



ACADEMIC SENATE, STUDENT POLICY COMMITTEE

September 15, 2020; 9:25 am -10:40 a.m., Zoom

MINUTES

Present: A. Chavez, M. Clarke, T. Ford-Baxter, W. Kwan, M. Nazari, A. Noland, J. O'Neil, C. Restrepo, A. Villegas, N. Wada-McKee, Y. Wang, X. Zhang, C. Zurita-Lopez

Excused: K. Baaske

1. Call to Order

M. Clarke, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:27 am.

2. Announcements

M. Clarke announced he attended the Academic Senate meeting on Sept. 8 to be available for any questions regarding the proposed deletion of the Student Educational Equity Advisory Committee to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

M. Clarke reported the SPC annual report was shared for reference.

3. Intent to Raise Questions

C. Restrepo raised the following question, "I have known for many years that we are a "pay first" campus - meaning our students have to pay all of their tuition up front. This policy places students who are struggling to make ends meet financially at a disadvantage when it comes to enrolling in classes - and this last Fall, with classes in our college being fuller than we anticipated, this really stood out to me.....

I have never understood why we are a pay first campus. It seems like there are many other CSU's which aren't (in fact maybe we are the only one? Or maybe there is 1 other?). I imagine this has always impacted students - and always caused a lot of tension around enrollment time (not to mention it impacted our enrollment predictions, etc. because this may end up leading to more enrollment at the last minute..." Discussion ensued.

It was agreed by consensus to invite Lisa Chavez, Vice President and CFO to the next meeting. M. Clarke will work with C. Restrepo to draft additional questions to send to Lisa in advance of the next meeting.

4. Approval of the Minutes

M/S/P approval of the minutes Zhang/Noland.

5. Approval of the Agenda

M/S/P approval of the agenda Zurita-Lopez/Ford-Baxter.

6. Liaison Reports

6.1. Executive Committee Liaison

Senate Exec is contemplating how to proceed with Outstanding Professor, Outstanding Lecture, and President's Distinguished Professor awards for the 2020-2021 academic year. Last spring, it was decided to postpone the 2019-2020 OPA, OLA, and PDP awards. There is concern that combining these awards in one university convocation would minimize the importance of earning the awards but canceling them is also an unappealing prospect. No decision has been made.

Senate Exec met separately with Vice President and Provost Alvarado and with Vice Provost Villalpando. Both responded to questions regarding faculty and student diversity at Cal State LA. Villalpando shared data showing an appreciable increase in black/African American student enrollment this fall. This followed a campaign to encourage enrollment of black/African American students who had been admitted to Cal State LA. Enhanced efforts are also being undertaken to support and retain these students.

At its last meeting, 9/8, the Senate passed a recommendation that peer observations be optional this academic year. And, if a faculty member chooses to have a peer observation, they then can choose whether or not to include the observation report in their file. All of this is in recognition that remote learning poses significant challenges to observation and that some things are beyond the control of faculty. These are only recommendations. The contract does not require peer observations, but campus policy does. President Covino will ultimately decide whether to continue with current policy or suspend it. If he chooses to suspend it, he will decide how this suspension would be implemented.

The Senate meeting for this week (9/15) has been canceled. There are nine second reading items awaiting action by the Senate at its 9/22 meeting.

6.2. Graduation Initiative Liaison

None.

6.3. Academic Advisement Subcommittee

None

6.4. Associated Students, Inc.

A. Noland reported, ASI is in the early planning stages of scheduling an Open Deliberations meeting with several key administrators where students can ask them questions.

7. Early Registration Process and Data, Time certain, Gonzalo Centeno, Director, OSD

G. Centeno was scheduled to attend to explain the low number of OSD students taking advantage of priority registration. He was not able to attend the meeting. In the interest of time, the committee decided to reach out to him in writing instead.

8. Early Registration CA Promise

A. Villegas gave the committee an overview of the program. We are mandated to provide students that participate in this program, priority registration. There are currently 20 transfer students and six first time freshman participating in the program.

9. Adjournment

M/S/P to adjourn 10:20 am.