

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

University Senate Written Reports, November 15, 2016

Standing Committees, Statewide Senators and Ex-officio Members

Academic Policies Committee:

Submitted by Mary Virnoche, APC Chair

Meetings and Work - November 1 - 14, 2016

Members:

<http://www2.humboldt.edu/senate/academic-policies-committee>

November 1, 2016:

Present -Joice Chang, Paul Cummings, Brandon Dolfi, Alex Gradine designee for Mary Glenn, Michael Goodman, Zach Kihm, Heather Madar, Clint Rebik, Mary Virnoche (chair)

Absent - Michael Le

APC members focused on further changes to their latest draft of the *eLearning Quality Assurance Policy*. Committee members provided initial feedback on the document that we now call the *eLearning Course Development Contract*. APC asked Committee Chair Mary Virnoche to invite to the November 8 meeting Alex Hwu, AVP, College of eLearning and Extended Education, and Michael Camann, (HSU) President, California Faculty Association. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Post Meeting Actions: After integrating APC revisions into the documents, Committee Chair Virnoche shared the documents with Alex Hwu and Michael Camann and invited them to the November 8 meeting. Alex Hwu also shared the documents with Kim Vincent Layton, Instructional Designer.

Alex communicated by email that he approved the changes and forwarded a few minor revisions from Kim Vincent Layton. Alex also requested that Chair Virnoche reinsert contract language that provides the option for an instructor to grant the university a royalty free license. Chair Virnoche made that change. Alex Hwu declined coming to the meeting, as he had shared feedback via email.

Michael Camann agreed to attend the next meeting.

November 8, 2016:

Present -Joice Chang, Paul Cummings, Alex Gradine designee for Mary Glenn, Michael Goodman, Zach Kihm, Mary Virnoche (chair)

Absent - Brandon Dolfi, Michael Le, Heather Madar, Clint Rebik

Guest: Michael Camann, (HSU) President, California Faculty Association

Michael Camann clarified that his attendance at the APC meeting did not constitute the “meet and confer” that will be required by the CFA if the University Senate passes the eLearning policy.

The committee made additional revisions to the quality assurance policy and the contract. APC committee members noted that they did not necessarily agree with a few clauses in the documents, but all agreed that they would prefer at this point to get feedback from the University Senate.

APC notes that it did not edit Appendix A of the eLearning Quality Assurance Policy, as members understand that this was an instrument drawn from broader field standards. APC also notes that Appendix B was partially its creation. Much of Appendix B language had been a part of the original “contract” language. The APC decided it was better to keep the contract short and clear. Language specific to the course design content requirements and development timelines became Appendix B.

Michael Goodman moved the eLearning policy documents out of committee and on to the University Senate for a first reading. Joice Chang seconded the motion. There was no dissent. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Post Meeting Actions

Committee Chair Virnoche made the final revisions. She highlighted in yellow clauses that the committee had changed substantively since the version reviewed by Alex Hwu and Kim Vincent Layton. Committee Chair Virnoche forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee the *eLearning Quality Assurance Policy, Appendices A & B*, and the *eLearning Course Development Contract* requesting a first reading at the December 6, 2016 meeting of the University Senate. She concurrently sent the documents to the Dale Oliver, Chair of the Integrated Curriculum Committee, for concurrent comment.

Faculty Affairs Committee:

Submitted by George Wrenn, FAC Chair

The Committee held its seventh and eighth meetings of 2016-17 on Wednesday, November 2 and 9.

Meetings this semester are scheduled for: November 30 and December 14. Meetings are open to the campus community. The Committee currently meets in Library 118 at 8 a.m.

The Faculty Affairs Committee addresses matters involving the individual or collective relationship of faculty to the University. The Committee can be reached through the Senate’s Faculty Affairs web page: <https://www2.humboldt.edu/senate/faculty-affairs-committee>.

Unless otherwise noted, all members were present.

Agenda for November 2:

- 1) Confidential Student Evaluation Resolution (Final Draft)
- 2) Guidelines for Extraordinary Support (First Draft review)

Agenda for November 9:

- 1) Lab Evaluation Instrument (First Review)
 - 2) Guidelines for Extraordinary Support (Next Draft review)
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Meeting notes for November 2:

- 1) Confidential Student Evaluation Resolution (Final Draft)

The resolution was finalized and has gone to SenEx for review and inclusion on the Senate's November 16 agenda. The draft was shared with Associated Students; they have independently developed a student petition in support of confidential evaluations:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/965/318/133/change-student-evaluation-forms/>

The text of the petition reads:

Currently student evaluation forms are submitted electronically and anonymously at the end of each semester. The anonymous submissions allow students to threaten, sexually harass, bully, and/or verbally abuse our faculty without recourse. Although this behavior is extremely rare, it has happened at Humboldt State University, and many other Universities. Professors have been threatened, sexually harassed, bullied, and verbally abused. Due to the anonymous nature of evaluations, students who violate the Student Code of Conduct (and common decency) in this manner are not able to be identified. If student evaluations of faculty were confidential instead of anonymous, appropriate administrators could determine the author of abusive, threatening, bullying, or harassing evaluations. Like most, students strive to learn more and think more critically, our faculty members strive to improve their teaching. As students, we recognize the value of being able to provide honest, constructive criticisms of faculty teaching, and to do so without the faculty knowing our identity. However, as students, we do not want the faculty evaluation instrument to be a platform for abuse, threats, harassment, or bullying of faculty. Fellow students who engage in such behavior(s) should be held accountable. It is simply unacceptable that someone could hide behind anonymous teaching evaluations and threaten, harass, bully, or abuse faculty.

We the undersigned students at Humboldt State University, therefore urge the HSU Administration, California State University Chancellor's Office, and the California Faculty Association to change the currently existing "anonymous" evaluation to "confidential" evaluations.

- 2) Guidelines for Extraordinary Support (First Draft review)

The committee began drafting guidelines. Language is being pulled from the 2016 I.P. policy revision.

Meeting notes for November 9:

- 1) Lab Evaluation Instrument (First Review)

Committee discussion was postponed pending further work by Mark Wilson and John Steele, who are revising questions to better reflect lab goals. The Committee will review the draft instrument at the November 30th meeting.

2) Guidelines for Extraordinary Support (Next Draft review)

The Committee concluded its discussion of the draft guidelines document following consideration of language related to written agreements and extraordinary support.

Next steps: a Senate resolution with Guidelines attached will be forwarded to SenEx for review.

University Policies Committee:

Submitted by John Meyer, UPC Chair

UPC met at 8am on 11/14. Meyer, Ortega, Achilli, Hickcox, Sadeghzadeh, Lopes present.

We addressed the following items:

- 1) Revisions to the University Policy on Policies, Procedures and Guidelines, to incorporate feedback received at the Senate meeting on November 1st, and other subsequent recommendations. Modification to the Senate resolution designed to acknowledge the need for future procedures and guidelines to manage new policy workload. Revised documents approved by the committee.
 - 2) Discussion of proposed Academic Advisory committee on IT, following up on conversation with stakeholders at previous meeting (10/31/16). UPC sought greater clarity regarding our role in recommendations on university committees. Sense of the committee is that in this case and generally, our goal should be to gather relevant information and propose guidelines for consideration, but not more. Conversation will continue.
 - 3) Acknowledged receipt of 3 policy changes referred by SenEx, to be considered at 11/28/16 meeting:
 - Proposed Animals on Campus policy
 - Decommissioning of web accessibility policy
 - Revision to campus email accounts policy
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ASCSU Statewide Senate:

Submitted by Mary Ann Creadon, ASCSU Statewide Senator

Committee meetings and the plenary were dominated by discussions of the possible tuition increase, and ways to discuss with the Board of Trustees and the legislature the implementation of the Quantitative Reasoning Task Force Report, and the status of general education in the CSU. Chancellor White's visit included discussions of tenure density and the tuition increase. His visit was preceded by

one from Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget, who discussed the CSU Support Budget and possible student fee increase. The full text of resolutions is available at:

<http://calstate.edu/acadsen/Records/Resolutions/>

Resolutions Passed

AS-3268-16/FGA (Rev) ACR 158 (Holden): Undergraduate Student Transfers: *Background:* Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 158 was introduced in response to the difficulty one student had in transferring a course between two CSU campuses. The situation was resolved. But the California State Assembly and Senate passed the resolution to encourage the Academic Senates of the California Community Colleges (CCCs), CSU and UC to expedite their efforts to streamline the transfer process and to ensure that all General Education Credits can transfer between all three systems. The full text of ACR 158 is available at http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab_0151-0200/acr_158_bill_20160825_chaptered.html.

In response to ACR 158, *AS-3268-16/FGA (Rev) ACR 158 (Holden)* reaffirms the ASCSU's longstanding commitment to improving student transfer within and among California's three public higher education segments, and asserts its continued support for existing CSU policies that facilitate such transfers. It emphasizes the ASCSU's willingness to collaborate with the California Legislature to further improve undergraduate student transfers and requests that members of the California State Senate and Assembly first consult with the ASCSU when considering future legislative actions that might impact the CSU system.

AS-3269-AA/APEP (Rev) Course Grading in the Golden Four:

Background: In 2011 the ASCSU passed AS-3020-11/APEP/AA (Rev) Grade Minima for CSU General Education Courses in the "Golden Four," that called for a minimum of a C (2.0) for the award of GE credit in the "Golden Four" (written communication, oral communication, mathematical/quantitative reasoning and critical thinking). In 2015, Executive Order (EO) 1100, Section 2.2.2 required the 2.0 grade for all native and transfer students. The CSU subsequently issued Coded Memorandum ASA-2016-8 "Basic Subject Courses and the Grade of C-" which stated, "*Students performing at the low end of the scale at any CSU or external campuses that do not award C- might likely receive C grades. The consequence is that the literal intention of section 2.2.2 of Executive Order 1100 cannot be evenly enforced*". The memorandum, issued without consultation with faculty, consequently imposed grade minima of C- for the "Golden Four." Subsequent to the issuance of the coded memorandum, a working group of faculty and Chancellor's Office staff was created to explore solutions other than those in ASA-2016-8.

AS-3269-AA/APEP (Rev) Course Grading in the Golden Four is based on the results of the work groups' efforts. It recommends that course-to-course transfer of credit for lower division basic subjects in the Golden Four follow the rules for GE credit from the institution where the student completed the course. It also reiterates ASCSU support for grade minima of C (2.0) in each course of the "Golden Four," and encourages the adoption of a systemwide rule that a grade lower than C- will not yield CSU Golden Four GE credit regardless of the institution of origin.

AS-3270-16/APEP (Rev) Implementation of the Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (QRTF)

Recommendations: This resolution endorses the recommendations in the QRTF Report and asks the

Chancellor's Office, in collaboration with the ASCSU, to engage appropriate stakeholders in the implementation of those recommendations. For the full text of the report, see <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Reports/index.shtml>.

AS-3271-16/AA (Rev) Establishment of an Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) Task Force to Study General Education: This resolution calls for the creation of an ASCSU task force to examine, offer suggestions, and report on GE programs systemwide. The resolution indicates that the work of the task force may include, among other things, analyzing the data generated by the recent Chancellor's Office systemwide survey of campus GE programs, identifying best practices in communicating GE pathways and requirements to students and assessing student learning outcomes, identifying ways to coordinate transferability of GE courses without sacrificing academic quality or campus autonomy and reviewing EO 1100, "General Education Breadth Requirements," and to provide recommendations for revision if warranted. The impetus for the resolution is to maintain currency in GE programs, identify best practices across the system and respond to increasing interest in CSU GE by external stakeholders.

AS-3273-16/FGA Support for the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees (BOT) 2017-18 Budget Request: According to the rationale for this resolution, at this early stage, the state's funding plan for the CSU does not include sufficient resources to meet the CSU 2017-18 preliminary budget plan. The resolution conveys the ASCSU's support for the CSU BOT 2017-18 budget request for additional monies from the state, over and above the \$157.2 million funding commitment to the CSU by the Governor for student success, completion and access, infrastructure/facilities and employee compensation. It also urges that in its request, the BOT allocate at least half the monies for the Graduation Initiative 2025 to assist in resolving the tenure density issue in the CSU by hiring and retention of tenure track faculty to improve student success and access.

AS-3275/AA/APEP Commendation of Ken O'Donnell: This resolution is a commendation for Ken O'Donnell for his accomplishments while serving as CSU Senior Director of Student Engagement. O'Donnell recently left the Chancellor's Office to take a position as Associate Vice President for Student Success Integration and Assessment at CSU Dominguez Hills.

First Reading Resolutions

AS-3276-16/FA Academic Freedom Policy:

Background: In January 2015 the ASCSU approved a resolution requesting that "...the Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees draft a comprehensive policy on academic freedom in consultation with ASCSU representatives." (AS-3197-14/ FA The Need for a Comprehensive CSU Policy on Academic Freedom, <https://www.calstate.edu/acadsen/Records/Resolutions/2014-2015/documents/3197.shtml>) After some delay the CSU Office of General Counsel informed the ASCSU that academic freedom is within the scope of bargaining, and in the absence of a formal CFA relinquishment of its collective bargaining rights on academic freedom the administration will not join the CFA and ASCSU to discuss the issue. In October 2016 the administration sent the ASCSU a draft policy, developed by the administration with no consultation with the faculty, and asked for ASCSU input. FA found that the draft ignores recommendations of past ASCSU resolutions, violates policies on academic freedom developed by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), and keeps the CSU way behind other universities in respect to academic freedom policies.

FA subsequently developed its own academic freedom policy.

AS-3276-16/FA Academic Freedom Policy reaffirms the ASCSU's strong commitment and constitutional responsibility to "advance the principles of academic freedom and freedom of inquiry" and approves the academic freedom policy developed by the Faculty Affairs (FA) Committee. It also urges the CSU to adopt the FA academic freedom policy as a model for a comprehensive and updated systemwide policy.

AS-3277-16/FA Lactation Resource Policy and Practices in the California State University: The rationale for this resolution states that many CSU campuses have failed to develop or adequately implement policies that meet the basic standards and criteria in existing law regarding lactation resources. In the resolution, the ASCSU recognizes the importance and value of adequate lactation resources for all members of the CSU community and calls for the review of existing policies and the development of new policies on campuses where there is none. A series of specific recommendations includes a call for campus policies to comply with existing law by requiring a minimum number of dedicated and regularly-maintained lactation stations on each campus, and for all plans for new CSU multi-use buildings to include easily accessible, dedicated lactation resources.

AS-3278-16/APEP A Call for Increased Funding to the California State University to Avert a Tuition Increase: The CSU has announced a potential tuition increase of \$270.00 for the 2017-18 academic year. This resolution acknowledges the significant disinvestment in the CSU by the state of California over the last decade, acknowledges the burden even a modest tuition increase can impose, especially on vulnerable student populations and encourages the CSU, ASCSU and California State Student Association (CSSA) to continue to engage in sustained joint advocacy to secure adequate state funding to avert the need for a tuition increase. The CSSA has expressed its opposition to the proposed increase and created a website to keep the public informed about the proposal and its position and plans for action. The website url is <http://tuition.calstatestudents.org/>. CFA also opposes the increase.