

**2004/2005 Academic Senate**

**MINUTES  
May 9, 2005**

**I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. and attendance was taken. Forty-Two Senators were present.**

**Ex Officio:**

Present: Nellen, Van Selst, Sabalius  
Absent: McNeil, Kassing, Greathouse

**CASA Representatives:**

Present: David, Fee, Gonzalez, Hooper

**Administrative Representatives:**

Present: Sigler, Ashton, Phillips, Lee

**COB Representatives:**

Present: Donoho, Campsey, El-Shaieb

**Deans:**

Present: Breivik, Stacks, Wei, Meyers

**ED Represent:**

Present: Parsons, Maldonado-Colon, Lessow-Hurley

**Students:**

Present: Kelly, Lam  
Absent: Stillman, Gadamsetty,  
Bjerkek, Nguyen

**ENG Representatives:**

Present: Pour, Singh  
Absent: Choo

**Alumni Representative:**

Present: Thompson

**H&A Representatives:**

Present: Heisch, Desalvo, Van Hooff, Hilliard  
Absent: Williams, Vanniarjian

**Emeritus Representative:**

Present: Buzanski

**SCI Representatives:**

Present: Veregge, McClory, Kellum, Scharberg, Bros

**Honorary Senators (Non-Voting):**

Present: Norton

**SOS Representatives:**

Present: Hebert, Von Till  
Absent: Propas

**General Unit Representatives:**

Present: Thames, Liu

**SW Representative:**

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on, please do so right away. Also, if you plan to run for one of the Senate Officer positions for 2005/2006, please get your nominating statement to Eva Joice, Senate Administrator, as soon as possible so that she can load on the website. We will try and email those out as well.”

Chair Nellen said, “On April 25, 2005, we passed a resolution urging President Kassing and Provost Sigler to become partners with the AAC&U in their efforts to join them in their decade-long campaign to promote a broader and stronger understanding of the importance of a liberal education. They did sign the document, and we have joined. The Executive Committee will be looking for some activities for the campus to pursue, and the Educated Person Dialogue will identify some additional actions. The last brown-bag meeting for the Educated Persons Dialogue will be this Wednesday, May 11, 2005, at noon in IRC 101. I hope some of you can attend.”

Chair Nellen said, “One thing I would like to see us pursue is having an annual campus forum where people who are involved in activities such as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), ABET, and other groups give an annual update at the forum.”

**B. From the President of the University – None**

**IV. Executive Committee Report –**

**A. Executive Committee Minutes – None**

**B. Budget Advisory Committee Minutes – None**

**C. Consent Calendar –** The Senate approved the Consent Calendar as amended.

**D. Executive Committee Action Items:**

Senator Donoho presented *AS 1293, Policy Recommendation, The Planning and Budget Process at SJSU (Final Reading)*. Senator Donoho presented several friendly amendments. In the last Resolved clause where it says S04-3, that should be “F04-3.” And,

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**voted and AS 1290 passed.**

Senator Veregge presented *AS 1297, Policy Recommendation, Modification of F90-4, Review of Department Chairs (First Reading)*. Senator Veregge said, “The reason for this policy is that some departments wanted to change the process for requesting a formal review of the department chair. In reviewing the policy, the committee felt that any faculty member should be able to request a formal review of the department chair by the Dean. This does not mean that the Dean is mandated to do a review. The review is at the discretion of the Dean.”

**Questions:**

Senator Wei said, “We need a threshold, otherwise this will put the Deans on the spot to respond to every request.” Senator Veregge said, “We don’t have a threshold, what threshold do you recommend?” Senator Wei said, “50%.”

Senator Norton said, “The principal point is to let the Dean know there is a problem.”

Senator Campsey said, “Without a threshold, wouldn’t the Dean appear to be protecting an unpopular Chair?” Senator Veregge asked, “What threshold do you suggest?” Senator Campsey said, “51% of voting faculty.” Senator Veregge said, “One of the reasons this was brought to our committee is that some departments have over 50% of the faculty that are lecturers. These departments felt that there might be undue pressure on the lecturers to support the Chair, and that the regular faculty should be able to request a review of a Chair.”

Senator Von Till said, “I have a question from the Chair of the Council of Chairs. First, the threshold of 50% may be too high. However, there should be some threshold, because as currently written a single faculty member could request a review. Also, would you consider some language that would require the Dean to investigate whether a request is justified?” Senator Veregge said, “Deans aren’t obliged to do anything, so are you suggesting we put language in that would require the Dean to investigate?” Senator Von Till said, “Yes.”

Senator McClory said, “I agree with Senator Von Till that the 51% threshold is too high, but we do need some threshold. Maybe the threshold could be if more than one faculty member signs the petition.”

Senator Sigler said, “Have you considered, for example, using 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the faculty as the threshold? I had only one case where a faculty member asked me to review a department Chair as Dean of Humanities and the Arts. When I said that I would consider it if the person brought me a petition with the signatures of 50% of the faculty, I never heard from the person again. I would encourage

making a significant policy change.” Senator Veregge said, “The electorate is currently defined as regular faculty and temporary faculty with a vote that is proportionate to their appointment. The committee did consider modifying the electorate in this amendment to be the temporary faculty that have a multi-year contract. We used the faculty voting rights policy to define electorate.”

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under the General Greensheet Procedures section to “electronic.” Senator Sabalius made a friendly amendment to remove “academic freedom and” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Whereas clause. Senator Hebert made a friendly amendment to change section 1.e., 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet to read, “Since attendance per se....” Senator Lesso

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**Questions:**

Senator Sabalius said, “I

statewide-level we end up advising the Senates to consider the recommendations from the Board of Trustees/Chancellor as an advisory, even though the language doesn't say that. I don't know if this shows a lack of understanding at the Trustee level, or if that is the Chancellor's office language?" Trustee Chandler said, "I think that is a valid concern, because you are in the trenches and you know what works and doesn't work. I would hope that you would work through your faculty trustee and get some of those concerns addressed."

Senator David said, "I hope that in your role as Trustee, you will support ways to educate the whole person." Trustee Chandler said, "The one thing I would like to explore, and ~~maybe~~ you can help me with this, is financial aid. I see huge amounts of financial aid coming through grants and loans, but very little for work study. I wonder if we could

Interim AVP Merdinger said, “At the directive of the Provost back in 2003/2004, existing college



Interim AVP Merdinger said, "I wanted to say in summary, we are making slow progress