

Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
Minutes of the Meeting of February 17, 2025
Clark 551, 12 p.m. to 1:30 pm

Present: Joshua Baur, Julia Curry, Vincent Del Casino, Tabitha Hart, Colleen Johnson, Ariana Lacson, Stan Nosek, Shannon Rose Riley, Karthika Sasikumar, Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Hiu Yung Wong

Absent: Kristin Dukes, Ranko Heindl, Mari Fuentes Martin, Laura Sullivan-Green,

The committee unanimously approved suspending the Standing Rules so President Teniente-Matson and Tabitha Hart could join the meeting via Zoom.

Minutes taken by Grace Barbieri

1. Update by the Chair

a. Election petitions—staff and faculty

The Senate elections ended on Friday. Twelve out of the eighteen seats have been filled uncontested. The Chair will reach out to the college deans for the remaining six seats and appoint one-year senators.

C: Technically, this was not an election since no ballots were cast; it was just a nomination process. That means these faculty members were appointed, not elected.

2. Update by the President

The President shared the exciting news that San Jose State received an R2 Carnegie classification designation last Thursday. She expressed her gratitude to all the senators present and everyone across the university who helped make this happen. San Diego State went to R1, five or six campuses went to the R2 classification, and all other campuses are in the RCU (Research College University) classification. This is a moment for celebration and reflection on what it means for our university going forward.

The President then shared the proposed makeup of the selection committee for the CFO. It will include four faculty members, three MPPs, one staff member, and one alumnus. There were no student nominations, but the President will circle back to secure a student member. The initial call to sit on the committee went out in December, and more

recruitment was done in January. Albert Pimentel was chosen as the executive search firm that will be assisting with the work. A draft of the position description has been created, and the interim VP for administration and finance has provided some comments. This search will move quickly since it is already partly through the semester.

C: the student member could be selected from one of the colleges that is not represented.

Q: What will SJSU do to align with CSU AI policy and leverage the procurement of ChatGPT Edu? What will SJSU do to protect data privacy and intellectual property?

A: There has been one meeting with the CIOs to discuss the contractual obligations. We are still learning all the terms and conditions and how this will be deployed. This ChatGPT.Edu is a different version you would get if you paid the \$20 membership fee. There are still some questions about how access to the product will be rolled out across the system and into campuses. There is active work between the Chancellor's Office and Open AI. It is my understanding that ChatGPT.Edu does not relinquish any entitlement or intellectual property rights to Open AI. Our data is protected and owned by the university. A three-pronged approach was announced at the press conference and at the Board of Trustees meeting. Even though we hosted the press conference announcement, we were not involved in any of the contractual obligations.

Q: Should questions be directed to Ed Clark, a CIO for the system?

A: The questions should come through the campus to be sent to Bob Lim. Another point of contact is Senator Rodan, who was on the committee that created some of the recommendations.

C: In discussion relating to the women's volleyball team and trans athletes' rights to participate in college sports in my class, my students across the board expressed a strong sense of care and concern for our students and their well-being and an appreciation for SJSU in public comments standing with their fellow students. It was very important to them that our university showcase and concern and stand with rather than against.

A: Thank you so much for sharing that this has been a difficult situation. I shared last week about the memorandum that SJSU received from the Department of Education, and we did receive an update on that and the process is moving quickly.

Q: Regarding the 17 million price of the ChatGPT.Edu, is there any information on how the cost will be allocated among the different units?

A: I have not received any information on that. It is being managed at the system office. I can share that it will be a one-time funding, and it's for a limited period that the university will be engaged in this system wide contract. Bob Lim has indicated that there may be some other charges that the campus may have to bear if we want to go deeper into the relationship with Open AI or for the use of the tool.

C: The Department of Ed released a letter regarding DEI, stating that federal funds for DEI efforts will be rescinded. This relates to when I was recently taking a refresher course for my research with human subject training. During this training, a message popped up saying this module may contain content that is subject to reinterpretation under recent US Executive Orders regarding policies and regulatory obligations. I found this very alarming. I have sent a message to the ASCSU faculty affairs committee asking them to consider the issues we must address at this point.

A: The letter you are referring to was fairly explicit on withdrawing all DEI, social justice, and any other types of inclusive excellence frameworks and providing a litany of areas we should explore. We know that we will be responding as a system. The Chancellor, our office of the general counsel, and others are looking at this with the appropriate agencies and entities within the state of CA in order to respond.

3. Presentation by Judy Nagai (time certain 12:30 to 1) on Naming of Facilities (confidential)
4. Enrollment Management Reorganization (Provost Del Casino)

The Provost gave an overview of some of the organizational changes that are to come, which will put all the admissions and enrollment functionality for undergraduates in one place.

5. Reorganization of the Policy Committees of the Senate

Senator Baur presented an SMR that will be presented at the Senate meeting on February 24th, which proposes to split ISA into two separate committees, Institutional Affairs and Student Affairs.

C: In the charge for the ConC it says that it will consider representativeness in allocating the senators.

C: For seat descriptions, it might be best to include the designee since titles can change, and it provides flexibility. Also, for committees like this, you want faculty who are really

committed, so maybe instead of rotation, just limit to only one faculty member per college.

The minutes were taken by Grace Barbieri on February 17, 2025, reviewed and accepted by Senate Chair Karthika Sasikumar on February 26, 2025, and approved by the Senate Executive Committee on March 3, 2025.