who raised a concern regarding the lack of mental health resources, including accommodations with the Office of Student with Disabilities (OSD). There has not been OSD accommodations for students who need assistance.
ASI VPAG Beasley responded from the floor providing information on behalf of ASI.
Senator Villalpando responded from the floor advising of being aware of such issues affecting the Cal State LA students.

2.4 Senator Anguiano yielded his time to visitor, Libby Lewis (Cal State LA faculty) who raised a concern regarding lack of support for our students, faculty and staff. She read a letter of resignation from a former CAPS counselor dated Aug. 3, 2020.

2.5 Senator Ramos raised the following concern: My concern is connected to the concerns raised by the students and my colleagues regarding CAPS and OSD. We have been advocating for direct services for years between these two areas which was already an issue pre-pandemic and since the pandemic, it has become one of the most debilitated services. How can we be exploiting our students in a public institution?

2.6 Senator Hanan raised the following concern: How is the campus meeting needs for for faculty, staff and students who cannot return to campus during this pandemic because of medical conditions that a) prevent them from receiving the vaccination; b) the vaccination does not create the necessary antibodies to prevent infection; and c) exposure, regardless of vaccination status, would likely lead to hospitalization possible death?
Provost Gomez replied from the floor.

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS

3. 3.1 Chair Bettcher shared the following response from VP Williams to Senator Krug's intent to raise questions from the meeting of September 28, 2021 (ASM 21-4):
There seems to be a misunderstanding concerning the IDC amount collected by UAS, and how its allocated. UAS does not retain any IDC funds to pay the lease on the Golden Eagle.
Even though our federal IDC rate is 46%, few grants receive that rate. In fact, our actual effective IDC rate is about 9%.

1) Attached is the current UAS Board of Directors listing.
2) 2.1. The chair of the Academic Senate and two faculty members are appointed based upon the nomination of the nomination committee of the Academic Senate. There have always been active faculty members on the Board of Directors of UAS.
   2.2. The president of ASI or a designee, and two students are appointed based upon the recommendation of the Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) Board of Directors. ASI participation fluctuates depending on the academic year.
   2.3. Since September 2021, at least one community director has been active as a Board of Directors member. We continue to search for community directors to serve as voting members. However, the pandemic has complicated our efforts.
3) Voting members count when determining the number needed for a quorum. In this case, an ex officio was attending on behalf of a seated director who was not in attendance during the meeting.
4) 4.1 All faculty directors are active members.
   4.2 The President of ASI or a designee, and two students are appointed based upon the recommendation of the Associated Students Incorporated Board of Directors.
   4.3 We continue to search for community directors to serve as voting members. However, the pandemic has complicated our efforts. Our goal is to appoint community directors by the end of the fiscal year.
5) Meeting notices are posted at the Golden Eagle Building, Room 314 and on the UAS website (https://www.uascalstatela.org/meeting-agenda-min).

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS (continued)

3.2 Senator Wells announced his intent to raise the following question to President Covino re: interim appointments:

Chapter III of the Faculty Handbook, Administration of the University, specifies the two ways in which interim appointments of senior administrators may be made:

1) through formal consultation with an ad hoc advisory committee, consisting of four tenured faculty members (no more than two from any one college) to be elected by the Academic Senate from the university at large; two members appointed by the President from the university at large; at most one additional tenured faculty member appointed by the President or designee with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate.
2) through informal consultation with the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate.

The Handbook further specifies that the president will currently follow informal consultation for interim appointments at the senior administrative level.

There are currently several senior administrative positions being filled by interim appointments. These include the Director of the Honors College and the Dean of Students. However, I will limit my questions to the following three positions:

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences

Question 1:

The procedures for informal consultation (as defined in Chapter III of the Faculty Handbook) include the following:

"Before recruitment for any position requiring informal consultation takes place, a job description detailing duties, responsibilities, qualifications and requirements shall be established in writing by the appointing authority and reviewed with the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate."

Please describe how this requirement of informal consultation was met for each of these current interim appointments:

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences

Question 2:

Chapter III of the Faculty Handbook also requires the following action on the part of the University President:

"Report by President on Consultation: The President shall report to the Academic Senate whether appointees did or did not have the recommendation of the ad hoc committee in the case of formal consultation, or that of the Executive Committee, in the case of informal consultation."

Please describe how this requirement has been or will be met with respect to each of the following interim appointments:

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences

Question 3:

Chapter III of the Faculty Handbook also includes the following requirement: "The President or designee shall seek approval of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate in the case that an acting/interim appointment is to be extended beyond one year." As written, this policy envisions the duration of any interim appointment to a senior administrative position as less than two years. What is your timeline for convening ad hoc committees to consult on permanent appointments for each of the following positions?

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS (continued)

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences

3.3 Senator Verba announced her intent to raise the following question: The question is addressed to President William Covino. President Covino, the California Faculty Association (CFA) is in the process of bargaining for the next contract for all faculty, librarians, counselors, and coaches throughout the CSU. The CFA is asking for a 4% general salary increase for the 2020-2021 academic year and a 4% general salary increase for the 2021-2022 academic year. The CSU offered only a 2% general salary increase for 2021-2022 and nothing for the previous year, amounting to a salary cut for many faculty when we take inflation and cost of living increases into account. At the same time, many of the CSU Presidents, including yourself, are getting a 10% raise this year. My question is: Can Cal State LA faculty, librarians, counselors, and coaches count on you to support and advocate for the CFA's proposed salary increases with the Chancellor and the other campus Presidents?

3.4 Senator Anguiano announced his intent to raise the following question: On July 13th, 2021, the office of the Chancellor released a memo entitled "2021-22 final budget allocations" that outlined systemwide and campus specific budget allocations. Attachment C of this memo includes information about funding to support the implementation of AB 1460, The CSU Ethnic Studies requirement. In attachment C of the memo, Cal State LA is listed as receiving a budget allocation of $626,000 to support the implementation of AB 1460 on our campus. As a representative of the College of Ethnic Studies I ask the provost to provide an accounting of the $626,000 designated to our campus.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. It was m/s/p (Abed) to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2021 (ASM 21-5).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

6. Chair Bettcher presented her report.

PROVOST'S REPORT

7. Provost Jose Gomez presented campus updates. A question and answer period followed.

CFA REPORT

8. Senator Talcott presented updates regarding the California Faculty Association.

ADJOURNMENT

10. It was m/s/p (Avramchuk) to adjourn at 3:44 p.m.