

Chair Van Duzer called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, Nelson Hall East, Room 201 (Goodwin Forum). A quorum was present.

Members Present: Abell, Alderson, Aronoff, August, Blake, Bruce, Ciarcia, Cromatie, Dye, Eschenbach, Gold, Kelly, Marschke, Mortazavi, Moyer, Nordstrom, Ortega, Pierce, Saner, Shaeffer, Shellhase, Snyder, Thobaben, Van Duzer, VerLinden, Virnoche, Yarnall, Young, Zerbe.

Members Absent: Johnson, Richmond.

Guests: Heise, Mullery, Goodman, S. Smith, Flashman, Paynton, Burges, Ayoob, Lee.

1. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of December 6, 2011

M/S/P (Mortazavi/Ortega) to approve the minutes from the meeting of December 6, 2011 as written. Motion PASSED with 1 abstention.

2. Reports, Announcements, and Communications of the Chair

The University Executive Committee now has a formalized charge and membership. The membership has been expanded to include a staff member. The Committee's charge is: The University Executive Committee (UEC) is an advisory body to the President on issues of importance to the University; the UEC coordinates with the University Senate on major policy initiatives and other strategic matters; the UEC is a means to disseminate information from the President as well as from other members of the senior management team.

Chair Van Duzer read aloud the following letter from President Richmond:

Dear Colleagues:

I very much regret that I cannot attend the inaugural meeting of the University Senate. I must attend a meeting of the Trustees of the California State University in Long Beach today and tomorrow. I very much appreciate the willingness of you and the entire faculty to reconsider our approaches to shared governance and have high expectations for the success of this endeavor. I will do all I can to work with you to do all we can to protect and enhance the learning opportunities we provide for our students and the opportunities for faculty and staff to have productive and happy lives as Humboldt employees. Our Provost, Bob Snyder, and his vice presidential colleagues have my strong support and can speak for me when I cannot attend other meetings.

We have reviewed my calendar for the remainder of the semester and find that I will not be able to attend meetings on the following dates as well: Feb. 7 ... March 27 ... April 10 ... April 24 ... May 8

Again, my apologies for not attending some of your meetings. I wish you all well in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,
Rollin C. Richmond
President

3. Reports of Standing Committees, Statewide Senators, and Ex-officio Members (Written reports included in packet)

Written reports from the Senate Executive Committee, Academic Policies Committee, and Integrated Curriculum Committee were included in the Senate packet. To the extent possible, individuals who regularly report to the Senate will be asked to provide written reports.

The Provost reported on the most recent University Budget Committee (UBC) meeting. The Committee reviewed a set of numbers which provided best estimates of revenue projections. HSU has ca. \$12 million dollars in one-time funding and ca. \$7-8 million dollars in non-allocated base funding. The UBC had a general discussion of strategies for forming a budget based on these figures. On February 15, the UBC a more detailed budget will be presented for review.

Campus Climate Committee (Gold): The Committee will review the draft membership and charge and make a recommendation to the University Senate, so that it can be added to the Senate Bylaws. It will also be looking at campus policies regarding campus climate and consider doing a campus climate survey.

- 4. Consent Calendar from the Integrated Curriculum Committee (ICC) –** There were no items on the Consent Calendar.
- 5. TIME CERTAIN: 4:15-4:30 – Open forum for the campus community –** There were no speakers for the open forum.
- 6. TIME CERTAIN: 4:30-4:45 – Report on the AAUP Conference on Shared Governance (David Heise, Chair, Philosophy Dept. and Colleen Mullery, AVP for Faculty Affairs)**

Colleen Mullery thanked the Academic Senate and the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) for sponsoring her attendance at the conference. She provided her overall impressions of the climate/mood of the conference, which occurred a few days after the SB 5 ballot measure in Ohio was soundly defeated. The Ohio measure would have repealed the rights of workers to unionize and would have had a significant impact on higher education. She noted that the tone in several sessions she attended was one of faculty versus administrators; which seemed at odds for a conference on shared governance.

She attended sessions on how to make senates more effective and will share some of that information with the Faculty Affairs Committee. Reports from attendees varied greatly in terms of what was happening on their own campuses: some were in the process of establishing a senate while some were struggling with how to keep faculty engaged in governance.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) has an excellent web site as well as a set of published Policy Documents & Reports (commonly referred to as the “red book”). Senators were encouraged to look at the materials. There is information and advice on many issues, including how to keep people engaged in the senate, how to run orderly meetings and talk about substantive topics, etc. It was noted that AAUP activists will sometimes make recommendations (e.g., recommending that administrators not have a vote on a senate), but they do not speak for AAUP as an organization.

The Faculty Handbook is an important resource for faculty and more attention should be paid to it. Upon request, the AAUP will review a handbook and provide advice.

Professor David Heise also thanked the Senate and OAA for funding his attendance at the conference. There were mostly faculty at the conference and there was a ‘tone’ at the conference, partly as a result of tensions created by rough financial times.

The AAUP offers advice on how to make senate sessions more effective, how to get faculty involved through communication, etc. The AAUP does not offer advice on issues such as administrators not having votes on campus. Overall, he felt HSU is doing pretty well in terms of the senate.

He attended a session on the Garcetti case [Garcetti v. Ceballos]. Because of the Supreme Court’s decision on the case, state employees are not protected under freedom of speech. It is recommended that language changes be made in bargaining agreements to specifically protect academic freedom in “teaching, research, and shared governance.” The University of Delaware is one campus that has made this change.

A video was shown at a session on how unions and senates can work better together; he is trying to locate a copy of the video. At a session on faculty review of administrators, a handout was provided on how one campus used a campus climate survey. Another session on what senates need to know about budgets discussed ways of getting the most accurate picture of what you’re looking at, e.g. how to figure out the “true” costs. The information was from a 2-day summer institute that is given every year by accounting professors. He will share this information with anyone on the HSU senate and/or budget committee.

Q: Could some of these issues be put on senate committee agendas? The academic freedom issue seems to be important. A: This will go to the Senate Executive Committee.

AVP Mullery and Professor Heise both offered to share more information with committees.

Senator Mortazavi reported that a recent resolution on academic freedom from the ASCSU was not approved by Chancellor Reed. There is a good possibility that at the March plenary session there may be a vote of no confidence in Chancellor Reed.

Interested was expressed in the campus climate survey. The survey discussed at the conference was done by SUNY – at various campuses.

Q: What is the difference between a campus climate survey and a COACHE Survey? A: The COACHE Survey is a significant survey instrument done out of Harvard. It is used by universities throughout the country and provides standardized benchmarks and comparisons. It is costly. Currently an arrangement between the CSU and COACHE is under consideration.

7. Governor's Budget Update (Bob Snyder, Provost and Burt Nordstrom, VP for Administrative Affairs)

Vice President Nordstrom reviewed the status of the State of California and CSU budgets. On December 13, the Governor announced budget cuts, including a \$100 million trigger cut to the CSU. For HSU, this would mean a permanent base cut of \$2.5 million.

In 2007/08 the CSU budget was \$2.97 billion. For 2012/13 it is ca. \$2 billion. According to the compact, the CSU has a \$1.8 billion budget gap. It is noteworthy that the system has been able to maintain the provision of educational services under these circumstances.

The Governor's budget in January 2012 does not augment the CSU budget. It imposes new trigger cuts for December 2012, based on the Governor's tax bill passing. If it does not pass, it will trigger a \$200 million cut to the CSU.

If the tax bill passes, the State will give the CSU a 4% increase (ca. \$2.4 million), which will barely cover additional mandatory costs. Even if the tax bill passes, it is questionable what the HSU budget will look like. The CSU system office has indicated that they think there is a chance the tax bill could fail and that campuses need to be planning for the event of a budget shortfall. It is difficult to do good planning when information for only 6 months out is available from the State.

The Provost noted that if the Governor's tax bill passes, the 4% budget increase would fund enrollment increases, salary increases, and mandatory cost increases. Each campus would have to figure out how to use the 4% increase.

Q: Are there any plans for eliminating programs at HSU? A: The system is looking at consolidating administrative and project tasks where possible; there has not been any discussion of eliminating programs on campuses.

It was noted that HSU is now the second most expensive of the CSU campuses.

It was noted that the Governor has proposed changes to CalGrants that may affect enrollment at HSU. Private institution can no longer give out any more than what the CSU provides. There are new regulations raising grade point average requirements, which would eliminate a number of students who don't meet the new eligibility requirements.

8. Appointment of Faculty Member to Serve on the Enrollment Management Working Group's Steering & Implementation Committee

The Provost provided information about the Committee which will oversee the Enrollment Management Plan and the work of the subcommittee on graduation and retention. There were no volunteers from the Senate, so a call will be put out to the General Faculty.

9. Review of Parliamentary Procedure (Greg Young, Parliamentarian)

Senator Young provided an overview and introduction to the use of parliamentary procedure. The use of parliamentary rules should be empowering and should help with the governing process.

The purpose of the Parliamentarian is to advise the Senate Chair as needed. The Chair makes all decisions and ruling. Parliamentary procedure is intended 1) to allow the Senate to move more readily through its business, 2) to ensure a majority decision on all important actions, and 3) to protect minority viewpoints.

Speakers need to be recognized by the Chair to speak and the Chair has discretion regarding speakers.

Page 4 of the handout "Brief Resume of Parliamentary Rules from Sturgis" was reviewed and the following points noted:

- The order of precedence for motions is not the order of importance; it is the order in which issues are to be dealt with in order to get to the most important issue, i.e. which question does it make sense to answer first?
- It is important to utilize correct language when making a motion to make it clear what kind of motion is being made.

- It is out of order to introduce a motion on the same level as one that is currently before the body; it is also out of order to raise a motion that is higher in number/lower in precedence than the current motion.
- To make a motion, a speaker states: "I move that ..."
- It is okay to ask a question (parliamentary inquiry) at any time of the chair or to ask the chair to ask a question of a speaker. It is important to know what you are voting on.
- "Point of order" is used when something in the procedure is being violated. The Chair will make a ruling. It is best if 'points of order' are safe, legal, and rare.
- Debate may be brought to conclusion by a motion to "close debate and vote immediately" (which requires a 2/3 majority) or the Chair may call for a vote if it seems everyone is ready to vote.
- Motions to amend (add, delete, or alter a motion on the floor) may be made. An amendment on the floor can have one motion to amend, but no further amendments may be made until it is dealt with.
- Anything may be amended before it is put on the floor. However, once it is read to the body, it belongs to the body. Friendly amendments may be made 'without objection' by members of the body.

Senator Young is willing to answer questions at any time. He noted that Sturgis has a handy list at the back of most common 'mistakes', i.e. drifting off topic, failing to ask questions, etc.

Q: At what point does the Chair decide if a roll call vote is needed? A: Any member of the assembly may request a roll call vote. If a voice vote is not clear, the Chair may request a vote by show of hands. A roll call vote identifies and records by name each vote.

10. Appointment of Senators to Fill Vacancies on Senate Standing Committees (See list of vacancies and volunteers in packet)

The Senate Bylaws require that every member of the Senate serve on a committee, but there are not enough committee positions for this to happen. It was proposed that senators be assigned to fill some of the 'at large' positions on senate standing committees for Spring 2012, in order to get the committee up and running.

Concerns were expressed at the Senate Executive Committee meeting that standing committees had too many members. Modifying the size of the committees is a Bylaws issue.

Concern was expressed about having senators replace 'faculty at large' on committees. This would be a short-term solution, until a call can be put out to all faculty to fill committee positions for Fall 2012. It was noted that committee meetings are open, and potentially interested faculty could attend meetings this spring.

M/S (Gold/Abell) to reduce the size of the senate standing committees so they can meet more efficiently.

Discussion:

- The motion is too vague and some of the committees are already small. Each committee should recommend for itself.

M/S (Thobaben/Bruce) to amend the motion (by substituting) the following: "to reduce the committees for this semester only and forward the issue to the Bylaws Committee."

Senator Gold requested to withdraw his main motion. It was withdrawn without objection from the body.

- Concern was expressed that the discussion about the number of members on committees needs to include representation as well.

Voting on the amendment (substitute) to the [withdrawn] main motion occurred and Passed.

The following senators will serve as indicated:

Julie Alderson – Appointments and Elections Committee

M/S (Moyer/Shellhase) to adjourn the senate meeting and assign this to the Appointments and Elections Committee.

Discussion:

- A smaller group would not know people's schedules.

The motion was withdrawn without objection.

Continued assignments:

Mary Virnoche – Faculty Affairs Committee

Nancy Dye – Faculty Affairs Committee

Charlotte August – Appointments and Elections Committee

Matt Johnson – Academic Policies Committee

Gina Pierce – University Resources and Planning Committee

Jeremy Shellhase – Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Ben Marschke – Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Noah Zerbe – Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Beth Eschenbach – Campus Climate Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.