K. Baaske convened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

1. 1.1 The Chair’s Announcements:

Following is the response from Vice President Quan to the questions raised by Senator Hunt at the January 13th Senate meeting:

Question
What happens to faculty computers that have been replaced with new ones?

Response
Faculty computers that are part of the 3-year baseline refresh cycle are used to refresh even older workstations including part-time faculty workstations, special projects labs, prototype labs, and department-owned workstations.

Question
Is there an opportunity for faculty to purchase these computers or if not are we able to donate them to schools or other worthy sources?

Response
Because of the resources required to conduct a public sale, it is no longer cost effective to support the sale of used computers.

Available computers are donated to non-profit organizations provided that they adhere to the following procedures:

1. The non-profit organization must formally submit a written request on their letterhead to California State University, Los Angeles, attention Information Technology Services, requesting donation of computers.
2. The request must include an explanation of how the computer would benefit their program, the quantity needed, and any configuration requirements.
3. The organization must attach a copy of its Non-Profit Determination Letter (501C3).

I am saddened to announce but wanted to let you know that I just learned this morning that Rita Ledesma’s husband died unexpectedly yesterday. At this time we do not have any information on funeral arrangements. I am sure when that information is available it will be shared with the campus community.

Yesterday, the Los Angeles Times ran an article about Jill Biden, wife of the Vice President. The thrust of this article is that Jill Biden’s request to be called Dr. Biden was silly and “a little bit obnoxious” because Dr. Biden only had a Ph.D.; she wasn’t a “real” doctor because she couldn’t heal the sick. I draw this to your attention because I believe this article belittles the accomplishment of faculty. It also demeans the academy and higher education broadly. Such denigrations enable cuts in higher education funding and denying faculty pay raises because, after all, Ph.D.’s are not “real” doctors. I feel we must be ever vigilant to guard against such attacks on who we are and what we do.

As part of my duties as Statewide Senator, I get to share with you that there is a ballot initiative that is seeking to gather signatures at this time. The initiative is seeking to overturn guaranteed medical benefits and retirement benefits for retirees in the CSU. I think we need to be ever vigilant in our efforts to guard against such attacks.
ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)

1.1.5 Just before I came over here, the President called me. He had a memo for me that he carried down to my office so that I could share it with you. It is regarding the “Next Steps in Possible Conversion to Semesters.”

“Thank you for the input on whether or not CSULA should consider changing from a quarter-system calendar to a semester-system calendar. Based on the positive response from the Academic Senate, I will be asking the campus to develop a plan outlining the details of this possible conversion. I have asked Provost Cardoza to work with you as chair of the Senate, to recommend the structure and membership of the planning group.

“Once again, I would like to thank the Academic Senate for the detailed and thoughtful process generating input on this very important issue.”

1.2 The Vice Chair’s Announcements:

On January 29, 2009, President Rosser approved the Nomination Committee’s recommendation to appoint Professor Mohammed Abed (Philosophy) to serve on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee as a replacement for Leah Melber, term ending Summer Quarter, 2010.

1.3 Senator Hunt announced: Speaking of the L.A. Times, that reporter may not have her job too much longer. As you know, the next major round of job cuts for the L.A. Times will take place in the next couple of weeks and it may include the California section. For those of us in education, that means less focus on both higher education and K-12 if they will be eliminating the California section. I encourage you, if this upsets you, to write a letter to the editor of the L.A. Times and let your displeasure be known. The letters will make more of an impact if the letters are received before they cut the section - which they say will appear in another part of the newspaper - but they will not have the same cache.

1.4 Senator Hao announced: On February 18th, students will be mobilizing in protest of the possible quarter to semesters conversion.

I regret to announce that both Senators Carlos Lopez-Jimenez and Alex Huynh have resigned from their positions as academic senators for personal reasons. So we will wait to see when the ASI will replace them.

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS

2. None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

3. It was m/s/p (Garcia) to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 27, 2009 (ASM 08-8)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. 4.1 It was m/s/ (Benedict) to approve the agenda.

4.2 It was m/s/p (Land) to amend the agenda by adding “Report on the CSULA Foundation” as a new number 5 and renumbering the remaining items.

4.3 The agenda was approved as amended.

REPORT ON THE CSULA FOUNDATION

Presented by S. Bowman, Secretary of The Academic Senate

5. Senator Bowman presented a report on the January 22nd CSULA Foundation Board meeting.
6. A report on the doctorate in education was presented by Dean Falvey and Professors Andre-Bechely and Ulanoff.

7. The recommendation was APPROVED (08-6). Copies of the document are available in the Senate Office.

8. It was m/s/p (Hunt) to adjourn at 2:45 p.m.