

2004/2005 Academic Senate

**MINUTES
April 29, 2005**

I. The meeting w

Chair Nellen said, "If you haven't told the Associate Vice Chair/Chair of Committee on Committees which committee you'd like to be on next year, please do so today. Also, the Senate Office, other than where the Chair sits, is finally going to be refurbished. The office will be closed June 6-13, 2005. You may reach the Chair by phone and email during this week."

Chair Nellen said, "The changes we made to the SJSU Shared Values have been made and posted to the Strategic Planning website."

Chair Nellen said, "About a month ago we passed a resolution to make a modification to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) policy to say people presenting protocols should go through some required training. I learned today that the Graduate Studies and Research Office and Faculty Development and Support are working on both an online training module and a workshop. They hope to have this in place within the next month."

Chair Nellen said, "The Executive Committee inv0h 12 105u Tw31096NE012 QiwVf-0.3.0156 Tf-0.000



tenure should be extended?” Chair Nellen said, “The thought was that it would be extended one year. Interim President Kassing had already semi

amendment to read, “For courses in which there is a comprehensive examination or evaluation...” The Bros amendment was not friendly. Senator Lessow-Hurley withdrew her amendment. Senator Buzanski made a motion to return the resolution to the I&SA Committee. The Senate voted and the Buzanski motion passed.

Senator Thames presented *AS 1292, Policy Recommendation, Modification to F04-2, Changing the Schedule Adjustment Period (First Reading)*. Senator Thames said, “The reason for this policy is to change the schedule adjustment period (last day to add and last day to drop) to make it earlier in the semester by one week. Currently, there is not enough time between the last day to drop and the census date, to get all the adds in place. This is causing us to lose FTES.”

Questions:

Senator Buzanski said, “I’m confused as to the reason for the 2nd Resolved clause.” Senator Thames said, “W

Chairs thought that the changes created more legislation and more work for faculty.”

Senator Wilson said, “What would happen if a lecturer doesn’t get into the job by the first day of class and a syllabus isn’t prepared? Would they be in breach of contract? Senator Thames said, “Exceptions can be made with the approval of the department Chair.”

Senator Hebert said, “I don’t know how many students I’m going to have for several weeks. If I have a smaller class, then I can give them more to do. Why have the syllabi due to students the first day of class? Students have several weeks to make a decision as to whether they want to take the class or not.” Senator Thames said, “We tried to make enough leeway here to say that the Green Sheets may change, and the calendar may change. The Green Sheet is not a legal contract, it is more of a professional agreement.”

Senator Sabalius said, “Has the committee considered separating the concept of the Green Sheet as a contract between faculty and their students, and the concept of syllabus in the terms of schedule or calendar? In my opinion, these are two different things.” Senator Thames said, “No, we didn’t consider breaking it up that way. What we did talk about was pulling out the parts that were universal to the university and putting them on a website, or having faculty members put them on their own website.”

Senator Heisch said, “Having the Green Sheets be due on the first day of class is something that is likely to be violated routinely, would you consider changing that?” Senator Thames

Senator Von Till said, “I wonder if the committee looked at the new faculty and lecturer’s handbook. It has guidelines for Green Sheets and contains that exact language that must be in them?” Senator Thames said, “I saw some of that handbook.”

Senator Buzanski said, “My question has to do with whether the committee considered the waste of trees in requiring the repetition of certain information on every Green Sheet? Senator Thames said, “We did talk about that and put the cost in the financial impact. However, our main goal is student success.”

Senator Hebert said, “Students think of the Green Sheet as a contract. If a faculty member changes the Green Sheet midway through the semester, how will the students feel about this?” Senator Thames said, “The instructor has the right to change the Green Sheet.” Senator Nguyen said, “Students just pencil in the changes.”

Senator Sabalius said, “In some colleges the Green Sheets are a required part of the Retention-Tenure-Promotion (RTP) process. I have seen college committees and Deans comment on the quality of the Green Sheets. Have you considered the impact of the Green Sheet on the RTP and peer reviews.” Senator Thames said, “I think we need to discuss this more.”

Senator Pour said, “Some colleges require faculty to justify changes to their Green Sheets. If the Green Sheet is required to be given out the first day, what are faculty to do to avoid a problem with changes?” Senator Thames said, “The committee felt this was covered by the department Chairs being able to authorize exceptions.”

Senator Buzanski said, “Would a person have to have a whole new Green Sheet for book changes?” Senator Thames, “That would just be a modification to the existing Green Sheet.”

Senator Veregge said, “How can you enforce this policy?” Senator Thames said, “Some Chairs said you could dock pay.” Senator Sigler said, “In instances where a student complained that there was no Green Sheet, actions such as the following were taken: reprimand, suspension, demotion, and docking the faculty member’s pay. The most common complaint by students was that they did not know how grades were going to be assigned.” Senator Thames said, “That matches what the Ombudsman said to us.”

Senator Donoho said, “Would you consider adding a Resolved clause to designate Chairs to provide this policy to their newly hired faculty after their orientation.” Senator Thames, “I’ll discuss with the committee.”

Senator Van Selst said, “Would you consider checking with the Provost on what can be done if the policy isn’t followed, and what the current policy is?” Senator Thames said, “This is a bigger issue than just this policy and involves what happens to any faculty member that doesn’t follow any university policy. I don’t want my committee involved in debating that.”

Senator Hebert said, "In our contract, we have infractions. They can include penalties from a letter of reprimand to disciplinary procedures. And, if you are disciplined, the minimum penalty is one month suspension without pay up to and including termination."

E. University Library Board –

Senator Heisch said, "I need to ask the Chair whether I can present AS 1294, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Endorsing the Annual Report of the University Library Board? I also have a one-page handout on donating books to the Library." Chair Nellen said, "The report was provided to the Senate on Monday, April 25, 2005, but the re105.363v8iStT1raLe Tm(e Annual Rea

Senator Campsey said, "I can see something has happened that has provoked you or your department, but I can't tell what it is in the resolution. It would better help me to understand the resolution if I knew what it was?" Senator Kellum Tf12 0 0 122nsvB what has f12 0 0 12 315.63 685p r

resentment about having to write learning objectives, and the learning objectives we wrote for our general education courses most of us don't pay any real attention to. We teach to the course outline and the curriculum. Most of us don't teach to the learning outcomes. Maybe that's because the learning outcomes didn't come from us, they came from above. We wrote the learning outcomes to get the Board of General Studies (BOGS) and WASC off our back."

Debate:

Senator Norton said, "WASC is basically controlled by the universities' administrations. In other words they know what they are doing. Second, this is in response to the demands of state governments for accountability. WASC is making it easier for us to get our appropriations. WASC is not just somebody out there. WASC is part of the overarching structure of higher education."

Senator Sabalius said, "We may have no choice but to comply with WASC's requests, but this resolution allows us to articulate our concerns and objections to WASC. We should give WASC some feedback instead of just always fulfilling their requests. We should let them know what the consequences of their requests are. WASC's requests change our curriculum. They take decisions away from faculty about how to run their courses, and give these decisions to administrative institutions that don't necessarily know better what to teach in the courses."

Senator Lessow-Hurley said, "I would oppose this resolution, because I think it is poorly crafted and politically unwise."

Senator Hebert proposed an amendment to add a new fourth whereas clause to read, "Whereas, outcomes assessment is an unproven methodology for accreditation of large universities." The Senate voted and the Hebert amendment failed.

Senator Norton proposed an amendment to change the resolved clause to read, "Be it Resolved: That the Executive Committee is requested to refer this resolution to an appropriate policy committee to investigate the impact of WASC on San José State University and make a recommendation to the Senate." The amendment was not friendly.

IX. State of the University Announcements. Questions: In rotation.

- A. Associated Students President – Moved to next meeting**
- B. Statewide Academic Senator(s) – Moved to next meeting**
- C. Provost – Moved to next meeting**
- D.**