

Executive Committee Minutes
August 29, 2022
12 - 1:30 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Alison McKee (Chair), Rachael French, Priya Raman, Karthika Sasikumar, Reiko Kataoka, Laura Sullivan-Green, Tabitha Hart, Steve Perez, Charlie Faas, Marie Haverfield, Kathy Wong(Lau), Julia Curry, Nina Chuang, Patrick Day

Absent: Vincent Del Casino

Recorder: Eva Joice, Senate Administrator

1. The committee approved the consent agenda (Executive Committee Agenda of 8-29-22, Executive Committee Minutes of August 8, 2022 and August 22, 2022, Consent Calendar of August 22, 2022, and August 29, 2022) (7-0-3).
2. The committee discussed a temporary amendment to University Policy F18-3 to add a second community member to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) as an alternate to the primary community member in order to allow immediate near-term action on pending faculty research while the Organization and Government Committee evaluates and considers permanent changes to the membership. The IRB has requested that a second community member be added as back-up only in the event the community member cannot attend a meeting. A motion was made to approve the temporary amendment to F18-3. The motion was seconded. The committee voted and the motion was approved (7-0-5).
3. Update from the Interim President:
Interim President Perez delivered the welcome address. Aside from parking issues, the semester has started off smoothly.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has moved Santa Clara County into the medium range for COVID. If we remain at this level for three weeks or move into the low range, SJSU will move into masks recommended versus required. This would be on September 12, 2022.

Questions:

Q: There was an article in the August 7, 2022 San Jose Mercury News about an interview with a former SJSU athlete. There was reference to an advisory board that would tell the university how to deal with issues of abuse. Can you elaborate on this?

A: This was a miscommunication. There is no advisory board.

C: Having an advisory board in addition to what is required under Title IX seems like a good idea, given the challenges we are facing.

A: We have to follow Title IX and must adhere to procedures and processes we are legally mandated to do.

4. University Updates:
 - a. Update from the CSU Statewide Senator:

The first meeting of the ASCSU will be remote due to incidents of COVID at the Chancellor's Office. Our CSU Statewide Senators have received their committee assignments. Mark Van Selst has been elected Secretary of the ASCSU. Simon Rodan was appointed Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, and Julia Curry was appointed to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

There were several resolutions that came out of the last meeting on May 19th and 20th, 2022. One touchy resolution was a vote of "No Confidence" in the Board of Trustees (BOT). Senator Curry will send out any responses as received from the Chancellor's Office.

There was continued discussion of AB 928. The CSU, UC, and Community Colleges (CCC) must agree and come up with a common GE pathway.

There was a response to one resolution on establishing an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee. The ASCSU voted to make this a permanent committee called, "Justice, Equity, and Diversity."

Questions:

Q: Could you share more about modality at the ASCSU?

A: [Senator Curry] The guideline has been to survey the ASCSU Senators and then go with what the majority want.

Q: Is that for the whole year?

A: [Senator Curry] Meeting by meeting since things keep happening. Meeting one was to be in a large room with no windows so it will be via Zoom. Senator Curry will send the survey they used to Chair McKee.

b. Update from the Vice President of Administration and Finance (VPAF):

The University Police Department (UPD) continues to have monthly meetings at the MLK Library. We've had an uptick in burglaries and robberies on campus but the number of other crimes looks good except for the burglaries.

Questions:

Q: We are having issues in the College of Science with instructors and students who can't get into certain buildings, and UPD has refused to come and open the doors. We have called the Facilities and Development Office (FD&O) about Duncan Hall and then it happens again two days later. Can something be done about this?

A: [VP Faas] Send me an email. I haven't heard this before about other buildings. I will address it.

Q: Is it true that UPD won't open classrooms if they don't belong to that department and belong to the university?

A: [VP Faas] All of the classrooms are university-owned and UPD should be able to open. Send me the information and I will look into.

Q: What about student access?

A: [VP Faas] Students can get into any building they have classes in.

Q: What should they do if they can't get in?

A: [VP Faas] Call FD&O or walk over there.

c. Update from the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA):

This was the first year that we had an in-person first-year convocation. It went really well. The last one was hybrid, so this was very exciting. In other news, we are at 97% occupancy in housing, or 4,047 students. Enrollment is slightly down at 99% of our target, but we aren't concerned. We are doing well in comparison with other institutions. We are down about 131 frosh, 562 transfers, and 130 grads from last year. Of concern is that we are down in our returning students, and they are taking fewer classes. However, we are returning to some normalcy.

Questions:

C: We need to remember that the last two years of these incoming students' high school was virtual. We are coming back stronger this year.

C: This may be a group of students with difficulties such as sharing space and conflict management, and they may need more mental health responsiveness. These students may have difficulty figuring out how to get things done.

Q: Can you expand on the follow-up with parents?

A: [VP Day] Part of the reason for the in-person convocation was to have contact with parents. We've added a parent portal and asked parents to sign up.

C: There was a lot more parental involvement this year during the weeks of welcome. It was very successful. Students are a lot more talkative than in the past. There is some concern for faculty and staff to ensure that they don't burn out with all the high-level contact.

C: While it may be true that students that have spent the last two years online and may have some issues, they also have certain strengths. They are far more socially and politically engaged. We need to remember and appreciate that.

d. Update from the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO):

This weekend we trained people from MOSAIC, Peer Connections, and also trained new faculty in teaching methodology. We also attended Orientation with the VPSA. We worked with the Family Advisory Board (FAB). Staff in the CDO Office worked with the Title IX Office to put together a training session for Orientation. We have also been doing trainings at retreats on consultation. In addition, we went to Moss Landing and did training for the first time. We have been working with faculty on the treatment of staff and collegiality. We provided 18 microaggression sessions to MPPs. In addition, we are working with the staff council to develop microaggression training. This fall we will have a facilitators institute that provides 20 hours of training. The CDO is reaching out to departments again about anti-racism plans. Unfortunately, the CDO Office was burglarized. UPD was very supportive.

C: The AS Board of Directors had ODI training with the CDO Office and it was really great.

e. Update from the AS President:

The AS Board of Directors meeting was held last Wednesday. AS has put out an open application for a Student at Large seat on a committee of the Senate. Contact AS for the link to the application. AS's Affordable Textbooks opportunity was completed within seven minutes of posting online. . AS also recently had anti-bias training in education.

Questions:

C: The VPSA recognized the work of Tiffany Rodriguez. The lack of public transportation is a serious issue in California, so please support this. it is great for our students.

Q: We appreciate AS providing the Senate Office a list of student directors for committee seats. Can you give us an update for additional members?

A: AS received only one application for Senate committees. We make appointments in our Board of Directors' meetings on Wednesdays.

C: Chair McKee offered to assist AS with recruitment in any way she can.

C: Regarding the Bay Pack problem, it takes 1 ½ hours to commute to Fremont. We really need to talk about this and amplify.

Q: The cost of Caltrain is more than the cost to drive. Are any of these agencies working together?

A: I don't know the costs. The VPSA will follow-up after the meeting. Please be patient with students and also practice self-care.

5. Chair McKee welcomed Marie Haverfield, Chair of the Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R). C&R will talk about returning the Writing Skills Test (WST), and also discussing AB 928 today. The UC accepted the Communication Component in Area 1. Applications for Area E course reduction are there. C&R will monitor new minor programs.
6. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The minutes were edited by Chair McKee on September 16, 2022.

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on September 19, 2022.