

Executive Committee Minutes
January 12, 2022
via Zoom, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Present: Alison McKee (Chair), Stephen Perez, Anoop Kaur, Brandon White, Julia Curry, Karthika Sasikumar, Kimb Massey (11:26 a.m.), Laura Sullivan-Green, Ravisha Mathur, Vincent Del Casino, Patrick Day, Tabitha Hart, Kathleen Wong(Lau), Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Charlie Faas

Absent: None

1. There was no dissent to approval of the consent agenda (Executive Committee Agenda of January 12, 2022, Executive Committee Minutes of November 15, 2021, Executive Committee Minutes of November 22, 2021, and Executive Committee Minutes of November 29, 2021 (13-0-1).

2. Chair McKee welcomed Interim President Perez and introductions were made to committee members.

3. **Updates from the President:**

Introduction and Personal History:

President Perez gave a brief history of his Senate service at Sacramento State including being a Senator, serving on the Executive Committee, and serving as Vice Chair of the Senate.

The Budget:

The budget the governor proposed for the CSU is a good start. If approved, it establishes a contract between the state and the CSU for budgetary support.

Spring 2022 Semester:

We are not going to be able to start the Spring 2022 semester as we had planned due to the surge in cases of the Omnicron variant of COVID. President Perez will be sending out a message to the campus today with the details.

Questions:

Q: The local community is asking for details about what SJSU is doing with regard to the start of Spring 2022 classes. Can you give more details?

A: [President Perez] It is good the community is asking. We are looking at the first week being totally online with a phase back to face-to-face classes and the published schedule over the next four weeks depending on how things progress with the virus.

Q: How are lab classes going to run, because most are face-to-face?

A: [President Perez] The best defense is for everyone to get vaccinated. There has been no change in the state's physical distancing policy. [Provost Del Casino] We are going to provide departments with flexibility. We will be getting KN95 masks for the campus. One department chair suggested splitting face-to-face labs the first week. We will not micromanage departments. We will let departments decide what works best for them. [VP Faas] Traci Ferdolage and I will be meeting with the county this afternoon and will have additional information after that.

Q: Can we have clients come on campus or should we anticipate postponing this until at least the 4th week of classes?

A: [President Perez] Reach out to the provost in a day or two and we will have worked that out.

Q: Many places require rapid testing, is it available for our students? The tests are selling out everywhere.

A: [VP Faas] All employees are required to be booster vaccinated by February 2022. It is next to impossible to get tests and appointments for tests right now. However, the Event Center will reopen as students come back to campus and everyone on campus can be tested there.

Q: What do we do when a student notifies us they have a positive test result? Faculty need specific guidelines and they need to be very clear about procedures.

A: [VP Faas] We will be sending that information out to the campus. Keep in mind that just because you were in a room with someone that tested positive, it doesn't mean you had close contact. My best advice is to stay home if you don't feel well. [Provost Del Casino] We will be putting together information for the faculty, perhaps in a flowchart. [VP Day] A flowchart could be obsolete in a week. We need a place to update routinely. The information can change in less than 24 hours. I really appreciate the question.

C: What if you get a call late Sunday from a student and can't contact anyone? Having the procedures on a website would be very helpful.

C: [CDO Wong(Lau)] Many of our students live in intergenerational households. I would suggest the advice we give about procedures should include advice for their whole households.

4. Updates from the Senate Chair:

Chair McKee announced that she really regretted having to take a leave of absence for Spring 2022, and appreciated all the emails, texts, etc. Since the next item on the agenda has to do with a Senate bylaw that would pertain to the Senate Chair, Chair McKee announced she would be leaving the meeting to avoid the appearance of any impropriety. Past Chair Ravisha Mathur will take over the meeting during the discussion of the Senate Management Resolution amending Bylaw 2.2.

Past Chair Mathur presented a Senate Management Resolution amending Senate Bylaw 2.2. Senator Hart presented an amendment that was friendly to the body to remove "emergency" from the 1st line, strike "at any point" from the 5th line, and to

change “transmitted” in the 7th line to “communicated in writing”. Senator Sasikumar presented an amendment that was friendly to the body to change “less” to “shorter” in the last sentence. Senator Schultz-Krohn made a motion to approve the Senate Management Resolution. The motion was seconded. The Executive Committee voted, acting on behalf of the Senate in accordance with Senate Bylaw 4.2, and the resolution passed (13-0-1). The resolution will be brought to the first Spring 2022 Senate meeting on February 7, 2022 for endorsement by the Senate.

5. Policy Committee Updates:

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

I&SA will bring a policy on “Excused Absences” for a first reading at the February 7, 2022 Senate meeting. Chair of I&SA, Laura Sullivan-Green, announced she would be on sabbatical Spring 2022. Chair McKee will be announcing a candidate to fill in as Chair of I&SA at the January 18, 2022 Executive Committee meeting.

b. From the Professional Standards Committee (PS):

PS will be bringing amendments to the Retention-Tenure-Promotion (RTP) policies S15-8 and S15-7 infusing scholarship of engagement and diversity, equity, and inclusion into the policy to the February 7, 2022 Senate meeting. These came to the Senate in December 2021 as first readings. PS consulted with the University Council of Chairs and Deans (UCCD), Associate Deans, and Deans for feedback. PS is trying to develop structure for departments building guidelines with an amendment to University Policy S15-7. Many of the guidelines submitted to PS for review are 16+ pages long.

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

C&R brought three policies to the Senate meeting on December 6, 2021 as first readings. These three policies are the General Education (GE) Guidelines, Accessibility in Curriculum, and Organized Research and Teaching Units (ORTU) policies. C&R will present all but the GE Guidelines to the Senate at the February 7, 2022 meeting as final readings. The GE Guidelines will probably come back as a final reading at the February 28, 2022 Senate meeting.

Questions:

C: Past Chair Mathur thanked the PS Committee for these guidelines.

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

O&G is working on representation on the Senate and committees. An Athletics Board policy amendment passed in March 2017 by the Senate was never approved by President Papazian. The chair of O&G at that time was Bethany Shifflett. Bethany worked with Joanne Wright on it. My question to you is if a policy is never signed it is dead or should I start from scratch? [Senator Mathur] If it is never returned from the President’s Office then it is not dead. Our new Interim President can look at and either sign or veto. Senator Hart will communicate offline with the Executive Committee about this.

6. Updates from the University:
a. Updates from the Provost:

He reported that he is meeting with the Native American Heritage Commission this week.

The changes already discussed regarding COVID are the big news.

We are making sure that we have the number of advisers we need for the year. We have continued to hire advisers.

Questions:

Q: Thanks for sharing the Native American Heritage Commission information. It is my understanding that we are in complete compliance with AB 275. My question is how will the Undeclared Advising Center support students into a major and transition them over to a major adviser?

A: [Provost] The goal is not to have students there that long. We will have Thalia Anagnos come speak to the Executive Committee regarding this matter.

Q: Over time if we are having fewer and fewer students in the Undeclared Advising Center is it financially viable?

A: [Provost] The AARS has 14 or 15 staff members. This Center will have 4 or 5 staff. Our goal is a tight and efficient center.

Q: When all campuses discuss how General Education (GE) is aligned, we want to make sure SJSU is represented up front. Can you give any information about when and where?

A: [Provost] We haven't heard a peep yet. There is lots to be debated and I think upper division will be brought into it.

Q: There are huge concerns in Communication Studies about AB 928 and whether public speaking as a required course will be in jeopardy. How can we continue to consult on this topic?

A: [Provost] GE is going to get smaller. It will be hard to push back against the UC since American Institutions (AI) is not a requirement for them. I'm just being real about this. Our GE will be a smaller package.

b. From the Associated Students President (AS):

AS will host its retreat on January 19-20, 2022.

The AS Board is preparing for Spring 2022.

AS continues to back AB 367 which would require free menstrual products at all CSU campuses.

COVID Comments:

The AS Board has funded CARE packages.

Students have raised the following concerns regarding COVID:

There is not inconsistent communication from the university.

There is concern about the lack of resources.

There is concern about how students are to handle positive results.

Questions:

Q: Have students been reporting anxiety over COVID?

A: There is lots of feedback, but I'm not comfortable saying it represents all students. Even the AS Board is across the spectrum on what we think we need for Spring 2022. This is why we need more consulting with the university and consultation about what the university is going to do.

7. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

These minutes were taken by the Senate Administrator, Eva Joice, on January 12, 2022. The minutes were edited by Acting Chair Sasikumar on January 28, 2022. The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on January 31, 2022.