Vice-Chair Peterson convened the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

1. Chair’s Announcement:

1.1 Since the last Senate meeting, President Covino has approved the following Senate recommendation:
April 22nd – Proposed Policy Modification: Student Opinion Survey on Instruction, Faculty Handbook, Chapter V, effective spring 2016 with the following note: Current technology constraints preclude a centralized process for adding questions to the survey (please see lines 43-46). We will continue to work on possibilities for doing so; in the meantime, colleges/departments may wish to distribute additional questions through other means.
The Faculty Handbook is currently being updated to include these approved policies.

1.2 I am pleased to announce that Michael Soldatenko from Chicano/a Studies has been elected to serve as Senator-at-Large with the term ending spring 2019.

1.3 The following faculty members have accepted nomination by the Nominations Committee to the slate of candidates for election to the Intercollegiate Athletics Board for one female with the term ending summer 2020:
Katrina Yamazaki, Biological Sciences
Mary Kubalanza, Communication Disorders
Simona Montanari, Child and Family Studies
Arezoo Khodayari, Civil Engineering
Sarah Beeby, Art
Aminah Bakeer Abdul-Jabbaar, Pan African Studies
Angela Chale, Kinesiology and Nutritional Science
Zhen (Carol) Cui, Economics and Statistics
Angela Vergara, History
Deborah Won, Electrical & Computer Engineering

1.4 The following faculty members have accepted nomination by the Nominations Committee to the slate of candidates for election to the University Academic Appeals Board for one position with the term ending summer 2018:
Jessica Dennis, Psychology
Kirsten Fisher, Biological Sciences
Birte Pfleger, History
Katrina Yamazaki, Biological Sciences
Heidi Riggio, Psychology
Donna Scemons, Nursing
James Ford, Music, Theatre and Dance
Josef Sawyer, Television, Film and Media Studies
Fred Uy, Curriculum and Instruction
Raquel Warley, Social Work
Gar Culbert, Political Science

1.5 The Strategic Planning Coordination Committee has been meeting weekly to draft the strategic plan. There will be four town hall meetings to provide faculty, staff, students, and administrators an opportunity to provide feedback. The draft will include revised mission, vision, and values statements, and of course, the strategic priority areas including goals, initiatives, and measures. The town halls are tentatively scheduled for Monday and Tuesday May 23rd and 24th (one in the morning and one in the afternoon of each day). There will also be office hours and an opportunity to provide feedback online.
ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

1.1.6 You should have received a revised meeting schedule for the rest of quarter for the Senate. We will have a regular business meeting next Tuesday, May 10 and the President’s State of the University Address will be presented on Tuesday, May 17. Please keep Tuesday, May 24 open to meet if needed and our final meeting of the quarter will be Tuesday, May 31 and this will include the Organizational Meeting and Election of the 2017 Executive Committee Officers.

1.1.7 Please come prepared to nominate faculty for two ad hoc advisory committees – one for the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services and one for the Vice Provost, Diversity and Engaged Learning. For the Dean of HHS, one tenured faculty member, not from the college concerned, is to be elected by the Academic Senate. For the Vice Provost, four tenured faculty members (no more than two from any one college) is to be elected by the Academic Senate from the University at large. It would be helpful if you obtain approval from the nominated colleague in advance. The work of these committees will commence in the Fall.

1.2 Senator Talcott announced: As you have likely heard, the results are in on CFA members voting on the ratification of the tentative agreement. 97% of members voted in favor of the agreement, and we had a 63% turnout on the vote. Thank you to all of you who participated in the struggle for fairer salaries for faculty, including being willing to go on strike, talk to your colleagues, and ultimately vote on the tentative agreement. Sunday was May day, international workers day, and it was also the date we were set to reopen on the 2016–17 contract salary article. Thanks to thousands of engaged faculty, and to our students who stood with us, that did not have to happen. On May 24 and 25th, the Board of Trustees meets, and at that time I anticipate they will also ratify the agreement.

CONCERNS FROM THE FLOOR

2. Senator Achinger had the following concern: How is semester conversion going to affect the number of units that individuals graduating under the quarter catalog are going to need? Are these individuals going to be required to take more classes? What will happen in the event that an individual has satisfied all of the requirements under the quarter system catalog, but has an insufficient number of units under the semester system caused by rounding errors in the mathematical number crunching?

INTENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS

3. None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. It was m/s/p (Peterson) to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2016 (ASM 15-12).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

5. It was m/s/p (Bodinger-deUriarte) to approve the agenda.

SENATE CHAIR’S REPORT

6. Chair Warter-Perez presented her report.

PROVOST’S REPORT

7. Provost Mahoney presented her report.

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ADDRESS

Presented by Marla Peppers-
Interim University Librarian

PROPOSED POLICY MODIFICATION: POLICY ON ELECTIONS, FACULTY HANDBOOK, CHAPTER II (15-18) First-Reading Item

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

9.2 A five minute question and discussion period took place.
10. 10.1 It was m/s/ (Leon) to approve the recommendation.

10.2 A five minute question and discussion period took place.

11. 11.1 It was m/s/ (Syed) to amend lines 9-16 by deleting the language: Ten percent of the graduates in each college will receive honors: the top 1% will receive summa cum laude, the next 4% will receive magna cum laude, and the next 5% will receive cum laude. These percentages will be calculated only once for each academic year. The academic year is defined as summer, fall SEMESTER, winter, and spring quarters SEMESTER. At the beginning of each summer quarter FALL SEMESTER, grade point average requirements for graduation with honors will be set by the Registrar's office. These averages will be determined for each college by applying existing policy to students who have graduated during the past three years.* (including the footnote *Detailed method: The Registrar will look at grade point averages for every student who graduated in a particular college during the past three years. The percentage cutoffs in the current policy (i.e., 1% for summa cum laude, 4% for magna cum laude and 5% for cum laude) will be applied to this combined group to determine grade point average cutoffs for each school. and adding the language:

SUMMA CUM LAUDE: GPA EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 3.9
MAGNA CUM LAUDE: GPA EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 3.75 BUT LESS THAN 3.9
CUM LAUDE: GPA EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 3.500 BUT LESS THAN 3.75.

11.2 Debate ensued.

12. It was m/s/p (Peterson) to adjourn at 3:10 p.m.