

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2017  
Health Center Conference Room  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS:** A. Hegde, A. Dominguez, BJ Moore, B. Hartsell (Vice Chair), C. MacQuarrie, D. Zhou, D. Whetton, D. Wilson, D. Boschini (Chair), H. McCown, J. Kegley, J. Paschal, J. Millar, J. Zorn, K. Madden, M. Martinez, M. Slaughter, M. Rush, S. Forester, S. Frye, Y. Lee

**ABSENT:** C. Cruz-Boone, C. Murphy, S. Schmidt

**VISITORS:** C. Asher, D. Schecter, P. Newberry, V. Harper, L. M. Moe; J. Drnek, V. Kohli

1. **Call to Order**- Meeting called to order by Chair Boschini at 10:00 am.

2. **Approval of Minutes** – February 2, 2017

Chair Boschini inquired of the Senate if any changes were needed to the minutes. Any changes can be forwarded to Leslie Williams for modification.

**Motion/Second/Approved:** The Academic Senate reviewed the minutes. A motion was initiated for approval, which was seconded. The minutes from February 2, 2017 stand approved.

3. **Announcements and Information**

- **Mike Lukens** - Director of Public Affairs and Communications was introduced. Mr. Lukens provided his background at CSU Fresno as a student and Adjunct Professor. It is his intent to find the great things that are going on within the University among students, faculty, and staff, so that the community at large can be made aware. He requested of the Senate to inform him of the happenings in and around campus. He mentioned that some of the categories that the Chancellor is interested in are as follows: New Authors (new books or parts of books), Entrepreneurs, International Students. Mr. Lukens desires for faculty to be publicized. He mentioned Bakersfield Magazine is looking for opinion pieces. He would like CSU Bakersfield to be a resource for the public and media when they are doing research on specific subject matter, and he would like to have a list of Faculty Subject Matter Experts. Public Affairs radio stations, Valley Public Radio & the Maddie Report, are looking for CSU Bakersfield voices to be heard. University Policies should be addressed by Administration. Chair Boschini commented that the good things on campus should be disseminated frequently and in a sustained manner. She used Bakersfield College as an example of efficiently having public information disseminated
- **Academic Support Coordinator** – A new Academic Support Coordinator has been chosen to support the Academic Senate, and she is starting on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Senate Chair Boschini asked for patience in transition.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Chair Boschini added the formatting on the Academic Master Plan was corrected. Hard copies of the corrected Academic Master Plan were distributed.

- Senator Hartsell asked to add Handbook Revisions to the agenda.

**Motion/Second/Approved:** A motion was made to add Handbook Revisions to the agenda. The motion was seconded. The motion to add Handbook Revisions to the agenda stands approved. The revised agenda was subsequently approved.

## 5. ASCSU Report

- **Senator Frye** – Senator Frye attended the CSU Academic Conference, along with Provost Zorn and Chair Boschini. He provided an update. There were 2 keynote speakers. The theme was Closing the Achievement Gap. Individual thoughts were collected from the attendees for the Chancellor's Office. Chair Boschini added that the focus was faculty engagement. There are opportunities to see how faculty can impact graduation rates. There will be planning forthcoming.

## 6. Provost's Report-Provost Zorn reported on the following:

- Dean Searches – AV Dean search candidate was present on Monday. Two other candidates will be interviewed in the coming week. The other Dean searches for Arts & Humanities and NSME are in progress.
- Commencement – the students of MECHA requested to not have their recognition ceremony the Sunday after commencement. They requested to have it the Sunday before in the Icardo Center. It is Mother's Day, which does not impact the Mexican Culture, as their Mother's Day is on May 10<sup>th</sup>. They will limit participation to 250 students. The total capacity of the Icardo Center divided by 250 will be the number of tickets each student who registers will be allowed.
- Graduate Ceremony Time – The ceremony was moved from 6pm to 4pm. Dr. Zorn spoke to the benefit of this for graduates, staff, and set up.
  - Senator Moore commented her concerns with the time and the lack of involving the Graduate Coordinators. Provost Zorn added that open forums were provided and feedback was received.
- Midterm Assessment Program – Senate Resolution 141504 was revisited and a pilot is being conducted with a plan to roll out in March. Provost Zorn wants faculty to evaluate which of their students would benefit from an intervention from an Academic Resource Center Advisor. Research nationwide shows that when Midterm grades are provided, it makes a difference for the students. This will also be brought to the Graduation Initiative Task Force. Dr. Kegley commented that the format for GradesFirst keeps changing and implored that faculty need to know how to use the system. Senator Millar added that a student counselor is being hired to help students, in a partnering relationship of Mental Health and Academics. Senator Paschal commented on the challenges with various nuances within the log-in process. Senator Moore commented on the challenges of using week 4 as the deadline. She recommends week 7. Provost Zorn addressed this in that Week 4 is for Athletes. She will ensure that it is sent after week 7 for other students.. Dr. Kohli inquired as to the specific interventions that will be made available.

## 7. Committee Reports and Requests- Because of the time certain, committee Reports and Requests were not reviewed/discussed.

(Minutes from AAC, AS&SS, BPC and FAC are posted on the Academic Senate Webpage)

## 8. Resolutions - (Time Certain 10:45 A.M.)

### a. Consent Agenda:

- **Academic Master Plan RES161712 (BPC) – (Passed with approval of the agenda.)**

### b. Old Business:

- **Evaluation for Associate Deans RES 161708 (FAC) (Second reading)**-Senator Kegley provided details on the updates that were made to the evaluation for Associate Deans. There is a motion to accept the resolution for review.

Senator Frye added a minor correction to misplaced capital letters. Senator Moore thanked the committee for reviewing and taking care of problematic issues. Senator Hartsell asked to insert "school" before Associate Dean. Senator Moore seconded the motion to insert the word "school". All were in favor of the amendment. None opposed.

**Motion/Second/Approved** – The amended resolution was approved.

- **Hall of Fame RES 161710 (ALL) (Second Reading)-**

Dr. Kegley mentioned that the committee sought to simplify the resolution. Senator Moore recommended an edit to the first sentence to say, "That the Academic Senate recommend to the President consideration of a Faculty Hall of Fame at California State University, Bakersfield..." Senator Hartsell seconded the change. Dr. Kohli questioned the definition of faculty and asked whether administrators with retreat rights would be eligible for consideration. Senator Moore added that this is an "idea" and the "process" would be established by a committee.

The amendment was approved

**Motion/Second/Approval** – The amended resolution was approved.

- **Ombudsman RES 161711 (ALL) (Second Reading)-** Senator Whetton reviewed the intent of the Ombudsperson resolution. Senator Millar explained the purpose of this role. It is the person who handles conflict in an impartial, informal, neutral, confidential manner. Provost Zorn requested the gender neutral title "Ombudsperson." Senator Wilson recommended that the term be consistent with the Academic Policies. Senator Paschal added that for Students, the term is Ombudsperson. Senator Moore spoke in opposition of this resolution. She added that there is already a role for faculty advocacy. Senator Kegley added that the Committee on Professional Responsibility should not be considered a neutral resource.

Senator Kegley made a motion to change "Ombudsman" to "Ombudsperson;" seconded by Senator Paschal. Senator Millar provided the background of the term "Ombudsman," which many view as gender neutral. Amendment was approved.

Chair Boschini added that the position was on campus at one point, and the impact of the Research Responsibility Policy brought the issue up for discussion again. Senator Whetton reminded the Senate as to why this was brought to the committee. Senator Millar asked the group who would outline the details. Senator Hartsell recommended using the language from page 12, that a committee be established to work out the details of the Ombudsperson position.

Motion Hartsell/second Frye the resolution be sent back to the committee for additional consideration.  
Motion approved.

Senator Kegley added that this person is not meant to be an advocate, but a neutral party. Senator Millar commented the benefit of adding the definition of the role on campus to ensure the Ombudsperson is outside of any of the university formal processes.

Dr. Schechter asked that the Senate Executive Committee provide more discussion and direction to Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Whetton on this resolution.

c. **New Business**: NONE

9. **Open Forum Items** (Time Certain 11:15 a.m.)

- No open form items.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.