

California State University, Stanislaus
University Educational Policies Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2011

Present: E. Broadwater, R. Esau (recording), B. Foreman, M. Hight, M. Huang, M. Khodabandeh, H. Kornuta, C. Roe, K. Schoenly, K. Stone

Excused: M. Bender, R. Floyd, L. Johnson, V. Leyva

- I. **Call to Order.** B. Foreman called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved with the addition of Old Business. C. Program Suspension Policy.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of October 13, 2011, were approved as distributed.
- IV. **Announcements/Reports.** M. Khodabandeh, ASI President, reported the Associated Students, Inc. passed a resolution concerning PELL Grants. He is hoping that the state-wide Associated Students would pass it as well. The resolution calls for giving PELL Grant funding priority to public institutions as opposed to “for-profit” institutions who are defaulting on the loans. H. Kornuta reported there will be a Writing Proficiency Screening Test (WPST) Summit on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, from 8:00-9:30 a.m., in MSR 130C. Data sets will be reviewed with the intent of shaping the next WPST data report. The Faculty Coordinator will provide information concerning the WPST process. Discussion will take place concerning the issue of students testing multiple times and not passing. It should be informative and all are welcome to attend.
- V. **Old Business.**
 - A. **Academic Calendar and OIT Server Maintenance Days.** The proposed calendar dates were sent to Faculty Affairs for review and comment. This item is deferred until comments are received from Faculty Affairs.
 - B. **WASC Special Visit Report.** Discussion continued regarding the WASC Special Visit Report. B. Foreman would like to send a memorandum to the Speaker of the Faculty stating the UEPC’s thoughts and impressions of the report as well as recommendations for next steps. The topics of interest include the Mission of the University. Many faculty came to CSU Stanislaus because they were attracted to the teaching mission of the campus and the CSU mission of teaching. The concern is that WASC and the faculty understand the teaching mission but it appears that the current administration desires to take CSU Stanislaus in a more research-oriented direction. The question of what it means to be a larger and more mature institution needs to be addressed. The topic of online teaching was discussed. The UEPC questioned whether the campus conversation about online teaching has been broad enough. Some classes work well in an online format, while other classes do not. It was questioned if a student survey has been conducted to find out what students prefer – online learning versus face-to-face learning? An observation was offered that students have to be fairly mature learners to be able to handle online education. The question of how trust can be rebuilt needs to be addressed. Dialogue and discourse are important to faculty. Together [faculty and administration], we make a better institution. Trust is meant to be developed. Where you’ve lost trust, there are open wounds that need healing and restoration. Respect is paramount in the restoration process. B. Foreman will communicate these thoughts and impressions with

the Speaker of the Faculty in anticipation of the upcoming WASC Special Visit November 7-8, 2011.

- C. Program Suspension Policy.** The Policy for the Suspension and Discontinuance of Academic Programs was sent to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) for Academic Senate consideration. At the SEC meeting, concerns were raised by the Provost regarding the policy. Some of the concerns were addressed with friendly amendments to the policy. The policy will have its first reading at the Academic Senate on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. The Provost will be invited for a time certain at the next scheduled UEPC meeting in order to discuss possible further revisions prior to its second reading scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2011.
- VI. New Business.**
- A. 2010/11 Annual Report: General Education Subcommittee.** The UEPC reviewed the 2010/11 Annual Report from the General Education Subcommittee. Following discussion, it was moved by K. Schoenly, seconded by C. Roe, and voted unanimously to accept the report with gratitude for the work that was conducted by the General Education Subcommittee during 2010/11. It was mentioned that progress is being made to secure a G.E. Faculty Director by January 1, 2012.
- VII. Subcommittee/Committee Reports.** Minutes were received from the Assessment of Student Learning Subcommittee (5/11/11, 9/12/11), the General Education Subcommittee (5/11/11), the Technology and Learning Subcommittee (5/13/11, 9/8/11), and the University Writing Committee (5/9/11).
- VIII. Other (information only).** The next UEPC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2011, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., in MSR 200.
- IX. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randi Esau, Recording Secretary