May 13, 2003 Academic Senate Minutes

Speaker Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:43 pm. The Speaker asked that the Senate take a moment of silence in memory of Dr. Tom Young.

The agenda was approved as submitted. The minutes were amended on page 4, paragraph three, sentence two, to reflect that Lee Renner is involved with the Faculty Mentor Program through the Summer Bridge Program and Shane Phillips serves as the current director of the Faculty Mentor program. The minutes of April 29, 2003 were then approved as amended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. President Hughes reported that the Board of Trustees is in session as we meet. Vice President Stephens is representing CSUS. There will be very difficult discussions on how to improve our budget situation in a more positive way. We hope to be as successful as what the community colleges have done with the Legislature. Speaker Thompson and she will be lobbying in Sacramento next week before the May revise comes out. On the Board of Trustees agenda is Science Building II, and the good news that is it is continuing on schedule. Also, by Friday or Monday, the position for Assistant to the President for EOIR will be posted.
2. Vice President Morgan Foster reminded Senators that commencement is May 31. Also, Convocation is August 30, 2003.

3. Stone announced that the faculty barbeque is this Saturday.

4. Jaasma announced that an open forum on the summit program will be held today and another tomorrow in MSR 130 C. Next fall the assessment summit will be brought to the Academic Senate. She will be looking for feedback from faculty on this.

5. Peterson reported that this Thursday evening Economics alumni will be talking about their experiences and preparing students for their life after college. The event will be held in the JSRFDC Reference Room at 7 pm.

6. Thompson reminded Senators that a memorial service for Tom Young will be held tomorrow at 4:00 pm at the Pergola. The Speaker talked to Provost Dauwalder and he seems to be improving and we expect him back soon. The General Faculty meeting is this Thursday at 2:30 pm in the JSRFDC Reference Room. Filling and Thompson met with Bill Crist and Linda Bunney Sarhad to discuss the possibility of setting up students and faculty in an exchange program at two universities near Paris. It will be focused mainly on Business students and faculty. Please contact Filling if interested.
7. The Speaker then read the following excerpt from a memo from Linda Bunney Sarhad: “Whether an initiative involves one or many students, is for credit or not for credit, if it occurs outside the U.S. and if it in any way makes use of the name or reputation of CSU Stanislaus, it must follow established campus guidelines, developed to protect participants, faculty leaders, and the university from unnecessary risk. To ensure that the guidelines are followed, international programs must go through a campus authorization process. Once a program has been conceived and departmental consent given, the initiating faculty member should make contact with the Office of Global Affairs, whose staff will provide guidance through the steps necessary to receive campus authorization. Consultation with Global Affairs should occur as early as possible in the planning process.

8. The Speaker thanked the Provost for the refreshments.

ACTION ITEM

a. 11/AS/03/UEPC—First Year Experience

Stone distributed a revised version of the resolution as follows:

RESOLVED: The first year experience program (see attached) shall be piloted to address student needs.

Thompson explained pages 7-16 is additional information.
Questions and Concerns voiced:

- Sarraille voiced concern if approved, it will commit $41,000 over a two-year period. Since we are in hard times and subject to drastic budget cuts, timing is not good to pilot a new program. There is enough flex to reallocate money rather than create a new administrative program. It is conceivable we can use existing programs by increasing capacity. Predisposition of the plan to require this program is troubling. Most students would not thrive in such a program especially if they feel forced to take it. Faculty participating will have to do assessment duties and there is no provision for their workload to be adjusted to do this.

- Zarling stated that although goals of the program are supported, you have to question the timing and method of going about it. Further, cluster courses are cumbersome. Maybe instead have some education for faculty to help them improve their intro courses. And, there are cluster courses nearing completion for GE. We should wait and see how that evaluation comes out before tying our resources to another program.

- Sarraille stated that the issue of the budget should be determined here. If we approve it, bank on it going through and being implemented. We really have to think about budget considerations.

- Stone suggested maybe put money into faculty development and allocate money so we can offer more classes so we can get to know our students. It really is a budget issue.
• Weikart noted that absent from this spreadsheet is the money it will cost for faculty to develop new courses. Also, the problem in History is keeping WTUs down, not raising them. Not good timing. Our retention rate is pretty high so we really don't have a huge problem here.

• Filling suggested using the cluster and liberal studies programs as pilots until we get good data. Also he voiced the notion that stating, “We spend it here or lose it,” does not seem right.

Questions and concerns answered:

• Noble answered that there are several programs that provide support but is limited and can’t be expanded. The academic connection we've wanted we have never had. Also, these programs do not target just freshmen.

• Morgan Foster stated that funding issues should be separate. This is a proposal for a pilot program not funding. Let UBAC and Strategic Goals and Priorities Committee evaluate this for funding.

• Boffman voiced that we can’t afford not to do it. Many students are doing poorly in Economics, Politics, Chemistry and Biology lower division classes.

• Jaasma explained that the assessment for the summit program is just beginning, but what she has found out so far is what students like is they get to know students better by spending three semesters with each other. They come out with lifelong friends and much less fear. Cluster effect has benefit.
• Boffman stated that in benchmark surveys and research studies show that our model has the ingredients of the most successful FYE programs: interactive processes, meaningful discussion, and challenging assignments; peer mentors; linked classes.
• Boffman advised it is not impossible for large classes to participate. Further, this will return to the Senate for final approval.
• Cullinan reminded Senators that this came out of a four year planning process and has faculty support. Our incoming students will be better prepared so they will do better in all of our classes. This money will benefit students. If we don't spend it on this, who knows where the money will go.
• Shipley advised that the Liberal Studies Program has an intro course that serves Liberal Studies freshmen and some other students, and it enrolls 300 students per year. The focus is on preparation for credential students. This type of program can help students stay in school.
• Renner stated that part of his responsibility is sending out letters to probationary students and those academically disqualified. Freshmen are over three quarters of that list. A large part of the reason is that they are not connected academically. Not prepared.
• Oreinstein stated that currently there is no plan or program that gets our students into the library. This is the first time library is partnering with a program putting together assignments in class so they come to the library.
• Sereno stated that she spends a lot of time helping students learn the format, interpreting the catalog. It is
important if they already have an understanding so they would then have more time to study so she supports the program.

- Floyd stated that from a counseling perspective she agrees. Generations of students are coming to college not really prepared and having very little critical thinking. If this is not done now, it will eventually have to be done. This seems to be a modest pilot.
- Gackowski restated that there is a significant segment in need of this program. Seeing how we are spending our money here, should be able to find money for this.

Question called. 26 yes, 8 no. Passed. This will now go to the President for action.

DISCUSSION ITEM

a. Smoking Policy

Thompson noted that at the last meeting, Senators asked that this be kept on the agenda. Macdonald advised that there is no new information to be reported. Thompson opened the floor to discussion. There being no further discussion, the policy will be sent to the President.

b. Grants and Contracts Administration: Transition from Foundation to State

Demetrulias explained the attached overview of the change to consolidate the administrative infrastructure for grants and contracts to the state-side. Currently, the
administration of grants and contracts is split between the State and the Foundation. It should be beneficial to faculty and should not be a hardship from a faculty perspective in development or submission of the grant.

Aronson questioned on the top of page 18 the reference to financing required for 5 acres of land purchased by the ABS. Vice President Strong explained that near the residence halls on Crowell Road the ABS purchased land for future use (one proposal is a parking lot). The issue is that if ABS revenue already is pledged to the Foundation to support grants and contracts expenses, those dollars can’t be used for projects like the development of this land. It is a flexibility issue per Vice President Morgan Foster.

Demetrulias further explained that there are some agencies that require grant recipients to be a 501 (c) 3, which is a different non-profit designation than a University typically has. The University will pursue 501 (c) 3 status so we qualify to accept such grants. We currently have about 25 percent of our grants administered on Foundation and the balance on the state side.

Sarraille stated he would feel better that at some point we heard from people currently being administered by Foundation what they think the impact will be switching to the state side.

Aronson questioned from the perspective of the faculty member developing a grant proposal, gets funded, serves as principal investigator, how will it make a difference for
those faculty. Demetrulias explains that there will be one office on the state side that provides services, and it only goes to HR, accounting, person designated that is the expert. Currently, it is under Foundation and you go there, but when issues or problems occur, some times the infrastructure has been confusing.

Filling questioned what the effect will be on our staff in switching it. Will we be moving staff out? Demetrulias replied that we don't expect to hire new staff, but we also do not expect there to be a reduced work load on the state side so no staff reductions are expected to be generated by this change. Further, she advised they have been meeting with all of the pi's that currently have grants and asking what their concerns are.

Aronson thanked Thompson for his excellent work as Speaker. Thompson thanked SEC for their support and hard work this past year, and thanked Senators for showing up and participating.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.