

California State University, Stanislaus
University Educational Policies Committee
November 30, 2006

Present: J. Brandt, J. Calhoun, B. Carroll, D. Demetrulias, S. Filling, L. Phillips, M. Salisbury, J. Sarraille,
A. Schmidt, K. Smith
Guest: L. Bernardo, N. Ortiz, R. Pugh
Excused: L. Johnson

- I. **Call to Order.** B. Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved as distributed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of November 9, 2006, were approved with the following correction to item V.E. "Assessment of Student Learning (ASL) subcommittee" be added to the list of subcommittees receiving the revised charge.
- IV. **Announcements/Reports.** B. Carroll announced that Senate Executive Committee (SEC) has asked UEPC to consider the use of on-line IDEA: are there differences in samples/responses and the differences between face-to-face versus on-line.
- V. **Old Business**
 - A. **Facilitating Graduation**
 1. **XX/AS/05/GC/UEPC – Declaration or Change of Educational Objectives.** B. Carroll reported that the Academic Senate approved the resolution with minor revision regarding process and forms.
 2. **XX/AS/05/GC/UEPC – Mandatory Advising Within the Major.** B. Carroll stated that the revised resolution has been forwarded to Academic Senate.
 - B. **Academic Technology Subcommittee Clarification of RPT Elaborations.** B. Carroll indicated the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) will forward the Academic Technology subcommittee memorandum on RPT elaborations to department chairs.
 - C. **University Writing Committee Proposal Policy Statement.** B. Carroll announced that he would be attending the next UWC meeting where the GVAR policy will be addressed. Deferred until resolution is received.
 - D. **Strategic Plan.** Following discussion it was determined that the following considerations would be forwarded to SEC:
 - Second sentence of the second paragraph, the phrase "often first-generation student body" and its relation to the observation that CSU Stanislaus is in a "developing region" seemed unclear. A potential, but not fine-tuned alternative might be: "In service to a diverse and developing region, we commit ourselves to engaging and providing access to a diverse student body, many of whom are first-generation students."
 - Increasing classroom space should be mentioned as a priority, probably in section 3.1.
 - Given the mention of "a growing freshman class" in the introductory section of the Plan, it seemed important to make reference to the need to sustain, and perhaps expand, programs relevant to first-year students. (One need not identify specific programs, which we understand was avoided in the preparation of the Plan.)
 - Increasing financial and scholarly support for graduate students should be added to the activities listed in Section 3.3.

- Regarding section 3.7 there was general concern that section 3 as a whole could be read as emphasizing what the community could do for CSU Stanislaus over what CSU Stanislaus could do for the community.
 - In the interest of highlighting CSU Stanislaus' commitment to contributing to the community, sections 3.7 and 3.8 should be moved closer to the beginning – perhaps the very beginning – of section 3.
 - Separate matters involving contributions to the community from those involving the university's public relations. The latter could be incorporated under the "strategic action" of "Enhance our stature regionally."
 - Perhaps increasing the quality of relations between CSU Stanislaus and the city of Turlock, currently a bulleted "activity," should instead be a "strategic action."
- A comparison of the strategic goals dated May 5, 2006 with the proposed plan indicated the statement on diversity and multiculturalism, Objective 1C in the previous document, does not appear in the current version of the Strategic Plan, but it should. The same applies to the reference regarding "flexible faculty workload" in Objective 3C.

E. eLearning (formerly eCollege). B. Carroll announced that the Committee on Committees (COC) approved the membership of the task force. The revised charges will be sent out.

F. XX/AS/05/GC/UEPC - Repeated Courses. Deferred until the next scheduled UEPC meeting.

G. LIBS: Upper Division Integrative Courses. Deferred until the next scheduled UEPC meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Assignment of University Instructional Resources. R. Pugh and L. Bernardo joined the UEPC for a time certain to discuss the assignment of university instructional space. They explained that all courses are scheduled prior to University Extended Education, Summer Bridge courses, and external requests. They reported that for the 1909 courses offered this fall, 1400 changes were requested. Following a discussion L. Bernardo agreed that the scheduling office will send reminders to faculty encouraging them to continue to review the course schedule as changes are being made. Discussion will continue at the next scheduled UEPC meeting.

B. Freshman Advising and Student Orientation. Deferred until further advised by SEC.

C. Grading Scale. B. Carroll invited N. Ortiz to give background information on the student's request for greater consistency of grading scales used by professors in classes. She explained that students had expressed concerns regarding the practice of different professor using different grading scales for the same course. Following a discussion it was confirmed with N. Ortiz, student advocate, that academic freedom affords professors the liberty to set grading scales appropriate to each course. B. Carroll will remind faculty at Academic Senate that if a +/- scale is being used, it must be indicated in the course syllabus.

VII. Subcommittee/University Committee Reports. Minutes were received from the Assessment of Student Learning subcommittee (10/26/06), Academic Technology subcommittee (10/18/06), General Education subcommittee (10/12/06), and Off-Campus/Mediated Distance learning (9/22/06).

VIII. Other (information only)

IX. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next UEPC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Phillips
Recording Secretary

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