

Executive Committee Minutes
September 20, 2021
via Zoom, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Present: McKee (Chair), Curry, Hart, Kaur, Massey, Day (intermittent), Faas, Del Casino (intermittent), Sasikumar, Sullivan-Green, White, Mathur, Schultz-Krohn
Absent: Papazian, Wong(Lau)

1. A motion was made to amend the Executive Committee Agenda of September 20, 2021 to add Senate Management Resolution regarding Kenneth Peter (Honorary Senator). The motion was seconded and approved (12-0-0).
2. The Executive Committee approved the Consent Agenda of September 20, 2021 as amended [Executive Committee Minutes of August 30, 2021, Consent Calendar of September 20, 2021, and Honorary Senator resolution on Kenneth Peter] (12-0-0).

Questions:

Q: When will the new Dean of the Library be added to the University Library Board?

A: The new Dean is set to take over in October 2021.

Q: Will the new Dean be put on the consent calendar?

A: Yes.

AVC Massey presented the statements for candidates for the Athletics Board. The Executive Committee discussed and approved recommending Mathew Faulkner and Mira Merz to the President for approval for the two open Faculty-at-Large seats on the Athletics Board (12-0-0).

3. The Executive Committee discussed and approved a ***Senate Management Resolution, Conferring the Title of Honorary Senator on Dr. Kenneth Peter (Final Reading)*** (12-0-0).
4. Associated Students asked for a Senate representative to the AS Personnel Committee. Chair McKee nominated herself. The Executive Committee discussed the duties of the position and who would be the best candidate. VP Faas expressed concern that a representative from UP was needed on the committee. AS President Kaur responded that Carrie Medders from UP was on the committee. VP Faas asked her to check on this to be sure and she responded that she would. Past Chair Mathur responded that there is a seat on the committee for UP if that was the concern. The Executive Committee approved Chair McKee as the Senate Representative to the AS Personnel Committee (12-0-0).
5. **Updates from the Administration:**
 - a. **Updates from the Vice President for Administration and Finance (VPAF):**
We continue to have the Friday night celebrations outside the MLK Library in conjunction with the city of San José. There is live music, food and drink.

The police chief search is continuing. We are getting resumes now. We hope to have someone onboard by December.

Food service around campus is hit and miss. We haven't been able to fill all food service positions. Let students know they are looking for help. Also some of the vendors are having problems getting product, such as Taco Bell, and that's why they are not open yet. However, the Panda Express in the Student Union has been expanded. In addition, there are \$5 or \$6 Fridays in the dining commons with all you can eat.

We anticipated major parking issues this fall, but we have not encountered these problems.

Questions:

Q: I'm not 100% sure if you are the right person to ask. I've been hearing concerns across the campus about University Personnel (UP) having backlogs of 2 to 3 weeks in processing hiring paperwork for students, especially teaching assistants. With no teaching assistants there is a backlog in grading. The holdup seems to be in getting the students added into Peoplesoft so they can enter their hours. This is becoming an urgent concern.

A: You are right, I'm not the right person to ask. However, if you send me an email I will be sure and get it to the right person.

C: If you have any topics you'd like covered during the budget presentation to the Senate in October please send them to me by email.

Q: Can you speak to the backlog in faculty getting paid for summer work? There seems to be a backlog somewhere.

A: [VP Faas] I'm not sure. Provost Del Casino, any comments?

A: [Provost] It is a UP problem. The question should go to Joanne Wright. I know the names were submitted from the Office of the Provost.

b. Updates from the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA):

We remain up by 790 Frosh students. Overall our headcount is up by 884 students. Our FTE is up by about 100. Our transfer numbers are down by about 406. We can't really pin down exactly why. Graduate students are up by about 288 students. Overall our enrollment is quite strong.

We currently have an 83.2% response rate, and a 92.7% vaccination rate among students in terms of COVID-19. This is excellent. We are not having outbreaks of incidents in classrooms. However, it is still early. We are working on the noncompliance messages. VP Day and AS President Kaur worked together on a video message to students regarding vaccinations. VP Day thanked President Kaur for AS support. One of the things we need to be mindful of with our

students and getting the message out is that our faculty and staff need to be compliant as well.

AB 1456 has begun to move in legislature. AB 1456 removes some of the academic criteria from Cal Grant eligibility and it adds eligibility for community college students. The idea behind this is to expand eligibility for Cal grants, but it does require the allocation of dollars in both the CSU and UC to order to fund some of the additional elements. We need to pay attention to what we are expending for those grants now and what we could be expending if AB 1456 passes.

The Spartan Speaker series continues. The next speaker is on October 29, 2021.

Questions:

Q: Last week the Provost said we were at 109% of enrollment. Do we have any room to expand? We've had discussion in the past about expanding our service area. Has there been any progress there?

A: The numbers I'm reflecting are from last year, and we are just bounding back this year. The 109% is an important number. We just need to shape that 109% the way that we want it. We also need to be able to go to the Chancellor's Office and show them our numbers and say can we move this up. In answer to the second question, we have passed on the expansion of the service area at this time. However, it is still on the list of things we will be working on, particularly as we begin to work on Fall 2022.

6. **Updates from the CSU Statewide Senator:**

Senator Curry was appointed to a special Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. She will be reporting on the diversity and equity needs for faculty and staff.

There are continued discussions about AB 928. This is going to affect our senior pathways to the CSU and UC. There has been a lot of concern about this since the CSU has different requirements than the UC. Senator Van Selst was on the committee that produced the General Education (GE) Report that wasn't accepted, but also wasn't rejected and left us in limbo. That will be one of the discussion items for our next plenary on October 8, 2021. It is very important for us to get feedback from you on these issues so that we can show it isn't just our concerns.

Questions:

C: I really appreciate your advocacy especially around the issues with AB 928.

A: Thank you. I appreciate your comments. With the implementation of the Ethnic Studies requirement it has thrown in another element that has created an antagonistic condition to GE. The sad part from my perspective is that Chancellor Castro sent a very strong letter in support of AB 928 and what it will do. When our leadership does this they have the strongest voice. I think it is important to speak

about it and to write letters to the Committee on Higher Education. I will definitely take this back to the Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion as one of those continued concerns that we have on intrusion.

Q: Given that this affects all the CSU campuses, has there been any kind of a coordinated action among the campuses? Were there any attempts to influence the legislation before it was brought to the floor?

A: Thank you for the question. There have been different responses by campus and different ways the Chancellor's Office has responded in terms of supporting this legislation. Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee (FG&A), which is the committee that pays attention to legislation, along with the California Faculty Association (CFA), which also has a legislative representative, did submit commentary on this particular bill and its implications in terms of what they view as attacks on general education construction in addition to the broader state. Senator Van Selst was the chair of that committee at the time of the report and continues to be the chair of the General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC). I can send you a copy of the full report if you'd like.

C: When that report came out we decided to provide a data-driven approach to feedback. The Provost and I (Past Chair Mathur) sifted through all the data. We were not in support of that GE report. By "We" I mean the campus was not in support of the GE report. I think it is important to note when providing feedback that we did use a data-driven approach and we consulted with our faculty and students very deeply.

A: Thank you for those comments. There were a number of data-driven responses from campuses that seem to have been ignored by the Chancellor's Office.

7. **Update from the Provost:**

There is a lot going on with COVID in part because of the testing and vaccination mandate. I have to give kudos to VP Day's people. Over 30,000 students have been tested, but there are still more to be tested. The MPPs have pretty much done what they were supposed to. Faculty and staff are a bigger issue, particularly part-time lecturers. There is a communication challenge. We need to do more work there and also in getting faculty and staff to conform to the testing requirements. On a positive note, when we do test people, we have a very low percentage that test positive. We are at .5%. We just had a report this morning and we've had a total of 13 cases of COVID. Four of these were caught through testing. Also not all them were on campus. Notifications go out those in contact with someone that tests positive.

Questions:

Q: Is there any guidance you can provide regarding Service Learning Internships? Should we just forge ahead?

A: It is allowed, but it is contingent on the placement side. There is nothing prohibiting the internships. It is impacted by the external partners.

Q: At the last Senate meeting Senator Khan asked about switches in modality for faculty. Can you comment on how many people have requested a modality change?

A: That is a Joanne Wright or CFA question. There are some people out there that are doing their own modalities. This is cause for quite a bit of complexity for students that say they reported fully online in the system, but then the conduct office is calling them and saying they haven't done the appropriate paperwork. We have a challenge and we are actually collecting data on that. Some of it is a data entry issue, and we are working on fixing that. This is a challenge for students and under the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), faculty aren't supposed to change their modality.

Q: This question came from Senator Khan and wasn't about the compliance with the CBA, it was about how many faculty have requested a modality change

A: I understand that and it was forwarded to Joanne Wright.

C: Students are also requesting modality changes to online, so it isn't just a faculty issue.

A: I agree.

Q: I have been told that faculty are being told they cannot teach a split modality.

One person in particular told me that they normally teach in-person one semester and online the next semester, but they were told that you said they can't do that?

A: I didn't say that, but I don't manage the day-to-day schedule. It is the folks that are making the schedule that have to determine how the classes are delivered within the parameters the institution has identified. We are just trying to ensure that a majority of our classes, over 50%, are delivered face-to-face for spring 2022. I don't micromanage people. It isn't my style. There are some people that may say the Provost said to do it. That being said, it doesn't mean the person is entitled to a hybrid course. We all know what the CBA says about this. At the end of the day, this isn't the individual faculty members right to choose all those things. If they could we could end up with a schedule where everyone wants to teach online from 11 to 12:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's about how things are implemented locally. Here is what I said, "If one thinks long term about what a likely tenure/tenure-track faculty member in the RSCA program might teach and they are teaching 6 classes a year, 3 classes might be in person in the undergraduate program, 1 class might be in person in the graduate program, 1 class might be hybrid, and 1 class might be online. What that might have been interpreted as is that this might be the average load of a faculty member. However, I didn't say that we have to apply that to every faculty member on the campus. That would be problematic. That is probably what happened. You have to tell your colleague that just because they want to teach in a certain modality doesn't mean they will be able to and that can be hard.

Q: Can you say what the actual guidance is for online and in-person classes?

A: I would say 60% face-to-face and 40% online. That doesn't mean every single faculty member is going to be there. My management style to give basic guidance and let the deans do their jobs.

C: [Provost] Just so everyone knows, the test positivity rate in Santa Clara County this week was 1.9% and that is down from 3.4%. If organizations are having outbreaks they are definitely out of the norm of Santa Clara County.

Q: I was told mixed mode doesn't exist any longer, but what we are really saying is that a mixed mode class will fall on the side of online correct?

A: Yes, I just wanted to simplify it. Online and hybrid will fall around 40%.

Q: Someone in our department has COVID. I want to give you some feedback I'm getting. I woke up getting all these text messages and emails asking from students and staff asking if they are supposed to report to work/class or not. We all also got a kind of generic email stating that we may be eligible for Expanded COVID Related Leave (ECRL). The email doesn't tell you why you are receiving it. It is very complicated and unclear. There are also no links to anywhere.

A: The direct route is to contact Joanne Wright and Patrick Day. It is complicated and messy.

Q: Our department classes are almost all face-to-face with the exception of a few online courses. We used to list those few as online, but now we are being told that if the professor isn't physically there instructing the class it is considered an online course? It's just very confusing.

A: Part of the problem, I suspect, is the Department of Education change on July 1, 2021, which said if you are not physically--every single person--in the same space, the class is now considered distance and online education. That is part of the problem, but if you could document some of these concerns and send to me I can then follow-up.

8. **Updates from Associated Students President (AS):**

AS is looking forward to the Grand Reopening of the AS House on September 23, 2021 from 12 to 2 p.m.

There will be an opening of the universal design of the community garden being called the Harvest Festival on September 27, 2021.

AS is trying to get donations for students from Afghanistan and Haiti.

AS is in the process of selecting the Homecoming royalty.

AS is looking for an Executive Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director. Please pass the word.

9. **Updates from the Policy Committees:**

a. **From the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):**

I&SA has a few referrals. One referral may be dropped regarding continuous enrollment.

We may have a resolution for the next Senate meeting around excused absences, or course enrollment and the approval process. The policy is 21 years old and a little obsolete.

b. **From the Professional Standards Committee (PS):**

PS is working on RTP Guidelines for history and linguistics.

PS is also looking at the reform of RTP, particularly University Policy F15-8, and how to address diversity, equity, and inclusion in that policy from the Sense of the Senate Resolution passed in the Senate last spring. We are looking at how this can be infused into climate, RSCA, and service. We are looking at timelines for getting this completed. We want to get this a little tighter.

c. **From the Curriculum and Research Committee (C&R):**

C&R anticipates having two policy resolutions for final readings at the October 2021 Senate meeting.

C&R is also continuing to review the GE Guidelines. C&R will be discussing whether they should break the GE Guidelines down into pieces and bring it to the Senate that way, or wait and bring it to the Senate all at once.

d. **From the Organization and Government Committee (O&G):**

O&G is working on two referrals. One is the expansion of the Academic Senate and the other is regarding the University Sabbatical Committee.

Questions:

Q: Do you anticipate any resolutions for the October Senate meeting?

A: No.

Q: Do you have a timeline for the Senate Expansion referral?

A: We have not particularly discussed it, but it could well take all academic year to coordinate. We want to widely consult with all groups and constituents.

10. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

These minutes were taken by the Senate Administrator, Eva Joice, on September 20, 2021 and transcribed on September 25, 2021. The minutes were reviewed and edited by Chair McKee on September 27, 2021. The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on October 4, 2021.