Chair Prabhu convened the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

1. 1.1 Chair’s announcements:

1.1.1 It’s that time of year again to celebrate students and their hard work. There will be 15 Commencement ceremonies Monday, May 20 through Friday, May 24. The ceremonies will be held in the University gymnasium and more details can be found at http://www.calstatela.edu/commencement.

1.1.2 The following faculty member has been elected to serve on the University Academic Appeals Board (UAAB) with term ending spring 2021: Heidi Riggio, Psychology.

1.1.3 The following faculty member has been elected to serve on the Intercollegiate Athletics Board (IAB) with term ending spring 2023: Ramani Durvasula, Psychology.

1.1.4 The Organizational Meeting of the Academic Senate (continuing and new members) will be held next Tuesday, May 7, 1:45 p.m. – 2:10 p.m., Golden Eagle Ballroom 3. Please note: The regular Senate Meeting will begin at 2:10 – 3:45 p.m.

1.2 M. Garcia, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, announced: The Chancellor’s Office has asked campus Articulation Officers to help recruit faculty to serve as Course Outline of Record Evaluators (CORE) or to serve on the Faculty Discipline Review Group (FDRG). On behalf of Cheryl Pugh, our campus Articulation Officer, Undergraduate Studies is asking faculty to consider serving in either of these capacities. There is a shortage of participation from CSU faculty yet this is critical for aligning our curriculum with community colleges to improve the transfer student experience. If interested, please send an email to Karen Simpson-Alisca and she will provide your name to the statewide Academic Senate Chair who will in turn nominate you to the ASCSU Executive Committee. (ksimpson-alisca@calstate.edu). If you would like an email with more information, please contact Cheryl Pugh (Articulation@calstatela.edu) and she will forward the descriptions to you. Thank you.

1.3 Senator Bezdecny announced: An FYI to all faculty: Moodle is currently on Death Watch. Spring 2019 is the last semester that Moodle will be available; all classes, beginning Summer semester, will all need to use Canvas as the course LMS environment. Previous courses, through Fall 2018, have already been ported from your Moodle account to your Canvas account; all Spring 2019 courses will also be ported, on a time-line that has not yet been announced by our Moodle host. CETL is hosting several workshops on Canvas if you would like to learn more about how to transition from the Moodle environment to the Canvas environment.

1.4 Senator Cho announced: Spring 2019 Graduate Theses Exhibition is open to the public until the 26th of April at the Cal State LA Fine Arts Gallery. The gallery hours are 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. from Monday - Friday.
CONCERNS FROM THE FLOOR

2. Senator Marmolejo raised the following concern: I find it disheartening and very contradicting for a university whom prides themselves in upward mobility and the #1 in the nation’s most diverse campus, our mission statement clearly states, “that we will amplify our student’s unique talents, diverse life experiences and intellect.” Highlighting our “students diverse life experiences, which last time I checked, Trump’s border wall is a monument of white supremacy, targeting the Mexican border for propaganda and racial oppression. Student concerns have been brought up to my attention as well as yours, President Covino regarding your lack of action to student security, student empowerment, and attention to the Young Americans for Freedom’s display of “Build the Wall” in the main walkway. Your vague email left many confused as to what your message was even regarding. This is a call to action from your students, we need our administration, specifically our President not only to delegate support groups and workshops but participate in events that promote solidarity of the students. We need greater actions such as monumental statues of leading community and historical figures, and funding for high profile speakers whom will speak on the importance of community and diversity which are school values. We the students do not get paid the outstanding amount of money you do, President Covino, therefore it should not be our responsibility to continue to find solutions for you. We need better leadership, we need better advocacy from our administration, our students deserve better!

2.1 Senator Marmolejo raised the following concern: I find it disheartening and very contradicting for a university whom prides themselves in upward mobility and the #1 in the nation’s most diverse campus, our mission statement clearly states, “that we will amplify our student’s unique talents, diverse life experiences and intellect.” Highlighting our “students diverse life experiences, which last time I checked, Trump’s border wall is a monument of white supremacy, targeting the Mexican border for propaganda and racial oppression. Student concerns have been brought up to my attention as well as yours, President Covino regarding your lack of action to student security, student empowerment, and attention to the Young Americans for Freedom’s display of “Build the Wall” in the main walkway. Your vague email left many confused as to what your message was even regarding. This is a call to action from your students, we need our administration, specifically our President not only to delegate support groups and workshops but participate in events that promote solidarity of the students. We need greater actions such as monumental statues of leading community and historical figures, and funding for high profile speakers whom will speak on the importance of community and diversity which are school values. We the students do not get paid the outstanding amount of money you do, President Covino, therefore it should not be our responsibility to continue to find solutions for you. We need better leadership, we need better advocacy from our administration, our students deserve better!

2.2 Senator Finocchiaro raised the following concern on behalf of a graduate student:

Academic Senate,

This letter as an official request for the University to revisit the process for the Loss of Matriculation Policy at California State University, Los Angeles.

The policy for the loss of Matriculation for graduate students does not require the university to notify the student of the process for matriculation or that they will be dropped from the entire program.

The concern is the following: The process does not hold the university accountable for any notifications for this policy. Graduate programs do not have centralized advisement like Undergraduate students. Faculty advisors do change often for the graduate programs and because of those changes, the faculty advisors might not be aware of all the policies and will not inform the students that they will be dropped unless the students specifically asks that question.

The section specifically addressing process and procedures for leave of absence is hidden in the catalog. If a student does a straight search for a leave of absence, the section discussing the leave is at the very bottom of the search (5th section) under procedures and regulations. It is tricky to find and the student has to read through a lot of material to find the policy.

The verbiage of the policy is also vague, it does not cover the outcome of absence for more than one semester.

Solution: It would be ideal that some sort of communication is sent to the students after one absence notifying them that they will lose matriculation and get dropped out of the program if they do not file for an official leave of absence by the specific deadlines determine in our policies.

The statement that the University does not need to notify the student that they will be dropped because it is mentioned in the catalog is unfair to the students. Getting dropped from the program is a big change to the student’s status and they would have to wait one to two years before then can reenroll. One courtesy email should alerting the student would be greatly appreciated considering the outcome and all the anxiety/stress caused by this to the student.

Application process: I understand that some policies have to be harsh to keep the program operating effectively. However, please consider allowing the students that lost matriculation to apply sooner since most of the graduate courses run once a year. But if the university cannot do this, they should consider notifying the students in writing instead of penalizing the students for lack of knowledge or Familiarity with the catalog.

Please review this policy and procedure on graduate student matriculation.
3. None.

4. It was m/s/p (Riggio) to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2019 (ASM 18-14).

5. 5.1 It was m/s/ (Finocchiaro) to approve the agenda.

5.2 It was m/s/p (Chavez) to add as a new item 11: ASI Resolution of No Confidence in the President and Key Administrators of California State University, Los Angeles.

5.3 The agenda was approved as amended.

6. Chair Prabhu presented her report.

7. President Covino presented campus updates. A question and answer period followed.

8. Emily Allen, Dean, College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology, presented updates about the college.

9. 9.1 It was m/s/ (Riggio) to approve the recommendation.

9.2 A five minute question and discussion period took place.

10. It was m/s/ (Riggio) to approve the recommendation.

11. 11.1 It was m/s/ (Chavez) to approve the recommendation.

11.2 A five minute question and discussion period took place.

11.3 It was m/s/p (Hoffman) to extend the question and discussion period for an additional five minutes.

11.4 It was m/s/ (Hernandez) to waive the First-Reading Item rules. Objections were raised.

12. Chair Prabhu called for adjournment of the meeting at 3:32 p.m.