ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Extra
Minutes
Tuesday, September 29, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.
Videoconference

Members: A. Hegde, M. Danforth, J. Millar, M. Martinez, M. Rees, R. Gearhart, C. Lam, B. Street, D. Boschini, V. Harper

1. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Hegde called the meeting to order.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS, INFORMATION AND WELLNESS CHECK
   • Invitation to GI 2025 Convening – V. Harper said that it’s a virtual convention, October 23, 2020 10:00 to 11:15, and open to everyone. Consider registering for the event. A. Hegde attended last year. One of the more interesting speakers was Governor Newson. Awards were given. J. Tarjan received the Faculty Innovation and Leadership Award.
   • Budget Forum - October 19, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon via Zoom videoconference. A. Hegde and B. Street have been meeting regularly with T. Davis.
   • The Executive Committee (EC) meeting ANNOUNCEMENTS will include a WELLNESS CHECK. It’s an opportunity to share the how the virtual environment affects the members. The Senate meetings will also include a WELLNESS CHECK as part of the OPEN FORUM.
   • K-12 schools may be going back to face-to-face instruction at the end of October. That’s good news for those who are burned-out by teaching children at home.
   • Faculty members have reached out about certain concerns. It’s important for Chairs and Senators to reach out to faculty, instead of waiting for them to come to you. New faculty especially need the contact. A. Hegde offered to attend any department meetings as a way to connect faculty with the Senate and other aspects of faculty information and morale.
   • Expected babies in Computer Science have arrived in good health. More on the way.
   • Economics won the fantasy football game last night for the first time.
   • V. Harper shared with M. Burroughs and the EC that when the announcement came that remote delivery of instruction would continue through Spring 2021, he was sad. He misses the energy of having people around.
• C. Lam shared that the Department of Education grant had a surplus. He and J. Chen Louis submitted a supplemental application. They just received notification that they will get $100,000 to hire student assistant peer mentors. A. Hegde said congratulations, that’s great!

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
M. Rees called for correction to state that the topic V. Harper came to FAC to discuss was RES 192015, Faculty Workload. M. Rees moved to approve the September 22, 2020 Minutes as edited. C. Lam seconded. Approved.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
C. Lam moved to approve the Agenda. D. Boschini seconded. Approved.

5. CONTINUED ITEMS
   a. AS Log (handout)
      i. AAC (R. Gearhart) Referral 2019-2020 # 18 Interdisciplinary Bachelor Degree in Science in Public Health Proposal - Performing as curriculum committee, the proposal was approved. The individual will present to the Provost’s office and when Provost Office sends OK to the Senate, then it will go to BPC to look at the costs, etc., and back to AAC as part of the Senate approval process.
      ii. AS&SS (C. Lam) Referral 2019-2020 #12 Graduate Student Grievance and Appeals Policy – Reporting Chain – Committee member, L. Vega, took the issues back to the Graduate Council to revise the policy because there is no Appeals Board. There is no due process for students.
      iii. FAC (M. Rees) Referral # 2020-2021 #06 Patent Policy - AVP Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs (GRaSP), I. Ebong has been invited to discuss the topic. Provost Harper visited the committee to discuss 192015 Faculty Workload. A. Hegde referenced the President’s position regarding resolutions that she leaves unsigned because certain actions are being taken by the Provost. While the Handbook states that resolutions end with the President’s signature, there is no need to change the Handbook now. V. Harper believes the treatment of Senate resolutions doesn’t necessitate a Handbook Change. His discussion of how AA implements RES 192015 was robust and working as intended. CSUB’s Chief Counsel, A. Maiorano, was reassigned to San Marcos. We are in the process of getting a new Legal Counsel. A. Hegde said that the
President’s tabling of resolutions is fine, as there has been a precedent and it’s in her purview to do it.

iv. BPC (B. Street) Referral 2020-2021 #01 Masters of Science in Computer Science – the Chair put questions to the person who submitted the proposal and has received a response and will present that to BPC and AAC. Referral 2020-2021 03 Institutional Research in Response to the WSCUC Report – The committee had initial discussion and is working through how to access the data. B. Street began reaching out to individuals to facilitate larger conversation on how to parse the information for Chairs and Faculty to address their budget concerns. He will be presenting at the DCLC in October. It will be an opportunity to gather information as well.

b. Provost Update – V. Harper

i. Instructional Plan and registration for the Spring - The systemwide Provosts meeting revealed that the expectation is to maintain or reduce S2 courses to minimize the number of individuals on campus. A new form and guidance forthcoming from the CO. Academic Programs will use the same workflow of prior cycle. Show how the courses are being built. Build as hybrid. The President will play an important role in the overall approval of courses.

ii. FAQ on Ethnic Studies – We are waiting for guidance from the CO.

iii. K. Krishnan retirement notification was distributed today. He is a friend and was a good leader. The details on the replacement for that function to follow.

iv. CSU Long Beach got close to the 2% positive Covid-19 trigger and they acted proactively to go to remote delivery of instruction. CSUB is stable, and our S2 classes will run this semester.

v. RES 192015 Faculty Workload and President’s role in course approval – J. Millar expressed concern whereby the resolution was tabled by the President because she said it wasn’t in her purview and belonged in Academic Affairs, yet she is involved in S2 course approval going into the Instructional Plan. The Provost responded that he is working on faculty workload to find common ground. The difference is that the Office of Chancellor said the Office of the President on each campus will play a larger role in the S2 courses running in Spring 2021. The structure is working. As long as any particular Provost is willing to sit with faculty and work through different perspectives, shared governance is intact.
vi. New Chancellor, Dr. Castro – D. Boschini asked V. Harper if he had any thoughts on what we can expect. V. Harper said those who know him have spoken of him very highly. It’s a watershed moment for higher education. He is the first Mexican-American to hold the position in the largest higher education system, 490,000 students, in the country. He was President of CSU Fresno for seven years. President Zelezny has a personal connection, as she was the Provost there, during his term. Things she learned from him are being taught to V. Harper. It’s a positive for the Central Valley, and for CSUB in particular because of these connections.

vii. Internship Courses that don’t fit into the S2 mold - V. Harper said the selection of S2 courses for the last cycle of the Instructional Plan was approved by the CO without edits. It is a testament to the very good job the deans and chairs performed. The expectation for internship assignments, offers, and when students get them is not on a regular cycle. The CO and Department of Public Health give guidance and we had to seek approval for courses and follow their guidance for internships. Two internships have been approved for this cycle. Let’s try to capture everything we possible can for our Instructional Plan approval.

viii. Course-related activities - M. Danforth requested guidance for Chairs, through the Deans, on course-related activities that don’t map neatly into PeopleSoft timeslot(s). For example, for the Engineering senior project, teams go in and reserve a time slot to come to the Fab Lab, but it’s not a set time every week. We need to make sure that the space is reserved, it’s sanitized and has the proper set-up. That can’t be coded in PeopleSoft. It’s still related to the course. We will need some guidance how to set that up for Spring 2021. V. Harper will discuss the issue with the Director of Academic Programs. He thanked M. Danforth for identifying the need.

ix. Sanitization – M. Rees inquired whether someone follows up on the cleaning schedule that was distributed. V. Harper said that the cleaning schedule is public for every class and that it should be posted outside. He will follow-up with F. Gorham.

x. Testing Center – V. Harper said that we are taking a hard look at it and we have sent a proposal to the Department of Public Health. B. Street requested that the proposal be for a long-term solution. V. Harper recent thrust is about finals this semester and he’s balancing that with long-term objectives.
Wellness – V. Harper is getting ideas to help faculty wellness and is still gathering input. The main feedback is not to create Zoom meetings for checking in on peoples’ wellness. J. Millar volunteered to compile tips on how to reach out to faculty members. E. Poole-Callahan in Campus Programs has been doing fun things on the Kahoot program. Perhaps there are things suitable for faculty fun that can be put in Kahoot. The Wellness page on the campus website has ideas. Perhaps we could have virtual breakout rooms for cooking, jewelry, yoga, financial literacy and other wellness topics. M. Martinez objects to meetings that go until the very end and immediately into another without a break. Schedule virtual meetings for 45 minutes instead of an hour. V. Harper created a meeting with E. Callahan, J. Millar, and himself to discuss ways to promote wellness in our current environment. M. Danforth said Zoom is not set-up for socialization because it doesn’t lend itself for people to talk simultaneously. The program Discord operates in real-time protocol. It’s easier for people to have a back and forth conversation. Some of the Zoom burn-out may come from the way it’s set-up to be used for business. Further, it’s important for people to be honest and give themselves permission to have moments of insecurity and know that it’s OK to be imperfect. D. Boschini said after six months of virtual instruction, there are resources about best practices in how to lead. This would be helpful to department chairs and deans to facilitate the transition into leadership and personal development.

50th Anniversary – K. McCarthy has committed to not make any political comments during his appearance as interviewer of keynote speaker, Sir Richard Branson. V. Harper spoke with V. Martin on the process of creating the event.

c. Searches

i. AVP AA and Dean of Academic Programs – BPA and SS&E faculty members are yet to be elected. Thank you to C. Lam for serving as NSME representative. A. Rodriguez represents A&H. V. Harper recommends Bob Frakes to serve as Administrator and Cindy Prado, BPA Advisor, as the Staff representative.

ii. NSME Search for Dean – The election of faculty members is pending. V. Harper recommends Dean Rodrigues and A. Sixtos. He will converse with the search consultant later this week. V. Harper will charge that group. M. Danforth and D. Boschini encouraged the addition of NSME staff on
the Search Committee. V. Harper will reach out to NSME chairs and see what they think.

iii. Library Dean – The Search closes at end of October.

iv. Antelope Valley Dean – The faculty representatives to the committee are pending school elections. The committee will meet in Spring 2021.

v. AVP Faculty Affairs – The search committee is formed and will meet in the Spring.

d. Financial and strategic planning transparency and faculty participation – The AA Pandemic Budget Advisory Task Force (PBTF) meets October 2 for the first time. A. Hegde, M. Rees, and B. Street are on the committee. The EC will be updated regularly on information coming from the PBTF.

e. GE Structure Taskforce – The structure of GE is straightforward, other than the modifications that some departments may need. The Learning Objectives have been sent out by CO and are not permanent. There is a feedback period. CSUB will address unit implementation. M. Danforth shared that the Council of Ethnic Studies is getting contention at the state level. It may look relatively simple here compared to other campuses, but when we dive into the matter, we may find there’s more to it. A. Hegde doesn’t feel we have any issues here because we already have courses in ES and we just have to make sure they meet the Learning Outcomes. He thanked R. Gearhart for overseeing that. The AS Chairs’ list of FAQs forthcoming. V. Harper thanked the EC for their leadership on the formation of the Ethnic Studies Unit Implementation Task Force. As a separate issue, he is expecting a departmental proposal coming to the Senate to create an Ethnic Studies department. CSUB is an island in a hurricane.

6. **NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. University Police Advisory Council – A. Hegde shared the draft structure and recommended that the position of Academic Senate Chair be replaced by a faculty member. A call for interest will go out to faculty to fill (2) positions.

b. Wang Award – The Chancellor’s Office notified the campuses this morning. The draft of the Call from the President’s Office was shared with the group. The timeline for processing was acceptable. Nominations are to be sent to the President by October 16. Upon the permission of the Provost’s Office the candidates’ materials will be sent to the Faculty Honors and Awards Committee (FHAC). They will meet, and then bring a recommendation to the EC. The EC sends a letter to the President specifying approval/no approval of FHAC’s recommendation. The President’s Office works with the candidate(s) to
complete the packet and sends it to the CO. The suggestion was to have the call stress that the Wang Award is for lifetime achievement.

c. Post-Tenure Review Requirements (deferred)
d. FYS Instructors and GECCo structure (handout) (deferred)
e. APM Proposal – GECCo (handout) (deferred)
f. Unapproved Software (deferred)
g. Expanded Winter Session (handout) (deferred)
h. Course Repetition (handout) (deferred)
i. Elections and Appointments (deferred)
   i. School Elections Committees
   ii. Committee proliferation
   j. Handbook 306.2.2.e (handout) (deferred)

7. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR SENATE MEETING OCTOBER 1, 2020** (Time Certain 11:00 a.m.)
   Announcements
   President Zelezny (Time Certain 10:10)
   Consent Agenda
   Reports
   New Business
   Old Business
   Open Forum and Wellness Check

8. **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**
   A. Hegde received a message from B.J. Moore that too many announcements for committee positions require Full Time faculty members. Unless the Handbook says FT we could entertain PT faculty.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**
   A. Hegde adjourned the meeting at 11:25.